

# SURRY-SKIFFES CREEK-WHEALTON PROJECT

## WHAT IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT?

As required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is an in-depth analysis of the environmental impact of a proposed action that is carried out or regulated by the federal government when that action may have significant impacts on the quality of the human environment. In this case, the EIS will be an in-depth re-analysis of the Skiffes Creek project that will provide the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with information and effects/impacts analyses that will support its reconsideration of its 2017 approval.

### What is addressed in an EIS?

The typical EIS layout includes the following:

- Summary that includes major conclusions, areas of controversy, and issues to be resolved.
- Purpose and Need statement that explains the rationale for the proposed action.
- Alternatives, including onsite and offsite alternatives, that have potential to accomplish the purpose and need of the proposed action.
- Affected Environment description that discusses the areas to be affected by alternatives under consideration.
- Environmental Consequences analysis that discusses the direct and indirect environmental effects and their significance.
- List of agencies, organizations, and persons to whom the EIS was sent.
- Index that lists sources of materials.



U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Norfolk District

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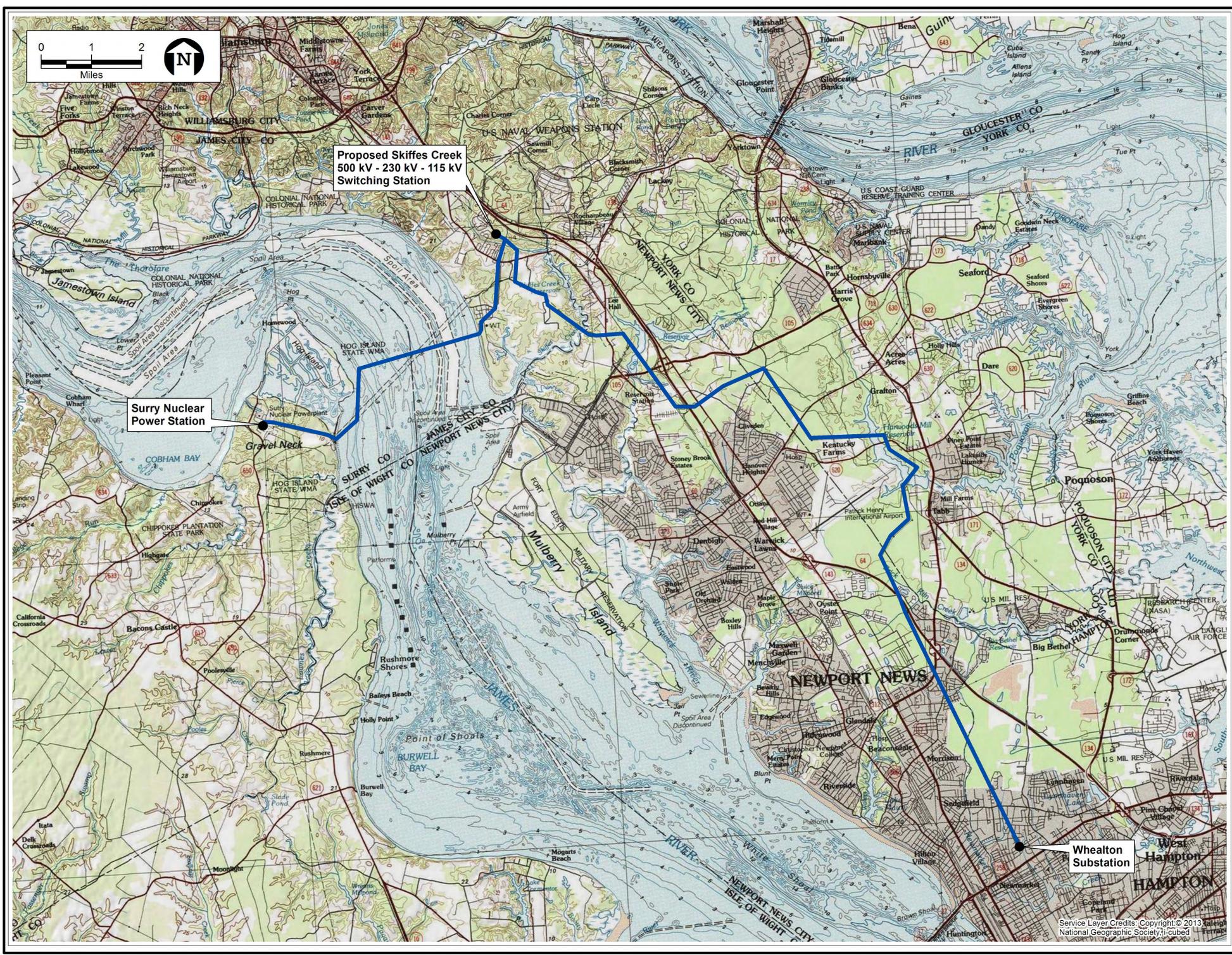
## EIS ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

### EIS Process and Anticipated Schedule



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## HISTORY OF THE PROJECT



### PROPOSED ACTION

- The Project included the following:
- A new 7.76-mile 500kV overhead transmission powerline from Surry to Skiffes Creek switching station.
  - A newly constructed Skiffes Creek Switching Station.
  - Replacement and expansion of a 20.2-mile 230kV overhead powerline that connects to the Whealton substation in Hampton.

### PROJECT PURPOSE

Install 500kV aerial transmission lines and infrastructure across the James River between Surry and the proposed new Skiffes Creek Switching Station, a 7.4-mile crossing of the James River w/ 17 towers at or up to 130'-295'. Upgrade an existing 20.2-mile transmission right of way.

### PROJECT NEED

The Project is needed to enhance electrical service reliability to over 285,000 customers, to meet the need to retire existing generating facilities in Yorktown, and to meet EPA's Mercury Air Toxic Standards (MATS) regulations.



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## HISTORY OF THE PROJECT

### 2013

8/15—Receipt of Complete Permit Application  
 8/28—Initial Public Notice (Overall National Environmental Policy Act)  
 12/13—United State Fish and Wildlife Service Section 7 Endangered Species Act Concurrence

### 2014

1/28—State Historic Preservation Offices Section 106 area of potential effects Concurrence Rec'd  
 4/16—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Section 7 Endangered Species Act Concurrence Rec'd  
 5/8—Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act Initial Coordination  
 7/14—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Section 7 Endangered Species Act Re-Concurrence Rec'd  
 9/25—Consulting Party Meeting  
 11/13—Receipt of Permit Modification Concurrence Rec'd  
 11/13—Public Notice (Historic Property Identification & Alternatives)  
 12/9—Consulting Party Meeting

### 2015

1/15—State Historic Preservation Office Section 106 Refined area of potential effects Concurrence Rec'd  
 4/28—United States Fish and Wildlife Service Section 7 Endangered Species Act Updated Concurrence Rec'd  
 5/1 & 5/11—State Historic Preservation Office Section 106 Completion 800.4 Rec'd  
 5/21—Public Notice (Effects to Historic Properties)  
 6/24—Consulting Party Meeting  
 6/29—National Parks Service Comments re: Nationwide Rivers Inventory  
 7/31—Receipt of Permit Modification  
 8/14—National Parks Service Keeper Decision & Designation of historic District Rec'd  
 9/14—Receipt of Permit Modification  
 10/1—USACE Preliminary Alternative Conclusions  
 10/5—State Historic Preservation Office Section 106 Modified area of potential effects Concurrence Rec'd  
 10/30—Public Hearing  
 11/13—State Historic Preservation Office Sec.106 Concurrence with Overall Adverse Effect  
 12/30—Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement Coordination

### 2016

1/28—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Section 7 Endangered Species Act Concurrence Rec'd  
 2/2—Consulting Party Meeting  
 2/17—State Historic Preservation Office Section 106 Concurrence with Effects to Individual Historic Properties  
 5/12—United States Fish and Wildlife Service Section 7 Endangered Species Act Re Concurrence Rec'd  
 6/13—Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement Coordination  
 12/6—Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement Coordination

### 2017

1/19—Consulting Party Teleconference  
 3/24—Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement Coordination  
 4/24—Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement Coordination  
 6/12—Memorandum for Record signed and released, including Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact  
 7/3—Permit Issued  
 9/20—National Parks Conservation Association, et al. file suit. Oral Argument for Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Injunctions  
 10/20—Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Injunctions is DENIED. Defendant(s) GRANTED Motion for Summary Judgement. Case DISMISSED

### 2018

9/28—National Parks Conservation Association , et al. Appeal to United States Court of Appeals  
 12/7—Oral Arguments on National Parks Conservation Association Appeal to United States Court of Appeals

### 2019

3/1—Appeal to United States Court of Appeals decided. Directed to complete an Environmental Impact Statement; Consultant engaged to develop Environmental Impact Statement

