



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
NORFOLK DISTRICT  
FORT NORFOLK  
803 FRONT STREET  
NORFOLK VA 23510-1011

Executive Office

JUN 12 2017

Mr. Robert M. Blue, Executive Vice-President &  
President and CEO of the Power Delivery Group  
Attn: Dominion Energy Virginia  
701 East Cary Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Richmond, Virginia 23219-3927

Dear Mr. Blue:

In accordance with Engineering Circular 1165-2-216, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Norfolk District, performed an evaluation of your request (NAO-2012-00080) to construct a new 500 kV power line across the Tribell Shoal Channel Reach of the James River Channel Federal Navigation Project. The new line lies directly south of Jamestown, Virginia between the Surry Nuclear Power Plant on the west bank to the new Skiffes Creek Switching Station on the east bank. A total of 17 new towers spread over 4.11 miles will be installed in the river with a maximum height of 300 feet at the Federal Channel.

Based on this evaluation, I have determined that the proposed construction activities will effectively alter a portion of the James River Channel Federal Navigation Project which is operated and maintained by USACE. Therefore, you must obtain approval to alter the Federal Project, pursuant to Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 USC §408 (Section 408).

While I have determined that your proposed construction activity may alter the Federal project, the proposed work does not impair the usefulness of the project nor harm the public interest. Therefore, I hereby grant your request to alter the James River Channel Federal Navigational Project provided that you:

a. Prior to the start of construction, you shall obtain all applicable federal, state, and local permits required to perform the requested construction activity.

b. A three-week advance notice of the start of construction must be submitted to the U.S. Coast Guard that includes pertinent information for their inclusion in their Local Notice to Mariners (LNM).

c. Construction work in or near the Federal channel shall be coordinated with the U.S. Coast Guard for the life of the project including a plan to manage and minimize

impacts to local navigation. A minimum 60 day advance notice must be submitted to the Coast Guard for any full or partial channel closures to allow time for them to publish a Temporary Final Rule which will limit marine traffic in the area.

d. During all channel closures or restrictions, you shall conduct the work in phases that will allow waiting vessels to pass safely through the work zone between the phases to the maximum extent possible. At other times, it is required that adequate space be provided in the channels to allow for safe, efficient navigation.

e. At no time shall any installed transmission line, equipment or structure, where it crosses the Federal navigational channel, extend lower than an elevation of 180 feet above mean high water.

f. As the 2 towers on either side of the Federal channel are over 200 feet tall, the towers must be appropriately lighted and marked to meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)/ICAO regulations.

g. The new towers and lines across the James River must be added to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)'s nautical charts regarding locations and vertical clearances. Please contact their Nautical Data Branch at [ocs.ndb@noaa.gov](mailto:ocs.ndb@noaa.gov) for information.

h. Markings and lighting for all fenders and towers shall meet U.S. Coast Guard requirements including submittal of their Private Aids to Navigation Application, Form CG-2554, for their review and approval.

i. Upon completion of the permitted construction, the applicant shall perform an as-built survey, clearly indicating the locations of the installed transmission line, in plan and profile views, in relation to the Tribell Shoal Channel Reach of the James River Federal Navigation Project, associated overboard disposal area for dredged material placement, and the adjacent barge channel. The applicant shall perform and submit the as-built survey to the references and standards established by the Chief of the Operations Branch, USACE Norfolk District, at the time of the survey and provide a digital copy of the survey to the Chief, Operations Branch, as soon as practicable after completion of the survey.

For any questions regarding this evaluation, please contact Mr. Gregory C. Steele, Chief, Water Resources Division and Section 408 Coordinator at (757) 201-7764.

Sincerely,

  
Jason E. Kelly, RMP  
Colonel, U.S. Army  
Commanding