

Dominion Resources Services, Inc.
Law Department
P.O. Box 26532, Richmond, VA 23261

Charlotte P. McAfee
Senior Counsel
Phone: (804) 819-2277; Facsimile: (804) 819-2183
Email: charlotte.p.mcafee@dom.com



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VIA HAND DELIVERY

November 7, 2013

Mr. Joel H. Peck, Clerk
c/o Document Control Center
State Corporation Commission
1300 East Main Street
Tyler Building – First Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219

**Application of Virginia Electric and Power Company
For approval and certification of electric facilities:
Dooms-Lexington 230 kV Transmission Line
Case No. PUE-2013-00118**

Dear Mr. Peck:

Enclosed for filing are an unbound original and fifteen (15) copies of Virginia Electric and Power Company's application for approval of electric facilities. This filing contains the Application, Appendix, Direct Testimony and Exhibits.

As indicated in Section II.A.9.b of the Appendix contained in the enclosed filing, three (3) copies of a map showing the proposed route of the transmission line project described in the application were hand delivered to the Commission's Division of Energy Regulation today. The Company also delivered to the Division of Energy Regulation today a CD-ROM containing the digital geographic information system (GIS) map required by Virginia Code § 56-46.1, which is Attachment II.A.2 to the Appendix contained in the enclosed filing.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Charlotte P. McAfee
Senior Counsel

Enclosures

cc: William H. Chambliss, Esq.
Vishwa B. Link, Esq.
All federal, state and local agencies and officials listed in Section V.C. of the Appendix



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**Application, Appendix,
Direct Testimony
and Exhibits of
Virginia Electric and
Power Company**

**Before the State Corporation
Commission of Virginia**

**Dooms-Lexington 230 kV
Transmission Line**

Application No. 265

Case No: PUE-2013-00118

Filed: November 7, 2013

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BEFORE THE
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION**

**APPLICATION OF
VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER
COMPANY
FOR APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION
OF ELECTRIC FACILITIES**

**Dooms-Lexington
230 kV Transmission Line**

Application No. 265

Case No. PUE-2013-00118

Filed: November 7, 2013

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BEFORE THE
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION**

131120024

Application of)	
)	
Virginia Electric and Power Company)	Case No. PUE-2013-00118
)	
For approval and certification of electric transmission facilities under Va. Code § 56-46.1 and the Utility Facilities Act, Va. Code § 56-265.1 et seq.)	

**APPLICATION OF VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY
FOR APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION OF ELECTRIC FACILITIES:
DOOMS-LEXINGTON 230 KV TRANSMISSION LINE**

Virginia Electric and Power Company (“Dominion Virginia Power” or the “Company”) respectfully shows as follows:

1. Dominion Virginia Power is a public service corporation organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia furnishing electric service to the public within its Virginia service territory. The Company also furnishes electric service to the public in portions of North Carolina. Dominion Virginia Power’s electric system, consisting of facilities for generation, transmission and distribution of electric energy, as well as associated facilities, is interconnected with the electric systems of neighboring utilities, and is a part of the interconnected network of electric systems serving the continental United States. By reason of its operation in two states and its interconnections with other utilities, the Company is engaged in interstate commerce.

2. In order to perform its legal duty to furnish adequate and reliable electric service, Dominion Virginia Power must, from time to time, construct new transmission facilities to its system. The electric facilities proposed in this application are necessary so

that Dominion Virginia Power can continue to provide reliable electric service to its customers, consistent with mandatory North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) Reliability Standards for transmission facilities and the Company’s planning criteria.

3. Accordingly, the Company proposes to (a) install, entirely within existing right-of-way, approximately 39.1 miles of 230 kV Dooms-Lexington Line #2168 in Augusta and Rockbridge Counties between its existing Dooms Switching Station (“Dooms Station”) in Augusta County and its Lexington Station in Rockbridge County; and (b) construct and install associated 230 kV facilities at the Company’s Dooms and Lexington Stations (collectively, the “Project”).

4. This Project is necessary to assure that Dominion Virginia Power can continue to provide reliable electric service to its customers in the Lexington Station area, including Rockbridge and Alleghany counties, consistent with mandatory NERC Reliability Standards for transmission facilities and the Company’s Transmission Planning Criteria.¹ The Lexington Station and interconnected transmission network provide service to the Company’s transmission system located in the western region of Virginia, and are a critical component of the electric transmission grid that serves Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, the District of Columbia, and beyond. The need for the proposed transmission facilities is being driven by load growth in the region. Power flow studies show that load growth in the area is projected to cause these facilities (Lexington Station and connecting network) to exceed the 300 MW planning criteria as early as winter 2013/2014. Load growth in this

¹The Company’s Transmission Planning Criteria can be found in Exhibit A of the Company’s Facility Connection Requirements document, which is available online at https://www.dom.com/business/electric-transmission/pdf/Facility_Connection_Requirements.pdf.

region is projected to decrease slightly in the near term with a return to 2012 levels and increases thereafter. The failure to address the projected loading of Lexington Station and connecting network could lead to service interruptions and potentially damage the Company's electrical facilities in this area, negatively impacting electric service to the region.

5. The proposed Project will also accommodate future load growth in the western region of Virginia, including the Company's existing Fishersville Station and 115 kV Dooms-Waynesboro Line #117 corridor; thereby enabling the Company to maintain the overall long-term reliability of its transmission system. The two 500-230 kV transformers at the Lexington Station provide the bulk power needs for all 230 kV, 138 kV, and 115 kV transmission systems and associated customer loads served from Lexington Station. Today, Lexington Station serves approximately 40,173 customers including the Company's largest industrial customer. The proposed line will provide a networked 230 kV transmission source to network Lexington Station with the rest of the 230 kV system, and will serve to reduce significant risks for customers in the event of a failure on both 500-230 kV transformers at Lexington Station.

6. As a transmission owner in PJM's planning region, the Company fully participates in PJM's transmission planning process under PJM's Regional Transmission Expansion Plan Protocol and is obligated under the PJM Operating Agreement to construct, operate and own transmission facilities as designated by PJM in its annual Regional Transmission Expansion Plan ("RTEP"). Each year, PJM, transmission owners and other stakeholders conduct a thorough study of the electric transmission grid and, based upon the findings, consider proposals to address the system needs identified by the study. At the

conclusion of this process, the PJM Board approves its annual RTEP. In 2013, PJM's regional transmission expansion planning process, which includes the Company's own planning criteria and reliability analysis, identified the need for the Project to address the excessive loading at the Company's Lexington Station, and PJM's Board of Directors approved the proposed Project as a baseline reliability project.

7. The Project was initially proposed as part of the rebuild of 500 kV Line #555 in Case No. PUE-2012-00134 ("500 kV Rebuild"), approved by the Commission on May 16, 2013 to comply with NERC Reliability Standards and replace aging transmission facilities reaching the end of their useful lives. The in-service date for the proposed Project is summer (commencing June 1) 2016, for coordinated construction with the 500 kV Rebuild. The estimated total cost of the Project is approximately \$14.3 million, which includes approximately \$11.1 million for the transmission line construction, and approximately \$3.2 million for the estimated cost of modifications at the Lexington and Dooms Stations. The necessity for the Project is described in more detail in Section I of the Appendix attached to this application.

8. For the coordinated 500 kV Rebuild and proposed Project, the Company will remove Line #555's existing 500 kV weathering steel (COR-TEN®) lattice towers, originally constructed by 1966, and replace them with new 500/230 kV double circuit galvanized steel lattice towers,² which will include twin-bundled 636 ACSR phase conductors with a transfer

² As discussed in Section II.B.4 of the Appendix, the Company modified the design of the geometry of the double circuit galvanized steel 500/230 kV lattice tower structures proposed in Case No. PUE-2012-00134 to allow the use of standard conductors. The Company is requesting that the Commission approve the modified tower design in the context of this proceeding for both the 500 kV Rebuild and the Project, and to the extent required, amend the certificate issued in Case No. PUE-2012-00134 to reflect the modified tower design. In order to preserve the summer of 2016 in-service date for both transmission

capability of 1047 MVA for the proposed Project's new 230 kV line #2168. The approximate size of the structures, the materials to be used for the transmission line, and the right-of-way clearing methods, corridor usage and maintenance procedures are described in Section II of the Appendix. Section II.B.4 also describes the design modification of the structures originally approved for the 500 kV Rebuild on which the 500 kV Rebuild and the proposed Project will be co-located. The Project's facilities will meet or exceed the standards of the National Electrical Safety Code in effect at the time of construction.

9. The proposed facilities will afford the best means of meeting the continuing need for reliable service while reasonably minimizing adverse impact on the scenic, environmental and historic assets of the area. The route for the Project is located entirely within existing right-of-way and is described in Section III of the Appendix.

10. As noted previously, the Project was originally proposed as part of the 500 kV Rebuild. Accordingly, information regarding the Project's 230 kV conductor was included in that filing. For the 500 kV Rebuild, the Company provided to the Department of Environmental Quality the supplement ("DEQ Supplement") containing information designed to facilitate review and analysis of the proposed facilities by the DEQ and other relevant agencies. Because the Project was presented in the 500 kV Rebuild DEQ Supplement and the incremental impacts of the proposed Project are minimal, the Company has provided to DEQ with this application a copy of the DEQ Supplement filed with the 500 kV Rebuild. The incremental impacts of the Project are described in the Appendix and the testimony of Company witness Stefan R. Brooks.

facilities, the Company will be required to begin pouring foundations for the modified structures no later than May 2014.

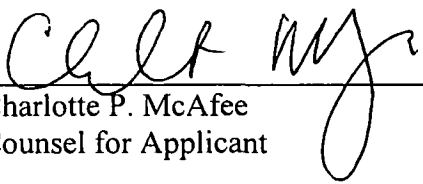
11. Dominion Virginia Power's experience, the advice of consultants and a review of published studies by experts in the field have disclosed no causal link to harmful health or safety effects from electric and magnetic fields generated by the Company's existing or proposed facilities. For further discussion of this topic, see Section IV of the Appendix.

12. A list of federal, state and local agencies and officials that reasonably may be expected to have an interest in the proposed construction, and to which a copy of the application will be sent, is set forth in Section V of the Appendix.

In addition to the information provided in the Appendix, this application is supported by the prepared direct testimony of Company witnesses David C. Witt, Robert J. Shevenock II, Wilson O. Velazquez and Stefan R. Brooks filed with this application.

WHEREFORE, Dominion Virginia Power respectfully requests that the Commission expeditiously (a) direct that notice of this application be given pursuant to § 56-46.1 of the Code of Virginia; (b) approve pursuant to § 56-46.1 of the Code of Virginia the proposed transmission facilities and grant a certificate of public convenience and necessity for those transmission facilities under the Utility Facilities Act; and (c) grant any additional authorization required for the proposed transmission facilities.

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY

By: 
Charlotte P. McAfee
Counsel for Applicant

Lisa S. Booth
Charlotte P. McAfee
Dominion Resources Services, Inc.
120 Tredegar Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 819-2277
charlotte.p.mcafee@dom.com

Vishwa B. Link
McGuireWoods LLP
One James Center, 901 East Cary Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219-4030
(804) 775-4330
vlink@mcguirewoods.com

Counsel for Applicant Virginia Electric and Power Company

November 7, 2013