

Chesterfield County, Virginia

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June 24, 2024

Commissioner Jehmal T. Hudson Chair, State Corporation Commission P.O. Box 1197 Richmond, VA 23218

Director Mike Rolband VA Department of Environmental Quality P.O. Box 1105 Richmond, VA 23218

Dear Commissioner Hudson and Director Rolband:

As Commonwealth of Virginia regulatory bodies, we respect the oversight and approval authority that has been granted to each of your bodies. As you are aware, Dominion Energy has a proposed energy reliability center project in Chesterfield County. Initially, this project was proposed on property Dominion Energy owned, but that was not properly zoned for this particular use. Therefore, it initiated a zoning application that is currently included among our active zoning cases and is pending further processing. If, and when, this process commences for this site, then all applicable land use public engagement processes would take place via county community meetings and Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors proceedings and public hearings. These engagement processes welcome public comments.

In addition, Dominion has also requested a Written Determination from county staff as to whether the existing Chesterfield Power Station at Dutch Gap - that has been in operation and properly zoned for many decades - is currently zoned for what it wants to do with this project. From solely a land use question perspective, the answer in this case is that the current zoning permits the proposed project at this site and there is no further zoning action needed from the county. This letter of determination was followed by a more formal acknowledgement, at Dominion's request, to assist in their next steps with DEQ. As of today, I am not aware of which path Dominion wants to formally take with regard to either site.

It is our understanding that Dominion has applied, or intends to apply, for an air permit and permission to construct and finance their proposed project. At the direction of the Chesterfield County Board of

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Supervisors, based upon many citizens expressing concerns with the proposed project, I respectfully request both DEQ, as it pertains to any approvals for air permits, and SCC, as it pertains to any approvals for project costs and financing, to engage with the public as follows:

- 1. DEQ: Hold a public hearing to listen to our residents' concerns about the proposed project. We have already received dozens of comments from Chesterfield citizens expressing concerns with the proposed facility and its impact on air quality, among other issues. Please let us know if we can assist in securing an appropriate date and location for the public hearing.
- 2. SCC: While SCC hearings are typically held at your Richmond office courtroom, this proposed project warrants consideration for the SCC hearing to be held in Chesterfield.

As a county, we would be glad to further assist in providing any county site locations you may need and in promoting your respective public engagement processes.

Sincerely,

Joseph P. Casey, Ph.D.

County Administrator

Cc: The Honorable Members of the Chesterfield Board of Supervisors James Beazley, Dominion Energy