

Loudoun Reliability Engagement Group

Twelfth Meeting Attributed Summary Report

The twelfth meeting of the Loudoun Reliability Engagement Group was held on April 2, 2024, 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at Founders Hall in Ashburn, VA.

Member Organizations in Attendance

- Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition
- Piedmont Environmental Council
- Loudoun Coalition of Homeowners and Condominium Associations, Alternate
- Loudoun Habitat for Humanity
- NAIOP Northern Virginia
- Loudoun Water
- Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy
- Loudoun Chamber of Commerce

Observers

- Loudoun County Preservation and Conservation Coalition
- Loudoun County
- Loudoun County Supervisor Turner's Office
- Loudoun County Planning and Zoning

Absent Organizations

- Black History Committee (Friends of Thomas Balch Library)
- Goose Creek Association
- League of Women Voters of Loudoun County
- Loudoun County Department of Economic Development
- Loudoun County Department of Equity & Inclusion
- Loudoun County Fire and Rescue
- VA Asian Chamber of Commerce

Dominion Energy Team

- Rob Richardson, Dominion Energy
- Peggy Fox, Dominion Energy
- Dominic Minor, Dominion Energy
- James Young, Dominion Energy
- Kathleen Leonard, Dominion Energy
- Sameera Younus-Khan Energy, Dominion Energy
- Demondre Woodson, Dominion Energy
- Andrew Molinares, Dominion Energy
- Daniel Kociola, Dominion Energy
- Carter Jones, ERM
- Kristi Moore, ERM
- Jake Rosenberg, ERM

Meeting Summary

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kristi Moore, ERM, began the meeting by welcoming the group and facilitating introductions. Kristi reviewed the agenda with the group and explained the purpose of the LREG.

Kristi introduced the Twin Creeks to Apollo and Belmont Innovation Campus presentation and turned the meeting over to the presenter, Rob Richardson, Dominion Energy.

2. Twin Creeks to Apollo and Belmont Innovation Campus

Rob started the presentation by specifying that the Twin Creeks to Apollo 230 kV Electric Transmission Project collocates with the Aspen to Golden 500/230 kV Electric Transmission Project to serve data center campuses located along Goose Creek.

He shared that Dominion Energy (Dominion) submitted the Twin Creeks to Apollo application to the State Corporation Commission (SCC) last week and is seeking to have it reviewed simultaneously with Aspen to Golden. Dominion aims to receive approval from the SCC sometime before the end of 2024.

Rob emphasized that Dominion coordinated with Loudoun Water throughout the process to site the needed transmission lines among existing and future Loudoun Water infrastructure.

Rob discussed the Loudoun Board of Supervisors' decision to deny the Belmont Innovation Campus' rezoning request, indicating that the Board is set to reconsider the application later this month.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	ANSWERS
The larger data center zoning request will not be reconsidered; only the by-right square footage will be considered. The public comment period was inspiring, and many of the comments were well thought out and reasonable.	Rob Richardson shared his perspective on the upcoming meeting, noting that he has heard a lot of misinformation regarding energy infrastructure within the County.
The County should not approve data center zoning requests greater than what is already afforded by right.	
The vote could signal to the business community that Loudoun County is hostile to applicants despite the significant proffers and efforts from the Belmont Innovation Campus.	
I'm concerned about the fiscal impact of the Belmont Innovation Campus and the County's dependence on tax revenue from data centers.	
There is a lost opportunity cost from data center development on land use for zoning to address the housing affordability crisis. I appreciated that the applicant worked to meet the new proffer requirements from the County's rezoning efforts.	
The data center approvals result in impacts on the [communities'] quality of life and the availability of green space in the County.	
The discourse surrounding energy infrastructure has transformed. In the past, data center applicants have assumed that the	

energy supply was available and that there would be no resulting impacts.	
There is an induced demand for data centers due to the construction of new transmission lines.	
Those living closest to the Belmont Innovation Campus supported the rezoning application, but those who opposed it lived further away.	

LREG members discussed the increased standards and requirements placed on data center developments by the recent County rezoning efforts.

Kristi thanked the members for their respectful dialogue during the discussion.

3. Aviator to Takeoff Updates

Rob presented Aviator to Takeoff Updates.

The presentation included basic information about the Aviator to Takeoff 230 kV Electric Transmission and Substation Project, such as the project’s start and end points and details about the project driver and double-circuit 230 kV.

Rob stated that Dominion noted an opportunity to work with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) to route along the southern edge of their property and successfully established a line of communication with MWAA. Rob reported that the process is currently going well. He shared that Dominion intends to host another open house for the project in June 2024. He observed that the success of the Aviator to Takeoff project is critical to creating a loop of energy infrastructure surrounding the airport.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	ANSWERS
Is MWAA allowing Dominion to be on their property?	Rob Richardson: Yes, unless there is a fatal flaw, they are working with Dominion to accommodate.
Advocated for undergrounding this project for public safety, given its proximity to the airport’s runways.	
There needs to be a greater acceptance of 230 kV transmission lines being built underground.	Rob Richardson responded by reviewing the project map with the group, which included the current and new routes along the MWAA property.
Why is this project not being considered for underground construction?	Rob Richardson: Dominion favors overhead transmission lines due to the lower construction time and cost, and because they are easier to maintain and upgrade than underground lines.
When would data centers be required to pay for a transmission line?	Dominic Minor: The current regulations note that costs are shared among all ratepayers because the transmission line is tied into the larger grid.

4. Mars to Golden Routing Discussion

Jake Rosenberg presented the Mars to Golden Routing Discussion presentation.

Jake provided LREG members with an overview of the Golden to Mars project, emphasizing the known routing constraints within the project area.

Jake identified known routing constraints, including:

- Broad Run
- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) height restrictions
- Buried utilities, such as Loudoun Water infrastructure
- Crossing existing 230 kV transmission lines

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS	ANSWERS
Why are you considering underground construction for this project and not Aspen to Golden?	<p>Jake Rosenberg: There were major engineering constraints for Aspen to Golden and concerns about meeting the project's in-service date if underground construction was used. Golden to Mars has fewer engineering constraints, and undergrounding would avoid conflict with the FAA's height restrictions.</p> <p>Rob Richardson noted that Golden to Mars will complete the 500 kV transmission line loop through Ashburn, which will solidify Dominion's ability to serve all customers in the area more reliably.</p>
Could an existing 230 kV transmission line be rebuilt to accommodate the new 500 and 230 kV lines?	<p>Jake Rosenberg: The existing double-circuit 230 kV lines leading into Ashburn are too critical to reliability to take down and construct something new and larger in their place.</p> <p>Jake asked the group to share their routing concerns and knowledge of the project area. He committed to sharing maps of the project area for their review.</p>
The data centers abutting Broad Run might have park buffers that would need to be evaluated.	

In response to a question from a LREG member, Rob recapped the Morrisville to Wishing Star project as was discussed at the previous meeting held in February.

5. Q&A, Upcoming Meeting(s), and Open House Dates

Kristi ended the meeting by summarizing the information discussed during the meeting.

6. Adjournment

The twelfth LREG meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.