

400 Years of History at Risk

Dominion Virginia Power seeks to build a second electric transmission line across the James River, proposing a line with 17 towers that would be up to 295 feet tall—nearly the height of the Statue of Liberty. The view at historic Jamestown remains virtually unchanged from how Captain John Smith saw it in the early 1600's—help protect this richly historic setting!



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Protect Historic Jamestown

Plans to build a transmission line through the James River at Jamestown threaten Colonial National Historical Park.

The first permanent English settlement in North America was established along the James River in southeastern Virginia in 1607. The James and its pristine landscape connect a number of beloved and well-preserved national parks and historic sites, including Jamestown Island, Yorktown, Colonial Parkway, Carter's Grove, and the Captain John Smith Trail, the nation's first Congressionally-designated water trail that traces Smith's exploration of the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers. A visitor today can experience views along the James River that evoke those from the time of Jamestown's establishment.

The James River hosts the federally-endangered Atlantic Sturgeon, the same fish that fed the Jamestown settlers four hundred years ago. Sturgeon can grow up to 14 feet long, and live for 40 years. They rely on the James River to spawn twice a year.

Over six million visitors come to these historic sites each year, spending \$1 billion in the region, and contributing to Virginia's vital tourism industry.

Dominion Virginia Power plans to build a transmission line across the James River, with some of the 17 proposed towers reaching as high as 295 feet – nearly the height of the Statue of Liberty. These towers, covered by thousands of blinking lights, will dominate the region's scenery, forever marring this historic landscape, disrupting the river's wildlife, and endangering recreational boaters.

Alternatives include using an existing crossing further down river, locating the transmission line in a less historically sensitive location, and implementing distributed generation and energy efficiency initiatives. Despite certain, avoidable harm to American history and heritage, Dominion continues to seek a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to move forward with this ill-considered plan.

Please <u>urge the Corps</u> to require Dominion to pursue alternatives that will not damage our country's historic places and threaten already stressed wildlife. <u>Demand</u> that the Corps hold public hearings and complete an Environmental Impact Statement to investigate the significant negative impacts of this proposal to the natural and historic resources of the James River.

Contact Pam Goddard, Chesapeake & Virginia Senior Program Manager at 202.454.3365, pgoddard@npca.org.