

Cleaner, Better Solutions For the Historic James River



	Dominion's Claim	Independent Expert's Finding
Need for the Surry-Skiffes Creek 500 kV transmission line	Peak electricity demand is estimated to increase by >18% between 2012 and 2021. The region risks rolling blackouts without a huge new generation or transmission project. * (2011)	Peak electricity demand was flat with a declining trend between 2012 and the present and is projected to continue to decline due in part to efficiency improvements.
Cost to ensure reliable Peninsula electricity supply +adequate backup resources during highest use	<i>Projected cost of Surry-Skiffes Creek: \$150 -180 million</i> <i>Actual cost: \$443.5 million, including \$95.5 million for mitigation projects</i>	Alternatives costing between \$80 - 300 million could reliably provide electricity, with the costs depending in part on scale.
Alternatives	The 500 kV Surry Skiffes Creek line was Dominion's strongly preferred alternative.	Cleaner alternatives less reliant on fossil fuels, such as flexible battery storage coupled with efficiency and renewables, previously have not been considered—and should be.

Using Dominion's original analysis from its 2012 Application, supplemented by application updates, as the foundation for their analysis, energy experts at Synapse Energy Economics, Inc. have identified cleaner alternatives to reliably meet electricity needs and maintain system reliability in this region. Those alternatives include using battery storage alone, or in combination with solar PV, energy efficiency, and strategies to manage electricity demand. These alternatives would require minimal, possibly no, mitigation.

As the Army Corps prepares an Environmental Impact Statement to weigh alternatives to Dominion's preferred Surry-Skiffes Creek transmission line, the agency must:

- Independently evaluate electricity need in the area;
- Independently analyze reasonable alternatives to Dominion's harmful project including using battery storage alone or in combination with solar PV and strategies to reduce electricity use during times of peak demand, e.g., extended heat waves; and
- In compliance with Clean Water Act requirements, choose the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative.

*There have been no rolling blackouts since 2011.