

**DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF
JAMES R. BAILEY
ON BEHALF OF
VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY
BEFORE THE
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF VIRGINIA
CASE NO. PUE-2007-_____**

1 **Q. Please state your name and position with Virginia Electric and Power Company**
2 **(“Dominion Virginia Power” or the “Company”).**

3 A. My name is James R. (“Ronnie”) Bailey, and I am Manager – Electric Transmission
4 Planning in the Electric Transmission Department of Dominion Virginia Power located
5 at 120 Tredegar Street in Richmond, Virginia.

6 **Q. What is your educational and professional background?**

7 A. I am a graduate of West Virginia Institute of Technology in 1980 with a Bachelor of
8 Science Degree in Electrical Engineering. I am also a Registered Professional Engineer
9 in the State of Virginia. I joined Dominion Virginia Power in February 1981 and
10 currently have over twenty-six years with the Company holding various positions. My
11 specific experience has been in System Protection, Substations, District Operations and
12 Transmission Planning. The System Protection experience involved the design, setting
13 and operating analysis of relaying systems for the protection of the Company’s
14 generation, transmission and distribution facilities. My substation experience involved
15 researching and engineering recommendations concerning substation electrical
16 equipment application and operating practices. My district operations experience
17 involved the supervision of servicemen, service coordinators, and technical employees.
18 The main responsibilities were the restoration of service activities, switching of
19 electrical facilities and engineering solutions to customer radio interference problems.

1 **Q. What are your responsibilities as Manager – Electric Transmission Planning?**

2 A. My responsibilities include the development of the long-range transmission expansion
3 plan, which provides for orderly and timely modifications to the Company's
4 transmission system in order to ensure an adequate, economical and reliable supply of
5 electric power. As part of the planning process, my group is responsible for performing
6 various reliability, stability and generation interconnection studies, and representing the
7 Company on regional/interregional reliability study groups and various NERC, SERC,
8 VACAR and PJM committees.

9 **Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony?**

10 A. Dominion Virginia Power proposes to build in northern Virginia a new 500 kV electric
11 transmission line beginning near Structure 56 of Dominion Virginia Power's existing
12 500 kV line #580 ("Structure 580/56"), located within the Company's existing right-of-
13 way at a point in eastern Warren County approximately 16 miles southeast of Allegheny
14 Power's ("Allegheny's" or "APS's") Meadow Brook Substation in Frederick County,
15 and running approximately 65 miles within, or adjacent to, existing Dominion Virginia
16 Power right-of-way through Warren, Fauquier, Rappahannock, Culpeper, Prince
17 William and Loudoun Counties to the Company's existing Loudoun Substation in
18 southeastern Loudoun County.

19 This new line is part of a larger project to construct a total of approximately 265 miles
20 of new 500 kV lines to connect Allegheny's 502 Junction Substation in southern
21 Pennsylvania with Dominion Virginia Power's Loudoun Substation, with intermediate
22 connections at the Company's Mt. Storm Substation in West Virginia and Allegheny's
23 Meadow Brook Substation (the "502 Junction – Loudoun Project"). Dominion Virginia

1 Power's portion of the 502 Junction – Loudoun Project will be to construct the 65 miles
2 of new 500 kV line described above and make associated modifications at Loudoun
3 Substation and at Mt. Storm Substation. Trans-Allegheny Interstate Line Company
4 (“TrAILCo”), an Allegheny affiliate, will be constructing the remainder of the 502
5 Junction – Loudoun Project, including the new 500 kV lines in Pennsylvania and West
6 Virginia and, in Virginia, the portion of the Mt. Storm-Meadow Brook circuit from the
7 Virginia state line to Meadow Brook Substation, the installation of two new 500 kV
8 breakers and associated equipment at Meadow Brook Substation and the construction of
9 the portion of the Meadow Brook-Loudoun circuit from Meadow Brook Substation to
10 Dominion Virginia Power's Structure 580/56.

11 I will describe the need for these new transmission facilities and discuss certain
12 reliability aspects of the proposed line and its impact on economic development. In
13 addition, I am sponsoring Sections I.A, I.B, I.C, I.E., I.F, I.H and I.I of the Appendix.
14 Some of the information in I.C. has been provided to me by other Company personnel.

15 **Q. Why do the new transmission facilities need to be built at this time?**

16 A. The construction of the 502 Junction – Loudoun Project is necessary to relieve identified
17 violations of North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) mandatory
18 reliability standards (“NERC Reliability Standards”) beginning in the Summer 2011
19 timeframe brought on by significant increases in electrical demand over the past 10
20 years as well as expected demand growth projected for the future. These reliability
21 violations, if not relieved, will severely impact the transmission system's ability to
22 provide reliable service to Dominion Virginia Power's and Allegheny Power's
23 customers in the northern Virginia load area. These reliability violations also will

1 adversely impact reliable service to critical loads in the Washington, D.C. – Baltimore
2 area and to a lesser extent a large portion of the eastern United States.

3 The NERC Reliability Standards constitute minimum criteria with which all utilities,
4 including Dominion Virginia Power, must comply as components of the regional
5 transmission system. The failure to address these projected NERC reliability violations
6 by the Summer 2011 timeframe could lead to potential rolling blackouts in northern
7 Virginia that would significantly impact the region’s economy as well as service to
8 critical government facilities. The August 14, 2003 blackout highlights the significant
9 impact that a transmission event in one region can have over a much larger geographic
10 area should the system be operated in a manner that violates NERC Reliability
11 Standards. Moreover, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 mandates that electric utilities
12 must follow these NERC Reliability Standards, and utilities could be fined up to \$1
13 million a day per violation if found to be in non-compliance.

14 **Q. Please describe the present 500 kV transmission system and its role in providing**
15 **reliable service to customers in the northern Virginia area.**

16 **A.** Northern Virginia, like most major metropolitan areas, is extremely dependent on the
17 EHV (345 kV and above) transmission system to transport electricity into the area to
18 reliably meet its energy needs. Based on forecasted Summer 2007 peak loading
19 conditions, there is only enough generation in this load area to supply 48% of the local
20 needs. This ratio of generation to load is projected to decline to approximately 44% in
21 2011 and 40% in 2016. With the contingency loss of the largest generator (Possum
22 Point Unit #5 – 736 MW) in this load area, the ratio of generation to load declines to
23 36% in 2007, 33% in 2011 and 30% in 2016. Evaluating the transmission system’s

1 ability to reliably serve load for the contingency loss of a generation unit is a
2 requirement of the NERC Reliability Standards. Dominion Virginia Power's
3 transmission system, including the northern Virginia service area, is extremely reliant on
4 a robust and reliable regional transmission system.

5 Dominion Virginia Power is part of the Eastern Interconnection transmission grid,
6 meaning it is interconnected, directly or indirectly, with all of the other transmission
7 systems in the U.S. and Canada between the Rocky Mountains and the Atlantic coast,
8 excluding Quebec and most of Texas. All of the transmission systems in the Eastern
9 Interconnection are dependent on each other for support in moving bulk power through
10 the transmission system and for reliability support. The Company is also part of the
11 PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. ("PJM") Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO")
12 providing service to a large portion of the eastern United States. PJM is currently
13 responsible for ensuring the reliability and coordinating the movement of electricity
14 through all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New
15 Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the
16 District of Columbia. This service area has a population of about 51 million and in 2006
17 set a new summer peak demand of 144,796 MW, of which Dominion Virginia Power's
18 load portion was approximately 19,375 MW serving 2.3 million customers. Dominion
19 Virginia Power's load zone is the third largest area in PJM behind only American
20 Electric Power Company and Commonwealth Edison.

21 **Q. Please explain the role of the 500 kV facilities in supplying northern Virginia.**

22 A. Attachment I.E.1 to the Appendix shows Dominion Virginia Power's transmission
23 system serving northern Virginia. Attachment I.E.2 to the Appendix shows the existing

1 major 500 kV transmission facilities serving Dominion Virginia Power's and
2 Allegheny's northern Virginia and Winchester load areas. Attachment I.E.3 to the
3 Appendix shows the proposed 502 Junction – Loudoun Project facilities, including the
4 portion to be constructed by the Company, in relation to the 500 kV system serving the
5 region. The regional 500 kV Extra High Voltage (“EHV”) transmission network is the
6 major transportation system providing electrical energy to both companies' customers as
7 well as a large portion of the eastern United States. Its primary purpose is to deliver
8 bulk power needs from generation sources, which are located primarily outside northern
9 Virginia, to major load centers. At these major load centers, bulk power flows from the
10 500 kV system to lower voltage lines to satisfy the distribution loads.

11 As shown in Appendix Attachments I.E.1, I.E.2 and I.E.3, Dominion Virginia Power's
12 portion of northern Virginia is primarily served from four different 500 kV corridors,
13 some of which are from neighboring systems. These corridors are as follows:

- 14 a. Black Oak - Bedington – Doubs
- 15 b. Mt. Storm – Doubs
- 16 c. Mt. Storm – Meadow Brook - Morrisville
- 17 d. Doods - Cunningham – Elmont

18 These corridors are the main transportation lines from remote generation resources to
19 Dominion Virginia Power's load centers connected to the 500 kV System at Bristers,
20 Clifton, Loudoun, Morrisville, Pleasant View and Ox Substations via 500-230 kV
21 transformers. See Appendix Attachment I.E.1. They are also the main source lines to
22 APS load centers served from Bedington, Black Oak, Doubs and Meadow Brook

1 transformers. The transformers at these stations support over 7,000 MW of power flow
2 from the 500 kV system to the underlying lower voltage transmission system.

3 **Q. Can you provide some illustrations of northern Virginia's dependence on these 500**
4 **kV facilities?**

5 A. Northern Virginia's dependence on the four 500 kV corridors described above and the
6 interconnected transmission system in general can be highlighted by looking at
7 Attachment I.B.1 to the Appendix. This figure highlights the change, or delta, in power
8 flows on the 500 kV lines for an outage of Possum Point Unit #5. When this 736 MW
9 of generation trips off-line, the other generating units in the region respond to this
10 outage by increasing their output to make up for the loss of generation. The resulting
11 net increase in power flow on all four of these lines is 246 MW, or 33% of the 736 MW
12 loss in generation. Other 500 kV network lines to the north and east also respond, such
13 as the Possum Point – Burches and Brighton – Doubs lines, with a net increase in power
14 flow on these two lines of 228 MW, or 31%, of the 736 MW loss in generation. This
15 study also shows that 82 MW, or 11%, of the 736 MW loss in generation is coming
16 from sources south of Richmond. Adding the delta flows of the 500 kV system shows it
17 is supplying 76% of the increased power requirements for northern Virginia for the
18 contingency loss of 736 MW of internal generation. The remaining 24% is being
19 supplied from lower voltage networks in the area.

20 Appendix Attachment I.B.2 provides another example of how the interconnected
21 transmission system responds to the loss of one of these critical 500 kV lines providing
22 service to northern Virginia. For this example, the Mt. Storm – Meadow Brook line is
23 removed from service. Pre-contingency, the Summer 2011 power flow models show a

1 flow of approximately 1,762 MW on this line. When an outage to this line occurs, the
2 power flow will automatically redistribute itself over the remaining networked facilities.
3 Of the four corridors noted above, three corridors (Black Oak – Bedington – Doubs, Mt.
4 Storm – Doubs and Dooms - Cunningham - Elmont) will account for 60% of the
5 increased power flow into northern Virginia. The Possum Point – Burches 500 kV line
6 accounts for 163 MW, or approximately 9%, of the redistributed power flow. The
7 Mt. Storm – Doubs 500 kV line accounts for the single largest increase in power flows,
8 which is approximately 561 MW (32%). This example further highlights the critical
9 role of the interconnected 500 kV system in supporting the transportation of bulk power
10 into northern Virginia.

11 Although these examples do illustrate how the 500 kV system responds to the loss of
12 critical elements, application of PJM’s and the Company’s criteria for meeting NERC
13 Reliability Standards will yield much higher contingency loading impacts on the
14 Mt. Storm – Doubs line, as will be demonstrated below. For example, applying
15 Dominion Virginia Power’s criteria for meeting NERC Reliability Standards requires
16 analysis of the impacts of the contingency loss of the Mt. Storm – Meadow Brook 500
17 kV line with the largest generator in the study area (Possum Point Unit #5) unavailable.

18 **Q. Have these 500 kV lines presented operational issues in the past?**

19 A. The Black Oak – Bedington – Doubs, Mt. Storm – Doubs and Mt. Storm – Meadow
20 Brook corridors have presented major operational issues for several years and in
21 particular over the last two years. As a result of higher than expected system loads in
22 2005, an upgrade to increase the thermal capability of Dominion Virginia Power’s Mt.
23 Storm – Doubs 500 kV line was accelerated by the Company from 2010 to 2006. The

1 thermal capability of the Mt. Storm –Doubs 500 kV line was a limiting constraint for
2 555 hours in 2005. This upgrade increased the capability of this line from 2,200 MVA
3 to its current rating of 2,598 MVA. The Black Oak – Bedington - Doubs corridor, while
4 thermally limited to 3,502 MVA, is predominately voltage-limited to operation
5 significantly below its thermal capability. This means the system must be operated to
6 prevent contingency flows on this line from exceeding this voltage limit in order to
7 prevent a voltage collapse in this load area, which includes northern Virginia. In 2005,
8 this voltage limit was a limiting constraint for 2,017 hours.

9 Operating constraints are often viewed as indicators of future reliability problems
10 because they force system operators to operate the system in an inefficient manner.
11 They also can provide insight into how significant reliability issues may impact
12 customers should a reliability problem occur on the interconnected system. Therefore,
13 these operating constraints are consistent with the findings that the Mt. Storm – Doubs
14 500 kV line overload was identified in 2011 and that the region, including the northern
15 Virginia area, would be subject to blackouts for this overload, since the northern
16 Virginia area was subjected to voltage reduction in 2005 for a voltage constraint at
17 Doubs 500 kV substation.

18 **Q. Please discuss the growth in the demand for electric service in your service area.**

19 A. Dominion Virginia Power's transmission system is responsible for providing
20 transmission service to the Company's retail customers and also to the customers of Old
21 Dominion Electric Cooperative, Virginia Eastern Municipal Association, Central
22 Virginia Electric Cooperative and Craig-Botetourt Electric Cooperative in Virginia, as
23 well as the customers in North Carolina of North Carolina Electric Membership

1 Cooperative and North Carolina Eastern Municipal Power Agency. As noted in the
2 testimony of Phillip Powell, the demand for electric service has grown rapidly over the
3 last five years in Dominion Virginia Power's service area, and during this time the
4 Company's total electrical demand has grown by 2,387 MW, with 969 MW (40.6%) of
5 this increase occurring in northern Virginia. Dominion Virginia Power's portion of the
6 northern Virginia region includes the following counties: Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier,
7 Loudoun, Prince William, Spotsylvania and Stafford, and the cities of Alexandria, Falls
8 Church, Vienna, Fairfax, Leesburg, Manassas and Warrenton. On August 3, 2006,
9 Dominion Virginia Power's customers set a new system peak electrical demand of
10 19,375 MW, of which the northern Virginia portion of this load was approximately
11 6,368 MW. The testimony of Phillip Powell addresses this growth in more detail.

12 **Q. Does the 2007 PJM Load Forecast project greater growth for the Dominion**
13 **Virginia Power northern Virginia service area?**

14 A. Yes. As shown in Attachment I.B.3 to the Appendix, the studies that initially identified
15 the need for the new line were based on the 2006 PJM forecast, which projected a
16 normal load in 2011 for the northern Virginia area of Dominion Virginia Power to be
17 6,532 MW. The 2007 PJM forecast now projects this northern Virginia area normal load
18 to be 6,833 MW, which is 301 MW, or 4.6% higher, than the 2006 load estimate.

19 **Q. What are the implications of this growth for transmission planning?**

20 A. In a recent news release issued January 16, 2007 discussing the region's expected
21 growth over the next 10 years, PJM stated as follows regarding this growth:

22 The growth rate in PJM's Southern Region (Dominion's
23 territory) is forecast to be 1.9 percent annually. Annual
24 growth at that rate will result in approximately 4,000
25 megawatts of additional demand for electricity in 10 years.

1 “The above average growth in the Southern Region helps
2 drive the need to expand the power supply system there,”
3 said Michael J. Kormos, PJM senior vice president –
4 Reliability Services. “In just five years, peak demand in the
5 Dominion territory is forecast to grow by 1,756 megawatts.
6 That’s like adding more than a million houses to the
7 system.”

8 A study (The National Electric Transmission Congestion Study) conducted by the U.S.
9 Department of Energy (“DOE”) in August 2006 placed northern Virginia in one of two
10 national “Critical Congestion Areas” for electricity transmission. The DOE report
11 stated that the region requires “billions of dollars of investment in new transmission,
12 generation and demand-side resources over the next decade to protect grid reliability
13 and ensure the area’s economic viability.”

14 **Q. Has Dominion Virginia Power constructed additions to its transmission system to**
15 **address this increased demand for power?**

16 A. Yes. In order to meet the past demand growth as well as projected future growth,
17 Dominion Virginia Power has completed or will complete many new internal expansion
18 projects in the northern Virginia area. Some examples of projects to meet this demand
19 are as follows:

20 **Network Transmission Work in Northern Virginia**

21 **Year 2000**

- 22 • New transmission line - 230 kV Morrisville to Remington CT
23 • Upgrade transmission line - 230 kV Line #2086 Remington CT to Warrenton

24 **Year 2001**

- 25 • New transmission line - 230 kV Ladysmith to Ladysmith CT

26 **Year 2002**

- 27 • New transmission line - 230 kV Clifton to Reston
28 • Upgrade transmission lines - 115 kV Lines #145 and #183 Remington to
29 Possum Point

1 **Year 2003**

- 2 • New transmission transformers - Possum Point and Pleasant View 500-230
3 kV transformers
4 • Upgrade transmission lines - 230 kV Lines #225, #2074 and #2088 North
5 Anna to Gordonsville

6 **Year 2004**

- 7 • Upgrade transmission lines - 230 kV Lines #2039 and #2040 Morrisville to
8 Marsh Run

9 **Year 2005**

- 10 • New transmission line and station - 230 kV Beaumeade to Greenway &
11 Greenway substation
12 • Upgrade transmission station - 230 kV ring bus Beaumeade substation

13 **Year 2006**

- 14 • New transmission transformer - Clifton 2nd 500-230 kV transformer
15 • Upgrade transmission line - 500 kV Line #551 Mt. Storm to Doubs
16 • New transmission voltage support - 6 transmission capacitor banks

17 **Year 2007**

- 18 • New transmission line and substation - 500 kV Morrisville to Bristers &
19 Bristers substation
20 • Upgrade transmission line - 230 kV Line #2063 Clifton to Ox

21 **Year 2008**

- 22 • Upgrade transmission lines - 230 kV Lines #2045 and #2094 Loudoun to
23 Brambleton
24 • Upgrade transmission line - 230 kV Line #251 Idylwood to Arlington
25 • New transmission line - 230 kV Brambleton to Greenway

26 **Year 2009**

- 27 • New transmission line and transformer - 230 kV Bristers to Gainesville and
28 500-230 kV transformer at Bristers
29 • New transmission transformer - Possum Point 2nd 230-115 kV transformer

30 **Year 2010**

- 31 • Upgrade transmission line - 230 kV Line #2097 Ox to Idylwood

32 The total cost of these projects is approximately \$142 million.

1 **Q. Are these projects sufficient to address the projected demand for power in the**
2 **future?**

3 A. No. With growth in the region coupled with the past and continued future load growth
4 in northern Virginia, expansion projects on the Dominion Virginia Power system alone
5 such as those indicated above, will not suffice after the 2010 timeframe. The identified
6 future NERC violations (which take these existing and planned projects into account), if
7 not corrected with the construction of the proposed 502 Junction – Loudoun Project,
8 will severely impact Dominion Virginia Power’s ability to provide reliable service to its
9 customers in northern Virginia. To reliably serve future load growth and to avoid
10 subjecting the area to potential rolling blackouts beginning in the Summer 2011
11 timeframe, this line must be constructed.

12 **Q. Please explain how the specific need for the proposed 502 Junction – Loudoun**
13 **Project, and Dominion Virginia Power’s portion of it, has been determined.**

14 A. Dominion Virginia Power, working with PJM and its member transmission owners
15 through PJM’s regional transmission expansion planning process (“RTEPP”), has
16 identified both regional and local NERC reliability violations that will directly impact
17 northern Virginia load areas beginning in Summer 2011. Under this coordinated
18 RTEPP effort, PJM’s load flow studies were validated by studies performed by
19 Dominion Virginia Power and Allegheny. This planning process is described in more
20 detail in the direct testimonies of Steven Herling of PJM and Scott Gass of PowerGEM
21 (and formerly of PJM). These studies have confirmed that by Summer 2011 projected
22 load growth will produce multiple contingency conditions that would overload the Mt.
23 Storm – Doubs 500 kV line and also produce potential voltage collapse conditions in the

1 Winchester, Front Royal and Shenandoah Valley areas of Virginia. PJM, with the
2 involvement of Allegheny and Dominion Virginia Power in the RTEP process, has
3 determined that the 502 Junction – Loudoun Project, including the proposed
4 transmission facilities described in this application, will provide the most
5 comprehensive solution for resolving the projected NERC reliability violations by
6 Summer 2011 as well as provide for future load growth. This project was one of many
7 projects PJM presented at its May 23, 2006 Transmission Expansion Advisory
8 Committee (“TEAC”) meeting and subsequently approved by PJM as described in
9 Mr. Herling’s testimony. Copies of the TEAC presentation and approved plans are
10 contained in Attachments I.A.1 and I.A.2 to the Appendix.

11 **Q. Please discuss how the planning process that led to these determinations takes into**
12 **account changes in system conditions.**

13 A. As explained in the testimonies of Mr. Jeffrey Palermo of the Company’s independent
14 consultant KEMA, Incorporated (“KEMA”), Mr. Herling and Mr. Gass, the
15 transmission planning process and the application of NERC Reliability Standards is a
16 dynamic process that will often require modifications to projected plans from year to
17 year. New generators, block load additions, generation retirements and changes to load
18 forecasts (on both a Dominion Virginia Power and regional system basis) are some of
19 the many factors that can impact projected transmission plans from year to year. For
20 example, the 2003 Dominion Virginia Power system forecast used in the Company’s
21 Earnings Test and Annual Informational Filing for 2003, PUE-2004-00048, projected
22 system loads in 2007 and 2011 to be 18,671 MW and 19,962 MW, respectively. The
23 actual summer peaks in 2005 and 2006 were 18,897 MW and 19,375 MW, respectively.

1 Thus, the 2005 actual peak exceeded the level projected for 2007, and the 2006 actual
2 peak approached the level projected for 2011. This actual higher-than-expected demand
3 experienced in Summer 2005 contributed to an operating issue of low voltage on the
4 500 kV system. The region, including Dominion Virginia Power's northern Virginia
5 load area, had to implement voltage reductions in order to maintain 500 kV voltages
6 within acceptable operating limits. The Company's Mt. Storm Power Station was also
7 required to reduce its output during this loading period to prevent the Mt. Storm –
8 Doubs 500 kV Line #551 from overloading. As a result of these actual loading
9 conditions in 2005, several upgrades in the region were implemented to provide relief.
10 As discussed above, plans were accelerated to uprate the Mt. Storm to Doubs 500 kV
11 Line #551 to its current rating, with the upgrade being moved up from the projected
12 May 2010 need to May 2006, along with new projects adding capacitor banks in
13 northern Virginia.

14 The current PJM 2007 System Load Forecast now indicates that the forecasted Summer
15 2007 and Summer 2011 peaks for the Company are estimated to be 19,392 MW and
16 20,985 MW, respectively, which are significantly higher than originally projected by the
17 Company in 2003. The Dominion Virginia Power system that was initially planned
18 three years ago when lower peaks were anticipated must now reliably serve this
19 additional 1,023 MW of system load in the new forecast for 2011. These changes help
20 highlight why the transmission planning process will always be a dynamic and not a
21 static process.

1 **Q. What role do the NERC Reliability Standards play in the planning process?**

2 A. Mr. Herling addresses this subject in detail. In summary, NERC Reliability Standards
3 mandate that the maximum loading for any transmission facility should stay within its
4 “Applicable Rating” for both thermal and voltage operating conditions, both pre-
5 contingency and post-contingency. NERC Reliability Standards were developed to
6 reduce the likelihood that system disturbances would result in large scale service
7 interruptions (blackouts). The net result of evaluating the performance of the
8 transmission system over this wide range of contingency conditions is to provide the
9 system operators with a system that can be expected to operate within safe operating
10 limits.

11 Dominion Virginia Power’s planning criteria, which reflect NERC Reliability
12 Standards, provide that, for the loss of a transmission line or for the loss of the most
13 critical transmission line while the largest generating unit in the area is also not
14 available, no facility should be loaded above 94% of its thermal rating. Dominion
15 Virginia Power’s criteria for the 500 kV system (which actually operates around 515 kV
16 in order to reliably move bulk power across the system) for these same outages sets a
17 minimum criterion of 1% above the 500 kV nominal voltage, or 505 kV. As noted in
18 numerous cases before the Commission, the Company builds a 6% margin (which is not
19 weather-normalized) into its thermal ratings and a 1% tolerance into its voltage criteria.
20 These margins are designed to take into account variations from normal weather and
21 load forecast uncertainty.

1 **Q. What do Dominion Virginia Power's planning studies show regarding the**
2 **transmission system's ability to meet NERC Reliability Standards for the facilities**
3 **on which northern Virginia depends?**

4 A. Load growth projections show that by Summer 2011 Dominion Virginia Power will not
5 be able to meet projected growth in a reliable manner consistent with NERC Reliability
6 Standards, resulting in transmission facility overloads and potential loss of transmission
7 service. In coming to this conclusion, PJM, Dominion Virginia Power and Allegheny
8 performed independent studies to assess the system's ability to meet the NERC
9 Reliability Standards. A violation of the NERC Reliability Standards occurs under
10 Dominion Virginia Power's planning criteria when a Dominion Virginia Power
11 transmission facility exceeds 94% of its thermal capability under simulated
12 contingencies. A summary of the Company's power system simulations and resulting
13 violations of NERC TPL-002-0 (for an event resulting in the loss of the most critical
14 transmission line while the largest generating unit in the area is also not available) for
15 expected Summer 2011 operating conditions based on the 2006 PJM Load Forecast are
16 shown below for the following contingencies:

- 17 1. For the loss of Line #572A (Mt. Storm – Greenland Gap) while Possum
18 Point Unit #5 is unavailable, Line #551 (Mt. Storm – Doubs) loads to 102%
19 of its rating.
- 20 2. For the loss of Line #572B (Meadow Brook – Greenland Gap) while Possum
21 Point Unit #5 is unavailable, Line #551 (Mt. Storm – Doubs) loads to 102%
22 of its rating.
- 23 3. For the loss of Line #542 (APS) (Hatfield – Black Oak) while Possum Point
24 Unit #5 is unavailable, Line #551 (Mt. Storm – Doubs) loads to 100% of its
25 rating.
- 26 4. For the loss of Line #554 (APS) (Black Oak – Bedington) while Possum
27 Point Unit #5 is unavailable, Line #551 (Mt. Storm – Doubs) loads to 100%
28 of its rating.

- 1 5. For the loss of Line #572A (Mt. Storm – Greenland Gap) while Possum
2 Point Unit #5 is unavailable, Endless Caverns 230-115 kV loads to 109% of
3 its rating.
- 4 6. For the loss of Line #572B (Meadow Brook – Greenland Gap) while Possum
5 Point Unit #5 is unavailable, Endless Caverns 230-115 kV Transformer loads
6 to 108% of its rating.
- 7 7. For the loss of Line #572A (Mt. Storm – Greenland Gap) while Possum
8 Point Unit #5 is unavailable, Line 128 (Edinburg – Mount Jackson) loads to
9 115% of its rating.
- 10 8. For the loss of Line #572B (Meadow Brook – Greenland Gap) while Possum
11 Point Unit #5 is unavailable, Line 128 (Edinburg – Mount Jackson) loads to
12 114% of its rating.

13 As noted above, the NERC reliability violations above were based on the 2006 PJM
14 Load Forecast. The revised 2007 PJM forecast projects a higher demand for the northern
15 Virginia load area for the 2011 timeframe, meaning the problem is getting worse.
16 Appendix Attachments I.B.4 and I.B.5 provide a summary of all the projected overloads
17 based on Dominion Virginia Power’s analysis for both the 2006 and 2007 load forecasts
18 as well as projected future years.

19 **Q. Were there any additional NERC reliability violations identified by Dominion**
20 **Virginia Power that will impact its northern Virginia service area?**

21 A. Yes. In addition to thermal violations discussed above, Dominion Virginia Power’s
22 studies also show that there is the potential for a voltage collapse to occur in 2016
23 without the proposed line for various TPL-002-0 contingency conditions. These various
24 contingencies cause system voltages to drop below 85% of nominal voltage on the
25 majority of the substations in the northern Virginia area, including the 500 kV
26 substations. This would present an unacceptable operating condition and one which
27 could lead to cascading outages should this contingency condition occur. This same
28 system study shows that when the proposed transmission line is modeled in 2016, no

1 500 kV substation busses will be less than 85% of nominal voltage for any contingency
2 condition.

3 **Q. What were the results of PJM's studies?**

4 A. These are discussed in detail in the direct testimony of Mr. Gass. Independently, PJM
5 performed a broader assessment of the regional system's ability to meet the NERC
6 Reliability Standards on a 15-year planning horizon. To perform this assessment, PJM
7 evaluates member systems based on PJM Generator and Load Deliverability studies.
8 Generator Deliverability studies assure that capacity resources (generator MW) can be
9 delivered to the remainder of the PJM system at peak load. Load Deliverability studies
10 examine defined load zones (for example the Dominion Virginia Power zone) within the
11 PJM region and consider the ability of the transmission system to deliver adequate
12 power to the load zone during a generation capacity emergency. A generation capacity
13 emergency occurs when there is high load (i.e., high consumer demand) on the electric
14 system and insufficient generation capacity within the load zone.

15 PJM's 2006 15-year assessment identified several major reliability violations beginning
16 in 2011, and extending out to 2021, that will require new transmission expansion. The
17 near term problems identified by PJM were in 2011 and occur in the Maryland, Virginia
18 and West Virginia geographic area, which will impact both the Allegheny and
19 Dominion Virginia Power northern Virginia service areas. For expected system
20 operating conditions in 2011, this PJM analysis identified the following near term
21 deficiencies on the 500 kV systems of Allegheny and Dominion Virginia Power:

- 22 1. The Mt. Storm – Doubs 500 kV Line #551 would load to 101% of the
23 emergency rating for an outage of Mt. Storm – Greenland Gap 500 kV Line
24 #572A for the PJM Generator Deliverability study for Summer 2011.

- 1 2. The Mt. Storm – Doubs 500 kV Line #551 would load to 101% of the
2 emergency rating for an outage of Meadow Brook – Greenland Gap 500 kV
3 Line #572B for the PJM Generator Deliverability study for Summer 2011.
- 4 3. The Mt. Storm – Doubs 500 kV Line #551 would load to 100% of the
5 emergency rating for an outage of Hatfield – Black Oak 500 kV Line #542
6 (APS) for the PJM Generator Deliverability study for Summer 2011.
- 7 4. The Mt. Storm – Pruntytown 500 kV Line #554 (APS #510) would load to
8 100% for an outage of Hatfield – Black Oak Line #542 (APS) for the PJM
9 Generation Deliverability study starting Summer 2014.
- 10 5. The Mt. Storm – Doubs 500 kV Line #551 would load to 106% of the
11 emergency rating for an outage of Mt. Storm – Greenland Gap Line #572A
12 for a mid-Atlantic region Load Deliverability study for Summer 2011.
- 13 6. The Mt. Storm – Doubs 500 kV Line #551 would load to 106% of the
14 emergency rating for an outage of Meadow Brook – Greenland Gap Line
15 #572B for a mid-Atlantic region Load Deliverability study for Summer
16 2011.
- 17 7. The Mt. Storm – Doubs 500 kV Line #551 would load to 104% of the
18 emergency rating for an outage of Hatfield – Black Oak 500 kV Line #542
19 (APS) for a mid-Atlantic region Load Deliverability study for Summer 2011.
- 20 8. The Mt. Storm – Doubs 500 kV Line #551 would load to 104% of the
21 emergency rating for an outage of Bedington – Black Oak 500 kV Line #544
22 (APS) for a mid-Atlantic region Load Deliverability study for Summer 2011.

23 The longer term reliability violations extending out to 2021 were in central
24 Pennsylvania and northern New Jersey. Mr. Gass’s testimony explains how these
25 results of PJM’s studies relate to the result of the Company’s analyses.

26 **Q. Were other NERC Reliability Standards implicated?**

27 A. NERC Reliability Standard TPL-003-0 also requires that, for an event resulting in the
28 loss of any two transmission circuits, the remaining facilities should be within
29 acceptable thermal and voltage limits. Allegheny Power also validated this analysis
30 since the violations directly impact their northern Virginia load area fed out of Meadow

1 Brook Substation. The projected load growth also will cause this reliability standard to
2 be violated beginning in Summer 2011, when:

- 3 1. For the loss of the Morrisville – Meadow Brook 500 kV Line #580 and the
4 Meadow Brook – Greenland Gap Line #572B, a voltage collapse will occur
5 on the 138 kV system out of Meadow Brook Substation.
- 6 2. For the loss of the Hatfield – Black Oak 500 kV Line #542 (APS) and
7 Mt. Storm – Doubs Line #551 the 500 kV voltage at Meadow Brook will
8 drop to 91.7% of nominal.
- 9 3. For the loss of the Black Oak – Bedington 500 kV Line #544 (APS) and Mt.
10 Storm – Doubs Line #551 the 500 kV voltage at Meadow Brook will drop to
11 91.0% of nominal.

12 **Q. Why was the 502 Junction – Loudoun Project chosen to address these NERC**
13 **violations?**

14 A. PJM, with the involvement of Allegheny and Dominion Virginia Power working
15 through the PJM RTEP process, evaluated several alternatives to resolve these identified
16 NERC reliability violations. The proposed new 265-mile 502 Junction – Loudoun
17 Project was determined to be the best solution to resolve these reliability violations in
18 the 2011 timeframe. The analyses of the Company, PJM and KEMA clearly show that
19 this line is needed to meet demand beginning in the Summer 2011 timeframe and that
20 significant operating problems will occur, including potential rolling blackouts in
21 northern Virginia, if this line is not in service.

22 The overall impact this solution has on meeting the demands of northern Virginia and
23 the region and resolving the NERC reliability violations can be shown by comparing
24 Attachments I.B.4, I.B.5, I.B.6 and I.B.7 to the Appendix. Attachments I.B.4 and I.B.5
25 to the Appendix show the violations in various years without the 502 Junction –
26 Loudoun Project. Attachments I.B.6 and I.B.7 to the Appendix show the impact this line

1 has on resolving the overloads. Although a few minor overloads show up, they have
2 been significantly reduced with the worst not showing up until the 2016 timeframe. As
3 explained by Mr. Herling, those 2016 overloads will be resolved during the 2007
4 RTEPP analysis dealing with other regional issues affecting the mid-Atlantic region.
5 Both the 502 Junction – Loudoun Project, as well as the next expansion project to be
6 announced later in 2007 by PJM, are needed for the region to meet future demand.

7 **Q. Why is Loudoun Substation the best place to terminate the eastern end of the**
8 **overall project?**

9 A. Construction of the 502 Junction – Loudoun Project, including the new line proposed in
10 this application, will relieve all identified NERC reliability violations and provide this
11 high growth area access to much needed generation resources. Dominion Virginia
12 Power’s Loudoun Substation is centrally located in the middle of some of the fastest
13 growing counties in Virginia, including Fauquier, Loudoun and Prince William. As
14 reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, Loudoun has been the fourth fastest growing
15 county in the United States during 2000-2006, with a population growth rate of 58.5%,
16 compared to a growth rate of 8% for Virginia during that period. Over that same period,
17 the population of Prince William County grew at a rate of 31.5%, and Fauquier
18 County’s growth rate was 17.2%. In comparison, Virginia’s overall population growth
19 rate during the period was 8%.

20 As indicated earlier, this high growth area is highly dependent on the regional 500 kV
21 system to meet current and future load demands. The NERC violations that will impact
22 the northern Virginia load area of Dominion Virginia Power are on Dominion Virginia
23 Power and Allegheny 500 kV facilities located mostly outside of Virginia. A key line,

1 the Mt. Storm – Doubs 500 kV line, is vital to maintaining reliable service in northern
2 Virginia. Bringing a new line directly into the Loudoun Substation will relieve this
3 area’s dependence on those facilities and provide the needed capacity to maintain
4 reliability and meet future expected growth.

5 **Q. Has the Company sought independent verification that the proposed project is**
6 **needed and provides the best solution for meeting the need identified by Dominion**
7 **Virginia Power and PJM?**

8 A. Yes. In order to further validate the need for this proposed line, Dominion Virginia
9 Power hired KEMA, a leading expert in transmission and distribution solutions, to
10 independently investigate the need and proposed solution. KEMA’s resulting report,
11 which is included in this application, verifies that there is a need that must be addressed
12 based on the identified reliability violations and that a 500 kV 502 Junction – Loudoun
13 transmission line provides the best means for avoiding these violations. KEMA
14 concluded that the planned system, without additional system improvements, will
15 experience overloads by 2011 on the Mt. Storm – Doubs, Hatfield – Black Oak and
16 Black Oak – Bedington 500 kV lines and by 2016 on these three key lines and on the
17 Dooms – Lexington, Bristers – Morrisville, Cunningham – Elmont and Bristers – Ox
18 500 kV lines and that, based on the applicable planning criteria, these violations indicate
19 a need that must be addressed in plans for the future. KEMA also considered a total of
20 10 possible solutions to meet the identified need, including generation and demand side
21 management as well as a number of transmission solutions, and concluded that the
22 Company’s Proposed and Alternate Routes are the best technical solutions.

1 **Q. Has the Company considered whether there are any feasible alternatives to**
2 **construction of the proposed line?**

3 A. Yes. These alternatives are described and considered in Section I.C of the Appendix.
4 For the reasons expressed therein, the proposed Project is superior to all of these
5 alternatives. As also explained in Appendix Section I.C, generation and demand side
6 management are not feasible alternatives to construction of the proposed project.

7 **Q. Did the Company always consider the Proposed Route to meet the electrical needs**
8 **that had been identified?**

9 A. No. In its evaluation, Dominion Virginia Power compared the ability of both the
10 shorter, cross-country route and the longer southern route (now the Proposed Route) to
11 meet the needs identified by both the Company and PJM through the 2016 timeframe.
12 Those assessments, which were based on the 2006 PJM Load Forecast as well as other
13 forecasted future system conditions, identified 31 overloads that would impact
14 Dominion Virginia Power and the region beginning in the year 2011 and extending out
15 to 2021. Based on those assessments and assuming construction of the 502 Junction –
16 Loudoun Project, the next major PJM regional transmission expansion was not needed
17 until 2016 or later. Therefore, Dominion Virginia Power’s assessment of the route for
18 the Meadow Brook – Loudoun portion of the project was attempting to assure the
19 robustness of the upgrade until at least 2016. The Company found that both routes met
20 the need in 2011, but the Proposed Route failed to satisfy the 2016 criteria. The greater
21 electrical impedance of the longer Proposed Route rendered it unable to relieve the
22 NERC Reliability violations impacting Dominion Virginia Power and the region
23 beginning in the 2013-2014 timeframe.

1 **Q. What caused the Company to re-evaluate the Proposed Route from an electrical**
2 **perspective?**

3 A. Two significant planning assumptions changed. Changes were made in the project's
4 design parameters that affected the impedance of this portion of the 502 Junction –
5 Loudoun line. More importantly, the new 2007 PJM Load Forecast showed greater
6 demand in the northern Virginia load area, along with a number of other system changes
7 discussed in Mr. Herling's testimony that increased the west-to-east flows, including
8 these on the Mt. Storm – Doubs 500 kV line. The 2007 forecast showed northern
9 Virginia demand to be 301 MW, or 4.6%, higher than the 2006 forecast demand and to
10 have a direct impact on increasing the west-to-east flows. As indicated in Mr. Herling's
11 testimony, the revised 2007 load forecast also showed additional changes to the broader
12 region that increased the west-to-east flows much sooner than expected and
13 demonstrated the need for further regional system upgrades in addition to the 502
14 Junction – Loudoun Project.

15 Based on this revised information, the need to bridge the gap between the 502 Junction
16 – Loudoun Project with the next future PJM expansion changed significantly.
17 Assessments of this revised data now show that additional upgrades beyond the current
18 project are now expected as early as the 2013 timeframe, meaning the Segment
19 Overhead Route is no longer electrically superior to the Proposed Route. That new
20 assessment now shows that the Segment Overhead Route and the Proposed Route
21 provide similar electrical benefits in the 2011 timeframe and sufficiently beyond to
22 maintain system reliability until other regional improvements now required outside the
23 State of Virginia can be developed in the 2013 timeframe. PJM also concurs that the

1 Company Proposed Route effectively meets the increased needs of the northern Virginia
2 area.

3 **Q. Did KEMA make a similar assessment?**

4 A. Yes. KEMA was hired by Dominion Virginia Power to independently assess the need
5 for this project for its northern Virginia area. KEMA's assessment of need for this
6 project centers on the original 2006 PJM Load Forecast. KEMA's assessment
7 demonstrates that both the Alternate Route and Proposed Route will resolve the NERC
8 Reliability violations in the year 2011 but in 2016 the Mt. Storm – Doubs line overloads
9 if either is built. This led KEMA to conclude that both routes are viable options
10 because, even with a new line, they recognize that additional regional system expansion
11 will be needed and is currently being developed by the PJM RTEPP. The primary
12 difference between Dominion Virginia Power's initial assessment and the KEMA
13 assessment can be attributed to design changes in the project that affected the electrical
14 impedance parameters of the line along with the knowledge of additional regional
15 system expansion now required and being developed by the PJM RTEPP. The
16 Company's original assessment predated this information, but it was available for
17 inclusion in the KEMA report. If KEMA had assessed the Alternate and Proposed
18 Routes using the same information as the Company, they would have come to a similar
19 conclusion.

1 **Q. In determining the Company Proposed Route, Company consultant Burns &**
2 **McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. (“Burns & McDonnell”) was given a**
3 **parameter to limit the length of line where both 500 kV circuits were placed within**
4 **the existing 150’ wide right-of-way to less than one continuous mile. Please address**
5 **this limitation.**

6 A. As previously discussed, Dominion Virginia Power’s transmission system is extremely
7 reliant on a robust and reliable regional 500 kV transmission system. The northern
8 Virginia area is primarily served by four critical 500 kV transmission corridors with the
9 proposed 502 Junction - Loudoun line becoming the fifth corridor needed in order to
10 meet future demand growth. The Company Proposed Route for the Meadow Brook –
11 Loudoun portion of this line will be within, or adjacent to, existing right-of-way,
12 including the existing Meadow Brook - Morrisville 500 kV line. The Meadow Brook –
13 Morrisville 500 kV line is one of the existing four primary corridors providing service to
14 northern Virginia. Therefore, it is important that the new line be constructed in a manner
15 that minimizes the likelihood that an event causing an outage on one line would cascade
16 into the second.

17 Dominion Virginia Power minimizes this risk by its standard design practices. The
18 Company’s typical right-of-way width is 150 feet for one 500 kV line and 240 feet for
19 two parallel 500 kV lines. The additional width for the second line reduces the risk of a
20 cascading event taking out both lines. Failure to provide this construction width for the
21 majority of the line would reduce reliability and potentially require additional expansion
22 to prevent rolling blackouts. It is reasonable for Dominion Virginia Power to make
23 exceptions for this line in a few limited locations. The Proposed Route does have a few

1 areas where there will be two 500 kV lines within the existing 150 foot right-of-way in
2 order to get through confined areas (tight residential areas and open space easement
3 areas). However, to minimize the risk and concerns of a cascading event, Burns &
4 McDonnell was tasked with keeping these confined areas to a minimum with no one
5 section exceeding one mile in length. Keeping the distances of these sections at a mile
6 or less will enable Dominion Virginia Power to treat these lines as individual lines for
7 contingency events, which will reduce the likelihood of requiring additional system re-
8 enforcements in the future. This approach is consistent with NERC Reliability Standards
9 regarding tower line outages, which make exceptions for short distances. Although
10 NERC does not define short distances, Dominion Virginia Power has traditionally used
11 this one mile threshold in its analysis. PJM also requires its member transmission
12 owners to consistently apply this one-mile threshold as part of its NERC compliance
13 program.

14 **Q. Would Dominion Virginia Power still need to construct this line if we were not in**
15 **PJM?**

16 A. Yes. Regardless of whether Dominion Virginia Power is a member of PJM, the fact
17 remains that the Dominion Virginia Power system, including the northern Virginia area,
18 is part of the Eastern Interconnection transmission system. Dominion Virginia Power's
19 dependence on that system does not change with entrance into an RTO. As already
20 discussed, Dominion Virginia Power's own separate analysis, applying Dominion
21 Virginia Power criteria, identified a number of thermal and voltage NERC reliability
22 violations that will impact its ability to meet the growing demand in the northern
23 Virginia service territory. This same analysis would have been performed by Dominion

1 Virginia Power regardless of its participation in PJM. Additionally, KEMA was hired to
2 independently evaluate the need for this project from a Dominion Virginia Power only
3 perspective. They have independently concluded the line is required in order to reliably
4 serve the northern Virginia area.

5 **Q. Will construction of the 502 Junction – Loudoun Project, including the facilities to**
6 **be constructed by Dominion Virginia Power, improve the reliability of the**
7 **Company’s service, and, if so, how would it affect economic development in**
8 **Virginia?**

9 A. As I have indicated, the proposed facilities are needed to assure the future reliability of
10 the Company’s transmission system. A robust and reliable transmission system is an
11 important part of economic development in Virginia because all businesses need reliable
12 energy, and many make expansion decisions on the basis of energy availability. For
13 example, Attachment I.A.3 to the Appendix contains resolutions from the Vienna-
14 Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, the
15 Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, the City of Manassas Utility Commission and
16 the Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce supporting the need for the
17 proposed new transmission facilities. This new line is vital to sustaining economic
18 development in northern Virginia.

19 **Q. Does this complete your prepared direct testimony?**

20 A. Yes, it does.