DOMINION POWER IS HOLDING VIRGINIA BACK.
The Commonwealth’s largest energy company hasn’t built a single wind farm or major solar project in our state. Instead, Dominion emits more industrial carbon and mercury pollution than any other utility in Virginia, and the pollutants from its plants are estimated to cause 5,528 asthma attacks every year.

Dominion spends millions of dollars in Virginia and federal politics opposing clean energy and clean air standards that would protect our families’ health and the environment. Dominion is forcing our families to rely on dirty fuels that produce mercury, smog, and soot pollution which contribute to developmental disabilities in children as well as heart attacks and cancer. We can do better.

DOMINION SHOULD LEAD THE WAY
Fortunately, there has never been a better time to invest in clean energy. Already, more Americans work in the solar industry than in coal mining. Clean energy is the only alternative that can put Virginians back to work and protect the health of our families. We can combat climate change and create over 40,000 jobs if we invest in wind, solar and energy efficiency now.

VIRGINIANS HAVE A RIGHT TO BREATHE CLEAN AIR
Virginia’s coal-fired power plants cause 647 premature deaths, 477 hospital admissions, and 896 heart attacks per year. Today, Virginia ranks 6th in the nation for health impacts from coal plants. Dominion operates the largest and most polluting of these coal plants.

Richmond, home to Dominion’s headquarters, was the asthma capital of the U.S. in 2010 and 2011, according to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. More than half of Virginia earned a failing grade for air pollution linked to asthma in 2010.

Public health and ecological impacts can more than double the true cost of electricity generated by coal. Yet Dominion does not consider these added costs when creating its long-term energy plans. Ignoring the true cost of coal makes it no less real for our families.
GETTING PAID FOR DEPRIVING VIRGINIA OF CLEAN ENERGY

Dominion was awarded $76 million in 2011 for meeting Virginia’s voluntary renewable energy goal, which it satisfied with out-of-state, pre-WWII dams, trash- and wood-burning facilities. Not by building wind and solar. We, the customers, pay for this “reward,” yet Dominion has not developed a single wind turbine or large-scale solar project in Virginia.

Dominion has built some renewable energy in other states where incentives are greater, but is fighting to keep clean energy development out of Virginia. Dominion buys Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) from old, out-of-state generation sources to satisfy Virginia’s goals—pocketing our money and giving us nothing but pollution in return.

DOMINION: STIFLING PROGRESS ON RENEWABLE ENERGY & EFFICIENCY

SPENDING MILLIONS OPPOSING GOOD ENERGY POLICIES

Dominion dominates the Virginia state legislature by giving lots of campaign cash to members of the General Assembly. Since 1996, Dominion has given $7.1 million to state lawmakers, including $1.4 million to the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General.

INEFFICIENCY IS EXPENSIVE

Think Virginians have the lowest energy bills? Think again. Our lack of efficiency, among other factors, keeps our monthly bills high. The average monthly energy bill for households in Virginia is the 10th highest in the nation. Dominion is the third largest utility in the country, but doesn’t even rank on the list of top utilities for efficiency investments.

NO VIRGINIA-MADE CLEAN ENERGY = NO NEW VIRGINIA JOBS

In 2007, Virginia passed its Voluntary Renewable Energy Standard. Since then, wind energy has increased by 347% to 40,226 MW across the U.S., employing 75,000 Americans. Solar energy has increased by 548% to 878 MW, employing 100,000 Americans. How much wind and solar power has Dominion developed in Virginia since 2007? Zero.

WE CAN DO BETTER AND DOMINION MUST LEAD THE WAY!

If Dominion were to develop offshore wind, Virginia could create as many as 10,000 local, good-paying career-length jobs. Another 30,000 Virginia jobs could be created in the next decade if Dominion supported strong energy efficiency policies and investments.

Virginia could meet almost 20% of its electric demand from solar energy. Today the figure is much less than 1% thanks in large part to Dominion’s hostility towards policies that cut into its monopoly. Solar energy generation could also translate into thousands of jobs and support numerous Virginia small businesses.

CLEAN ENERGY FOR OUR FAMILIES, FOR OUR FUTURE

Dominion should lead the way by creating 3,000 megawatts—enough to power 700,000 homes—of new Virginia-made wind and solar energy and energy efficiency by 2020. We must demand that Dominion adopt a plan to make this clean energy a reality for Virginia’s communities and families.

TAKE ACTION

TELL DOMINION CEO, THOMAS FARRELL: STOP HOLDING US BACK!

DEVELOP VIRGINIA-MADE CLEAN ENERGY NOW!

Sign the petition: action.sierraclub.org/CleanEnergy4Virginia

Visit: vasierraclub.org/CleanEnergy

Contact: phillip.ellis@sierraclub.org or kate.addleson@sierraclub.org to learn about volunteer opportunities and how you can get involved.