

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

APPLICATION OF

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY

SCC-CLERK'S OFFICE
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CASE NO. PUE-2015-00117

2016 APR 12 P 12: 24

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For approval and certification of electric
transmission facilities: Remington-Gordonsville
230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line

HEARING EXAMINER'S RULING

April 12, 2016

On November 13, 2015, Virginia Electric and Power Company ("Dominion Virginia Power" or "Company") filed an application ("Application") with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the proposed Remington-Gordonsville 230 kilovolt ("kV") Double Circuit Transmission Line pursuant to § 56-46.1 of the Code of Virginia and the Utility Facilities Act, § 56-265.1 *et seq.*

The Company proposes to (a) construct, entirely along and primarily within existing right-of-way, approximately 38.2 miles of 230 kV Remington-Gordonsville Line # 2153 in Fauquier, Culpeper, Orange, and Albemarle Counties between its existing Remington Substation in Fauquier County and existing Gordonsville Substation in Albemarle County ("Proposed Route"); and (b) construct and install associated 230 kV facilities at the Company's Gordonsville and Remington Substations (collectively, the "Project"). The Company proposes two variations of an electrical solution that would connect the existing Remington Substation to a new switching station in the vicinity of the existing Rappahannock Electric Cooperative's Pratts Delivery Point in Madison County, Virginia ("Remington-Pratts Alternatives").

On December 29, 2015, the Commission issued an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things: (1) required the Company to publish notice of the Application; (2) established a schedule for the filing of notices of participation and the submission of prefiled testimony; (3) scheduled a local hearing in Orange, Virginia, for April 28, 2016, and a hearing in Richmond for June 28, 2016; and (4) assigned this case to a Hearing Examiner to conduct all further proceedings on the Commission's behalf and to file a final report.

On April 1, 2016, the Commission Staff filed a Motion for Expedited Summary Ruling that the Proposed Remington-Pratts Alternatives Should Not Continue as Part of this Proceeding ("Motion"). Therein, Staff asserts that the Remington-Pratts Alternatives are procedurally unique in that they do not, in and of themselves, constitute electrical solutions for the loading problems in the area. Rather, they both rely upon a rebuild of FirstEnergy's facilities by FirstEnergy, which is not a party to this proceeding and has not agreed, or in any way represented that it would agree, to rebuild the required component of the Remington-Pratts Alternatives. Staff contends that the Remington-Pratts Alternatives fail to address the identified need unless all required components are built.

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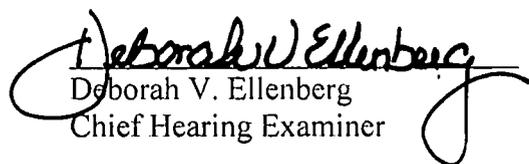
Staff also represents that the Company supports the Motion, and all other participants either support or do not oppose the Motion. By Ruling dated April 4, 2016, I provided an opportunity for the participants in this case to respond to the representations in the Staff Motion before I ruled.

In response, Madison County, Orange County, OMC Alliance, Stephen B. Carpenter, Charlotte E. Chumlea, Michael Mosko, Jr., William W. Sanford, David W. Taylor, and Jeffrey A. Tillery stated their support for, and joined in the Motion. Also in response, the Company stated that it does not object to Staff's Motion.

I find that the two Remington-Pratts Alternatives included in the Company's Application for Commission consideration, but not proposed by the Company, do not, in and of themselves, constitute electrical solutions for the loading problems in the area. I agree with Staff's contention that the Remington-Pratts Alternatives fail to address the identified need unless all required components are built, and some of those components are beyond the Company's control to build. The Remington-Pratts Alternatives are not electrically viable without a commitment from FirstEnergy to rebuild components within its control, and the Application before the Commission contains no commitment from FirstEnergy to rebuild those components. Therefore, good cause exists to grant the Motion. Accordingly,

IT IS DIRECTED THAT:

1. Staff's Motion for Expedited Summary Ruling that the Proposed Remington-Pratts Alternatives Should Not Continue as Part of this Proceeding is **GRANTED**; and
2. The Remington-Pratts Alternatives will not be considered further in this proceeding.


Deborah V. Ellenberg
Chief Hearing Examiner

Document Control Center is requested to mail a copy of the above Ruling to all persons on the official Service List in this matter. The Service List is available from the Clerk of the State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, 1300 East Main Street, Tyler Building, First Floor, Richmond, VA 23219.