COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
AT RICHMOND, DECEMBER 13, 2021

APPLICATION OF
VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY CASE NO. PUR-2021-00272
For approval and certification of electric transmission facilities: 230 kV Line #293 and 115 kV Line #83
Rebuild Project

ORDER FOR NOTICE AND HEARING

On November 12, 2021, Virginia Electric and Power Company ("Dominion" or "Company") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application ("Application") for approval and certification of electric transmission facilities in the City of Staunton and Augusta County, Virginia. Dominion filed its Application pursuant to § 56-46.1 of the Code of Virginia ("Code") and the Utility Facilities Act, Code § 56-265.1 et seq.

Through its Application, the Company proposes to do the following:

- Rebuild the approximately 21.4-mile 230 kilovolt ("kV") Staunton-Valley Line #293, which is inclusive of a 3.8-mile section of the 115 kV Craigsville-Staunton Line #83. Specifically, replace 17.6 miles of Line #293, which are supported primarily by single circuit wood H-frame structures, with primarily weathering steel H-frame structures; also replace 3.8 miles of Line #293, which is supported primarily with double circuit COR-TEN® lattice structures that also support 115 kV Line #83, with primarily weathering steel double circuit monopole structures. Additionally, replace the Lines #293 and #83 conductors and shield wires for the entire 21.4 miles; and

- Perform minor related substation work at the Company's Staunton, West Staunton, and Valley Substations (collectively, "Rebuild Project").

Dominion states that the Rebuild Project will replace aging infrastructure at the end of its service life in compliance with the Company's mandatory electric transmission planning criteria

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1 Application at 2.
and consistent with sound engineering judgment, thereby enabling the Company to maintain the overall long-term reliability of its transmission system, as well as provide important system reliability benefits to Dominion's entire network.\(^2\)

The Company states that the desired in-service date for the Rebuild Project is December 15, 2025.\(^3\) The Company represents that the estimated conceptual cost of the Rebuild Project (in 2021 dollars) is approximately $40.8 million, which includes approximately $40.4 million for transmission-related work and approximately $0.4 million for substation-related work.\(^4\)

As provided by Code § 62.1-44.15:21 D 2, the Commission and the State Water Control Board ("Board") consult on wetland impacts prior to the siting of electric utility facilities that require a certificate of public convenience and necessity. Acting on behalf of the Board, the Department of Environmental Quality ("DEQ") must prepare a Wetland Impacts Consultation on this Application, as required by the Code and Sections 2 and 3 of the Department of Environmental Quality - State Corporation Commission Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Consultation on Wetland Impacts.\(^5\) The Staff of the Commission ("Staff") has requested the

\(^2\) *Id.* at 4.

\(^3\) *Id.* Dominion requests that the Commission enter a final order by October 20, 2022. *Id.* The Company states that, should the Commission issue a final order by October 20, 2022, the Company estimates that construction should begin in August 2023 and be completed in December 2025. *Id.*

\(^4\) *Id.*

Office of Wetlands & Stream Protection at the DEQ to provide a Wetland Impacts Consultation for the Project.\textsuperscript{6}

As provided by Code §§ 10.1-1186.2:1 B and 56-46.1 A, the Commission and the DEQ coordinate reviews of the environmental impact of electric generating plants and associated facilities. Pursuant to the Code and consistent with the Department of Environmental Quality - State Corporation Commission Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Coordination of Reviews of the Environmental Impacts of Proposed Electric Generating Plants and Associated Facilities (August 2002),\textsuperscript{7} the Commission receives and considers reports on the proposed facilities from state environmental agencies. The Staff has requested the DEQ to coordinate an environmental review of this Application by the appropriate agencies and to provide a report on the review.\textsuperscript{8}

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of the Application and applicable statutes, finds that: this matter should be docketed; Dominion should give notice of its Application to interested persons and the public; public hearings should be scheduled for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence on the Application as well as public witness testimony; interested persons should have an opportunity to file comments on the Application or participate as a respondent in this proceeding; and the Staff should be directed to investigate the Application and file testimony and exhibits containing its findings and recommendations.

\textsuperscript{6} Letter from C. Austin Skeens, Esquire, State Corporation Commission, dated November 22, 2021, to David L. Davis, Department of Environmental Quality, filed in Case No. PUR-2021-00272.


\textsuperscript{8} Letter from C. Austin Skeens, Esquire, State Corporation Commission, dated November 22, 2021, to Bettina Rayfield, Department of Environmental Quality, filed in Case No. PUR-2021-00272.
thereon. Finally, we find that this matter should be assigned to a Hearing Examiner to conduct all further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission.

The Commission further takes judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. The Commission has taken certain actions, and may take additional actions going forward, that could impact the procedures in this proceeding.\(^9\)

Consistent with these actions, in regard to the terms of the procedural framework established below, the Commission will, among other things, direct the electronic filing of testimony and pleadings, unless they contain confidential information, and require electronic service on parties to this proceeding.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED THAT:

(1) This matter is docketed and assigned Case No. PUR-2021-00272.

(2) All pleadings in this matter shall be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by Rule 5 VAC 5-20-150, *Copies and format*, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice").\(^{10}\) Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, *Confidential*

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\(^{10}\) 5 VAC 5-20-10 *at seq.*
information, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk’s Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.\textsuperscript{11}

(3) Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, Filing and service, of the Rules of Practice, the Commission directs that service on parties and the Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information, parties and the Staff are instructed to work together to agree upon the manner in which documents containing such information shall be served upon one another, to the extent practicable, in an electronically protected manner, even if such information is unable to be filed in the Office of the Clerk, so that no party or the Staff is impeded from preparing its case.

(4) As provided by § 12.1-31 of the Code and 5 VAC 5-20-120, Procedure before hearing examiners, of the Rules of Practice, a Hearing Examiner is appointed to conduct all further proceedings in this matter on behalf of the Commission and to file a final report.

(5) The Commission hereby schedules a telephonic hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Application, as follows:

(a) A hearing for the receipt of testimony from public witnesses on the Application shall be convened telephonically at 10 a.m. on June 7, 2022, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom.\textsuperscript{12}

(b) To promote fairness for all public witnesses, each witness will be allotted five minutes to provide testimony.

(c) On or before June 3, 2022, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive

\textsuperscript{11} As noted in the Revised Operating Procedures Order, submissions to the Commission’s Clerk’s Office via U.S. mail or commercial mail equivalents may be subject to delayed processing due to the COVID-19 public health issues.

\textsuperscript{12} The Commission will convene counsel of record in this proceeding to attend the public witness hearing virtually.
your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a form on the Commission's website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting; (ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141.

(d) Beginning at 10 a.m. on June 7, 2022, the Commission will telephone sequentially each person who has signed up to testify as provided above. This hearing will not be convened, and the parties will be notified of such, if no person signs up to testify as a public witness.

(e) This public witness hearing will be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

(6) A hearing on the Application shall be convened at 10 a.m. on June 8, 2022, either in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or by electronic means, to receive testimony and evidence offered by the Company, respondents, and the Staff on the Application. Further details on this hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.

(7) An electronic copy of the Company's Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Vishwa B. Link, Esquire, McGuireWoods LLP, Gateway Plaza, 800 East Canal Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or vlink@mcguirewoods.com. Interested persons also may download unofficial copies from the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

(8) On or before January 21, 2022, the Company shall cause to be sent by first class mail a copy of the notice and sketch map prescribed in Ordering Paragraph (9) to all owners of property within the route of the Project, as of the date of this Order and as indicated on the map or sketch of the route filed with the Commission, which requirement shall be satisfied by mailing to such persons at such addresses as are indicated in the land books maintained by the
commissioner of revenue, director of finance, treasurer, or other officer of the county or municipality designated as provided by Code § 58.1-3100 et seq.

(9) On or before January 21, 2022, the Company shall cause the following notice and the sketch map of the proposed route, as shown on page 292 of the Appendix to the Application, to be published as display advertising (not classified) on one occasion in newspapers of general circulation in the City of Staunton and Augusta County:

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION OF ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION FACILITIES:
230 KV LINE #293 AND 115 KV LINE #83 REBUILD PROJECT
CASE NO. PUR-2021-00272

On November 12, 2021, Virginia Electric and Power Company ("Dominion" or "Company") filed with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application ("Application") for approval and certification of electric transmission facilities in the City of Staunton and Augusta County, Virginia. Dominion filed its Application pursuant to § 56-46.1 of the Code of Virginia ("Code") and the Utility Facilities Act, Code § 56-265.1 et seq.

Through its Application, the Company proposes to do the following:

- Rebuild the approximately 21.4-mile 230 kilovolt ("kV") Staunton-Valley Line #293, which is inclusive of a 3.8-mile section of the 115 kV Craigsville-Staunton Line #83. Specifically, replace 17.6 miles of Line #293, which are supported primarily by single circuit wood H-frame structures, with primarily weathering steel H-frame structures; also replace 3.8 miles of Line #293, which is supported primarily with double circuit COR-TEN® lattice structures that also support 115 kV Line #83, with primarily weathering steel double circuit monopole structures. Additionally, replace the Lines #293 and #83 conductors and shield wires for the entire 21.4 miles; and
• Perform minor related substation work at the Company's Staunton, West Staunton, and Valley Substations (collectively, "Rebuild Project").

Dominion states that the Rebuild Project will replace aging infrastructure at the end of its service life in compliance with the Company's mandatory electric transmission planning criteria and consistent with sound engineering judgment, thereby enabling the Company to maintain the overall long-term reliability of its transmission system, as well as provide important system reliability benefits to Dominion's entire network.

The Company states that the desired in-service date for the Rebuild Project is December 15, 2025. The Company represents that the estimated conceptual cost of the Rebuild Project (in 2021 dollars) is approximately $40.8 million, which includes approximately $40.4 million for transmission-related work and approximately $0.4 million for substation-related work.

**Description of the Route**

The proposed route for the Rebuild Project is located within an approximately 21.4-mile existing transmission corridor right-of-way, which includes at various points 500 kV Lines #548 and #550, 230 kV Lines #253 and #293, and 115 kV Line #83. The existing corridor varies in width from 100 to 150 feet, with the exception of an approximately 2.0-mile segment of 235-foot-wide right-of-way that is occupied by Lines #293 and #548. The existing transmission line right-of-way for the proposed route of the Rebuild Project originates at the Staunton Substation in the City of Staunton on the north side of Commerce Road, continues in a southwestern direction along the easement for 3.8 miles, and then continues northerly for 17.6 miles, concluding at the Valley Substation in Augusta County on the west side of Coffman Road.

For the proposed Rebuild Project, the existing wooden poles, wooden H-frames, and lattice towers are proposed to be replaced with new weathering steel monopole and H-frame structures. The minimum proposed structure height is approximately 39 feet, the maximum proposed structure height is approximately 155 feet, and the average proposed structure height is approximately 80 feet, based on preliminary conceptual design, excluding foundation reveal and subject to change based on final engineering design.
All distances, heights, and directions are approximate. A sketch map of the proposal accompanies this notice. A more detailed map may be viewed on the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/pages/Transmission-Line-Projects. A more complete description of the Project also may be found in the Company's Application and at https://www.dominionenergy.com/projects-and-facilities/electric-projects/power-line-projects/staunton-valley.

The Commission may consider a route not significantly different from the route described in this notice without additional notice to the public.

The Commission has taken judicial notice of the ongoing public health issues related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19. In accordance therewith, all pleadings, briefs, or other documents required to be served in this matter shall be submitted electronically to the extent authorized by 5 VAC 5-20-150, Copies and format, of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules of Practice"). Confidential and Extraordinarily Sensitive Information shall not be submitted electronically and should comply with 5 VAC 5-20-170, Confidential information, of the Rules of Practice. Any person seeking to hand deliver and physically file or submit any pleading or other document shall contact the Clerk's Office Document Control Center at (804) 371-9838 to arrange the delivery.

Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-140, Filing and service, of the Rules of Practice, the Commission has directed that service on parties and the Commission's Staff in this matter shall be accomplished by electronic means. Please refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing or subsequent Hearing Examiner's Ruling for further instructions concerning Confidential or Extraordinarily Sensitive Information.

The Commission entered an Order for Notice and Hearing in this proceeding that, among other things, scheduled public hearings on Dominion's Application. On June 7, 2022, at 10 a.m., the Commission will hold a telephonic hearing, with no witness present in the Commission's courtroom, for the purpose of receiving the testimony of public witnesses. On or before June 3, 2022, any person desiring to offer testimony as a public witness shall provide to the Commission (a) your name, and (b) the telephone number that you wish the Commission to call during the hearing to receive your testimony. This information may be provided to the Commission in three ways: (i) by filling out a
form on the Commission's website at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting;
(ii) by completing and emailing the PDF version of this form to SCCInfo@scc.virginia.gov; or (iii) by calling (804) 371-9141.
This public witness hearing will be webcast at scc.virginia.gov/pages/Webcasting.

On June 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., either in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or by electronic means, the Commission will convene a hearing to receive testimony and evidence related to the Application from the Company, any respondents, and the Commission's Staff. Further details on this hearing will be provided by subsequent Commission Order or Hearing Examiner's Ruling.

Electronic copies of the Application and other supporting materials may be inspected at:
https://www.dominionenergy.com/projects-and-facilities/electric-projects/power-line-projects/staunton-valley. An electronic copy of the Company's Application may be obtained by submitting a written request to counsel for the Company, Vishwa B. Link, Esquire, McGuireWoods LLP, Gateway Plaza, 800 East Canal Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or vlink@mcguirewoods.com.

On or before March 18, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, Participation as a respondent, of the Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, Counsel, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00272. For additional information about participation as a respondent, any person or
entity should obtain a copy of the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing.

On or before June 1, 2022, any interested person may submit comments on the Application by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: 
scv.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments with the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. All such comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00272.

Any documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified by the Commission's Order for Notice and Hearing, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, Copies and format, of the Rules of Practice.

The Company's Application, the Commission's Rules of Practice, the Commission’s Order for Notice and Hearing, and other documents filed in the case may be viewed at: scv.virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information.

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY

(10) On or before January 21, 2022, the Company shall serve a copy of this Order for Notice and Hearing on the following local officials, to the extent the position exists, in each county, city, and town through which the Project is proposed to be built: the chairman of the board of supervisors of each county; the mayor or manager (or equivalent official) of every city and town; and the county, city, or town attorney. Service shall be made electronically where possible; if electronic service is not possible, service shall be made by either personal delivery or first class mail to the customary place of business or residence of the person served.13

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13 In addition to the Commission's April 1, 2020 Order in Case No. CLK-2020-00007 (see n.9, supra), see also Petition of Virginia Electric and Power Company, For a continuing waiver of 20 VAC 5-201-10 J of the Rules Governing Utility Rate Applications and Annual Informational Filings to permit electronic service to local officials upon request, Case No. PUE-2016-00039, Doc. Con. Cen. No. 160420194, Order (Apr. 19, 2016).
(11) On or before February 18, 2022, the Company shall file proof of the notice and service required by Ordering Paragraphs (9) and (10) above, including the name, title, address, and electronic mail address (if applicable) of each official served, with the Clerk of the Commission at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling/.

(12) On or before February 18, 2022, the Company shall file with the Clerk of the Commission a certificate of the mailing of notice to owners of property prescribed by Ordering Paragraph (8). The certificate shall not include the names and addresses of the owners of property served, but the Company shall maintain a record of such information.

(13) On or before June 1, 2022, any interested person may submit comments on the Application by following the instructions found on the Commission's website: scc.virginia.gov/casecomments/Submit-Public-Comments. Those unable, as a practical matter, to submit comments electronically may file such comments by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. All comments shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00272.

(14) On or before March 18, 2022, any person or entity wishing to participate as a respondent in this proceeding may do so by filing a notice of participation at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling. Those unable, as a practical matter, to file a notice of participation electronically may file such notice by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Such notice of participation shall include the email addresses of such parties or their counsel, if available. The respondent simultaneously shall serve a copy of the notice of participation on counsel to the Company. Pursuant to 5 VAC 5-20-80 B, Participation as a respondent, of the Rules of Practice, any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a precise statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the
extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Any organization, corporation, or government body participating as a respondent must be represented by counsel as required by 5 VAC 5-20-30, Counsel, of the Rules of Practice. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00272.

(15) Within five (5) business days of receipt of a notice of participation as a respondent, the Company shall serve upon the respondent a copy of the Application and supporting materials, unless these materials already have been provided to the respondent.

(16) On or before April 15, 2022, each respondent may file with the Clerk of the Commission, at scc.virginia.gov/clk/efiling, any testimony and exhibits by which the respondent expects to establish its case. Any respondent unable, as a practical matter, to file testimony and exhibits electronically may file such by U.S. mail to the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above. Each witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. All testimony and exhibits shall be served on the Staff, the Company, and all other respondents simultaneous with its filing. In all filings, respondents shall comply with the Rules of Practice, as modified herein, including, but not limited to: 5 VAC 5-20-140, Filing and service, and 5 VAC 5-20-240, Prepared testimony and exhibits. All filings shall refer to Case No. PUR-2021-00272.

(17) The Staff shall investigate the Application. On or before May 13, 2022, the Staff shall file with the Clerk of the Commission its testimony and exhibits, and each Staff witness's testimony shall include a summary not to exceed one page. The Staff shall serve a copy thereof on counsel to the Company and all respondents.

(18) On or before May 27, 2022, Dominion shall file with the Clerk of the Commission any rebuttal testimony and exhibits that it expects to offer, and each rebuttal witness's testimony
shall include a summary not to exceed one page. The Company shall serve a copy of its rebuttal testimony and exhibits on the Staff and all respondents.

(19) All documents filed in paper form with the Office of the Clerk of the Commission in this docket may use both sides of the paper. In all other respects, except as modified herein, all filings shall comply fully with the requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-150, Copies and format, of the Rules of Practice.

(20) Rule of Practice 5 VAC 5-20-260, Interrogatories to parties or requests for production of documents and things, shall be modified for this proceeding as follows: responses and objections to written interrogatories and requests for production of documents shall be served within seven (7) calendar days after receipt of the same. In addition to the service requirements of 5 VAC 5-20-260 of the Rules of Practice, on the day that copies are filed with the Clerk of the Commission, a copy of the interrogatory or request for production shall be served electronically on the party to whom the interrogatory or request for production is directed or the assigned Staff attorney, if the interrogatory or request for production is directed to the Staff. Except as modified herein, discovery shall be in accordance with Part IV of the Commission's Rules of Practice, 5 VAC 5-20-240 et seq.

(21) This matter is continued.

A COPY hereof shall be sent electronically 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.

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14 The assigned Staff attorney is identified on the Commission’s website, see, virginia.gov/pages/Case-Information, by clicking “Docket Search,” then clicking “Search by Case Information,” and entering the case number, PUR-2021-00272, in the appropriate box.