**DOMINION IS HOLDING VIRGINIA BACK**

Dominion Virginia Power is the Commonwealth’s largest utility, but they’ve failed to develop a single wind farm or major solar project in the state. As a result, Virginia is nearly dead last in the nation for renewable energy while dirty energy like coal, gas, and nuclear continue to put our communities at risk.

Pollution from Dominion’s plants is estimated to cause more than 5,000 asthma attacks every year, contribute to poor air quality, and lead to more extreme weather like super storms, flooding, and heat waves spurred by climate disruption. These fuels depend on destructive mining such as mountaintop removal that destroys mountains and streams and causes increased rates of cancer and heart, lung, and kidney diseases. Yet Dominion’s long-term plans call for more of the same.

**DOMINION VIRGINIA POWER’S PREFERRED FUTURE GENERATION MIX**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2027</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coal</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchased Electricity*</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fossil Fuels</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wind and Solar</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Purchased electricity from the PJM grid is currently made up of around 90% coal and gas

Dominion currently gets less than one percent of its energy from wind and solar, and they have no plans to increase this before 2027. Instead, they’re holding us back by proposing to increase our reliance on dirty fuels while other states surge ahead with innovative new renewable energy sources that will create jobs and cut pollution.

**RISKY PLANNING**

Dominion has consistently overestimated energy demand in Virginia, using their projections to justify the construction of more large, polluting natural gas plants. At the same time, the company is seeking to export natural gas overseas which would drive up prices for families here in the United States and increase the operating costs for these plants. Natural gas prices are notoriously volatile, and owning more fossil fuel plants is an unnecessary risk for Virginians. Our families and businesses need energy and economic security. Instead of new fossil fuel plants, energy efficiency is a more affordable and reliable solution. Cutting wasted energy would lower monthly bills, create jobs, and protect Dominion customers from spiking fuel costs.

**UNLEASHING VIRGINIA’S CLEAN ENERGY POTENTIAL**

There has never been a better time to invest in clean energy. Already more Americans work in the solar industry than in coal mining, and solar and wind are seeing record growth nationwide. Clean energy like wind, solar, and efficiency leads to healthier air, safer communities, and
more affordable power. Building a clean energy future would create tens of thousands of good jobs and grow our economy.

We can cut enough wasted energy and install enough clean power to reduce our dependence on dirty energy like coal, gas, and nuclear and avoid building more fossil fuel plants. For instance:

- Solar has the potential to provide nearly 20 percent of Virginia’s power, but it currently provides far less than one percent. New Jersey has more than 30 times the installed solar capacity of Virginia even though we have greater solar potential.

- A single offshore wind project could provide 2400 MW of reliable electricity, enough to power more than half a million homes and create thousands of good jobs. It would attract new industries to our ports and manufacturing to the region.

- Energy-efficiency programs that have been successfully implemented in other states could mean more than one percent energy savings per year statewide. This would lower monthly bills, put money back into the local economy, and create more jobs than if we continue to rely on expensive fossil fuels.

REGULATING DOMINION

The State Corporation Commission (SCC) is directed to protect the public interest by regulating the state’s utilities. They have the power to reject Dominion’s plans that would put electricity customers at risk. They can also direct Dominion to implement long-term solutions like energy efficiency and clean energy that would be safer, more reliable, and more cost-effective for their customers.

BUILDING A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

Dominion should lead the way by investing in safe, affordable, and reliable renewable energy instead of continuing to rely on dirty fuels. They can build a more secure energy future with 3,000 MW of clean, renewable energy – enough to power 700,000 homes by 2020. We must demand that Dominion adopt a plan to make this clean energy future a reality for Virginia’s families.

TAKE ACTION

Join us in telling Dominion CEO Thomas Farrell and the State Corporation Commission that we need clean energy for Virginia!

- Contact an organizer to volunteer and get involved: phillip.ellis@sierraclub.org or kate.addleson@sierraclub.org
- Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/vasierraclub
- Learn more: vasierraclub.org