Norris Bridge Transmission Project
August 25, 2015

Lancaster side looking towards Middlesex

Middlesex side looking towards Lancaster
Dominion’s Responsibility: Electric Transmission Infrastructure Investments

Above all, providing reliable and safe electricity at a reasonable cost lays the foundation in which projects are developed. Customers and ratepayers always come first in the equation. How do we solve for necessary infrastructure investments while meeting our obligation responsibly?

State Corporate Commission and other Regulatory agencies (VMRC, Army Corps, etc.) evaluate projects on:
- Need, Electrically viable
- Directness of Route, using existing ROW
- Cost
- Environmental Impacts
- Among others

Community evaluates projects on impact to:
- Quality of life/view shed
- Environment
- Reliability
- Among others

Dominion’s approach reflects varying considerations, balancing impacts in an appropriate and prudent manner. The proposed solution cannot remove impacts, but attempts to lessen them.
Problem:
Line #65 at River Crossing

- Replace aging infrastructure that has been in place since 1962 and has reached its “end-of-life”

- Gain increased reliability and operational efficiencies by upgrading and relocating the line
  - rebuilding the line to meet current standards and clearances will reduce vulnerabilities of an aging line lessening the risk of outages
  - this will help maintain reliability and reduce the restoration time in the event of an outage

- Maintain safety for Dominion and VDOT crews and lessen potential hazards to the public and watermen
  - relocating off the bridge will lessen the frequency that Dominion and road crews will need to coordinate for line outages or lane closures and reduce road debris from impacting the line.
  - The line will also be built to current Army Corps of Engineers clearances and codes, maintaining up-to-date safety standards for navigable waters.
Planning: Project Considerations

- Environmental considerations
  - SAV
  - Oyster beds
  - Wetlands

- Operational efficiencies

- Restoration times

- Life-span

- Use of existing right of way

- Existing overhead line

- Existing infrastructure in landscape (Norris Bridge)

- Cost
Solution: Norris Bridge Transmission Project

- Project details:
  - Rebuild ~2 miles of line across the Rappahannock River.
  - Replace/remove the existing 7 wood structures currently in the water and remove the 14 bridge attachments.
  - Upgrade and relocate onto 10 steel structures/concrete foundations in the water.
  - Average structures heights between 120’ and 180’
  - Remain on same side as the current transmission line alignment.
    - Approx. 100’ east of bridge
  - Span lengths vary between 800-1300 feet
  - No additional land required to rebuild line

- Dominion sought state and federal authority to cross the river.
  - Secured all permit approvals through VMRC and US Army Corps of Engineers.
Community Outreach

- September 2014 – Briefed Lancaster Co. and Middlesex Co. staff and officials
- November 2014, Met with Private Oyster Bed Lease Holders
  - A new transmission line would not impact private oyster grounds.
- January 2015, Legislation was introduced in the General Assembly addressing Baylor Grounds in the project area – needed for VMRC permit consideration (whether installed aboveground or submerged)
- January 15, 2015 – Rappahannock Record covers introduction of Baylor Ground legislation
- January 30, 2015 - Property owner outreach regarding soil testing work for project
- February 12, 2015 – Rappahannock Record covers passage of Baylor Ground legislation
- April 16, 2015 - Public Announcement
  - Mailed letters and fact sheets to ~70 landowners
    - Included all parcels ½ mile up and down stream and 500 feet inland from centerline
  - Project web page on dom.com, keyword “Norris Bridge”
  - Email address for on-going contact - powerline@dom.com
    - Received less than five inquires going into the VMRC permit review hearing
- May 2015 – Presented at the Lancaster and Middlesex Board of Supervisors meetings
- May 7, 12 – VMRC print advertisements regarding permit application
- May 14 – Continuing coverage - news articles cover project
- April - July 2015 – Direct stakeholder outreach regarding project-related questions
- On-going - Maintain open lines for communications throughout project
Facts

- Followed all necessary regulatory reviews
- Fully disclosed project details as early as Sept. 2014
- Primary source of power to Northern Neck
  - Typical power flows from Harmony Village substation in Middlesex to White Stone and Lancaster Substations in Lancaster
- No aviation markers or lights on top of structures required
- SCC reviews projects costs at time of annual review of all transmission related expenditures
Norris Bridge Transmission Project

Thank You

www.dom.com, keyword “Norris Bridge”
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