



HRPDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

September 20, 2012

**ITEM #8C-b
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

MEMBER JURISDICTIONS

August 2, 2012

CHESAPEAKE

Mr. John E. Fisher
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Impact Review
629 East Main Street, Sixth Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

FRANKLIN

GLOUCESTER

Re: DEQ #12-128S, Surry-Skiffes Creek 500kV Transmission Line, Skiffes Creek-Wheaton 230 kV Transmission Line, & Skiffes Creek 500 kV-230 kV-115 kV Switching Station, PUE 2012-00029 (ENV: GEN)

HAMPTON

ISLE OF WIGHT

Dear Mr. Fisher:

JAMES CITY

NEWPORT NEWS

Pursuant to your request, the staff of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission has reviewed State Corporation Commission Application No. 257, submitted by Virginia Electric and Power Company (Dominion Virginia Power), for the following project, Surry-Skiffes Creek 500kV Transmission Line, Skiffes Creek-Wheaton 230 kV Transmission Line, & Skiffes Creek 500 kV-230 kV-115 kV Switching Station, PUE 2012-00029, which would potentially affect the Cities of Hampton and Newport News and the Counties of James City, Surry, and York. We have consulted with staff from all five localities regarding this application.

NORFOLK

POQUOSON

PORTSMOUTH

The proposed project has the potential to result in several adverse impacts to Hampton Roads localities and residents. The proposed transmission line could result in negative impacts to important natural, cultural, historic, recreational, and economic resources of local, state, and national importance. The preferred proposal of an overhead transmission line could cause severe visual impacts to areas and properties along the James River, which is designated as a Virginia Scenic River and is listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory. The river is also part of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. The proposed alternative route beginning in Charles City County would cause significant environmental impacts, as well as impacts to numerous properties along the route.

SOUTHAMPTON

SUFFOLK

SURRY

VIRGINIA BEACH

WILLIAMSBURG

YORK

Based on this review, staff recommends that Dominion Virginia Power reconsider an underground crossing of the James River. In addition, staff recommends that Dominion Virginia Power work with affected localities to eliminate or mitigate any unavoidable impacts to properties and resources affected by the project.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John M. Carlock". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" and "M".

John M. Carlock, AICP
Deputy Executive Director

BJM/fh

Copy: Keith Cannady, HA
Michael King, NN
Rhonda Mack, SY
Albert Maddalena, YK
Allen Murphy, JC