



Northern Neck Electric Cooperative

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

August 25, 2015

Lancaster County Board of Supervisors
C/O Mr. Frank Pleva
8311 Mary Ball Rd.
Lancaster, VA 22503

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I called Mr. Pleva last week to voice my concerns about the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors requesting that Dominion Virginia Power place the replacement transmission line planned along the Robert O. Norris Bridge under the river bed rather than on overhead structures. Mr. Pleva suggested that I write this letter so that he could provide you with my input. The need for the replacement transmission line does not appear to be in controversy so I will not discuss that aspect of the project.

Northern Neck Electric Cooperative (NNEC) makes use of the Dominion Virginia Power Transmission system to deliver power to many of our substation/delivery points in the six counties we serve on the Northern Neck. We pay a regulated rate for the use of their system and this rate is based on the amount of investment they make in transmission plant and the cost to maintain that plant. Through our power supplier, ODEC, we monitor their investments to insure that they are appropriate. We do not believe that significant additional investments for aesthetic reasons are warranted for this project. Our transmission planners at ODEC estimate that the cost of submarine cable is likely to be six to eight times more expensive than the proposed overhead construction. This extra cost would go into the transmission rate and force NNEC members to pay higher cost for their electricity. We do not believe the perceived aesthetic benefits of placing this line under the river, even if that could be done, outweighs the additional cost of that alternative.

We would ask that the Lancaster County Board of Supervisors drop their opposition to this project as planned by Dominion Virginia Power so as not to cause any delay in this much needed upgrade to their transmission line.

Sincerely,



Greg White