Clifton-Winters Branch Pre-Construction Video

Slide 1: Intro

Hello, I'm Jenna, a Communications Specialist on Dominion Energy's Electric Transmission team.

At Dominion Energy, we are committed to providing the latest information on projects in the communities we serve.

In this video, I'll provide an overview of the Clifton to Winters Branch 230 kilovolt Electric Transmission Line Partial Rebuild project, including the purpose, key milestones, and construction plans.

Slide 2: Energy Grid

Before we get into the details, let's review the elements of the electric grid.

Electric transmission lines transport high voltage power securely, safely, and efficiently over long distances - from the power generation site to a substation.

At a substation, the voltage is lowered to be distributed to homes and businesses.

Slide 3: Virginia's Energy Landscape

The energy grid is dynamic, and there are a few primary forces driving rapid change.

First, the rise in electric vehicles and other electric technology is increasing the demand for electricity.

Second, data center development is increasing at a faster pace, and in more Virginia locations than ever before. More of us rely on data centers to store our home and work data, save pictures, and stream videos, like this one.

Finally, adding more renewable energy onto the grid, or "greenification", is driving new projects and operational changes.

The Clifton-Winters Branch project is one of many projects to maintain a reliable grid while navigating these changes.

Slide 4: Project Overview

In the face of increasing demands on the electric grid, the Clifton-Winters Branch Partial Transmission Line Rebuild will continue to bring power through the region at 230 kilovolts and meet mandatory federal reliability criteria.

We will upgrade the existing conductor, or wire, on the 7.25 mile, 230 kilovolt transmission line from Clifton Substation in Fairfax County to just outside Cannon Branch Substation in the City of Manassas. The project also crosses Prince William County and the City of Manassas Park.

To support the upgraded wire, we will also replace the transmission structures on this line.

This is a partial rebuild of what will be a full transmission line running from our Clifton Substation to our Winters Branch Substation in Prince William County, near Prince William Parkway. Additional information on the Cannon Branch – Winters Branch portion of this line is available at DominionEnergy.com/CannonBranch.

Slide 5: Structure Height Comparison Tool

The new structures on the Clifton-Winters Branch project will be similar to the existing structures in size and appearance, though they will be about five feet taller on average. The line will be rebuilt with brown, weathering steel single-circuit monopole structures, primarily within the existing right of way.

For more information on the structures, check out the Structure Height Comparison Tool on our website. Using the tool, you can search for your address, view existing and future structure details, including height differences, and view before-and-after photo simulations of key areas along the project route.

Slide 6: Project History

This project has been in development for several years.

In Fall 2022, we announced the project and began public engagement, including a virtual community meeting.

Last year, we filed the project with the Virginia State Corporation Commission, and after the Commission’s review, we received a final order approving the project.

Since then, our team has pursued permits and coordinated construction plans with the appropriate localities and agencies.

Slides 7-13: Construction Process

Now, we’re preparing to begin construction.

To start, crews will install new access roads using wooden matting or gravel. They will install erosion control measures to minimize environmental impacts.

As construction begins, our forestry team will flag and remove danger trees. These are trees along the right of way that could fall within 10 feet of the electric transmission line. Impacted landowners are notified and compensated as outlined in the easement agreements.

Next, the foundations for the new structures are installed. These are made with concrete and engineered based on soil testing completed during the project development phase.

The structures are installed by crane after the foundations are in the ground.

Finally, we install the new wires and associated hardware, and inspect the new line.

The old structures are removed once the new structures are in place. Once construction is complete, we will remove construction materials and restore work areas to their pre-existing conditions.

Slide 14: Construction Impacts

This project is close to community resources like schools, parks, museums, libraries, train stations, and more. And, given its proximity to homes, we want to share what construction impacts you can expect.

You may see and hear construction activities and materials, and experience temporary traffic disruptions during select activities.

Your use of community spaces will not be restricted, with one exception: to create a safe work zone at Blooms Park, we need to close a section of the trail loop and temporarily adjust the traffic pattern. More information about these impacts will be posted in the park.

Thank you for your patience while we complete this important project.

Slide 15: Construction Timeline

The project construction timeline includes hosting a pre-construction community meeting for the public on July 11.

In August, access installation and danger tree flagging and removals will begin at the western end of the project.

Transmission line construction will begin shortly thereafter, in September.

Construction activities will continue through the end of 2025, followed by access removals and restoration activities in early 2026.

Slide 6: Conclusion

For more information, and to access the resources shared in this video, please visit DominionEnergy.com/cliftonwintersbranch. Information is available in English and Spanish.

Have questions, or need additional information? Connect with a member of our team by calling us at 888-291-0190 or sending an email to powerline@dominionenergy.com.

Thank you for watching!