

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, DECEMBER 4, 2015

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2015 DEC -4 P 1:48

APPLICATION OF

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY
d/b/a DOMINION VIRGINIA POWER

CASE NO. PUE-2012-00029

For approval and certification of electric facilities:
Surry-Skiffes Creek 500 kV Transmission Line,
Skiffes Creek-Wheaton 230 kV Transmission Line, and
Skiffes Creek 500 kV-230 kV-115 kV Switching Station

ORDER

On June 11, 2012, Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Virginia Power ("Dominion" or "Company") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application for approval and certification of an electric transmission project, or for approval and certification of an alternative transmission project ("Application"). In its Application, Dominion proposed to construct: (a) a new overhead 500 kilovolt ("kV") electric transmission line from the Company's existing 500 kV-230 kV Surry Switching Station in Surry County to a new 500 kV-230 kV-115 kV Skiffes Creek Switching Station in James City County ("Surry-Skiffes Creek Line"); (b) the Skiffes Creek Switching Station ("Skiffes Station"); (c) a new 230 kV line in the Counties of James City and York and the City of Newport News, from the proposed Skiffes Station to the Company's existing Wheaton Substation located in the City of Hampton ("Skiffes Creek-Wheaton Line"); and (d) additional facilities at the existing Surry Switching Station and Wheaton Substation.¹

On November 26, 2013, February 28, 2014, and April 10, 2014, the Commission issued orders in this proceeding that, among other things, granted the Company's Application and

¹ The Surry-Skiffes Creek Line, the Skiffes Station, the Skiffes Creek-Wheaton Line, and the additional proposed facilities are herein referred to collectively as the "Certificated Project."

approved certificates of public convenience and necessity for the Certificated Project, subject to the requirements set forth in such orders. The Commission's February 8, 2014 Order Amending Certificates in this proceeding included Ordering Paragraph (5), which states as follows:

The construction approved herein must be completed and in service by December 31, 2015, provided, however, that Dominion is granted leave to apply for an extension for good cause shown.²

On December 1, 2015, Dominion filed a Motion for Extension of Construction and In-Service Date ("Motion") by which the Company requests an extension of the December 31, 2015 date included in Ordering Paragraph (5). Specifically, the Company requests that the Commission:

extend the date for completion of construction and placement in service of the Certificated Project until the date twenty (20) months after the date on which the [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("Army Corps")] issues a construction permit for the Certificated Project, and continue to allow the Company to be granted leave to apply for further extension of this date for good cause shown.³

In support of its Motion, Dominion indicates, among things, that: (1) the Company must obtain a construction permit from the Army Corps, which has been pending since March of 2012;⁴ (2) the delay associated with the Army Corps permitting process has impacted the timing of state and local permitting activities;⁵ and (3) the Company estimates that the Certificated Project can be completed and placed in service within twenty (20) months after the date on which the Army Corps issues a construction permit.⁶ The Motion also states that Dominion has

² February 28, 2014 Order Amending Certificates at 19. The Commission's November 26, 2013 Order in this proceeding included a similar provision with an in service date of June 1, 2015, which the Order Amending Certificates subsequently extended to December 31, 2015.

³ Motion at 9.

⁴ *Id.* at 4-5.

⁵ *Id.* at 5-8.

⁶ *Id.* at 8.

been authorized to advise the Commission of the positions of parties to this proceeding on the Motion, one of which, James River Association, the Company indicates opposes its Motion. As represented by the Company, other parties support, do not oppose, or take no position on the Motion at the time of its filing.⁷

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of this matter, is of the opinion and finds that dates should be established by which any responses to Dominion's Motion and any reply shall be filed. Therefore, the Commission finds that any response to the Motion shall be filed on or before December 14, 2015. If Dominion wishes to file a reply to any response that is filed, such reply shall be filed on or before December 21, 2015. Additionally, the December 31, 2015 completion and in-service date that is the subject of the Company's Motion shall be temporarily suspended, pending the Commission's ruling on the Motion.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) Any response to Dominion's Motion shall be filed on or before December 14, 2015.

(2) Dominion's reply shall be filed on or before December 21, 2015.

(3) The December 31, 2015 completion and in-service date in Ordering Paragraph (5) of the February 28, 2014 Order Amending Certificates in this proceeding shall be temporarily suspended, pending the Commission's ruling on the Company's Motion.

(4) This matter is continued generally.

AN ATTESTED COPY hereof shall be sent by the Clerk of the Commission to all persons on the official Service List in this matter. The Service List is available from the Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center, 1300 East Main Street, First Floor, Tyler Building, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

⁷ *Id.* at 8-9.