

# Whites Creeks Electric Reliability Improvement Project

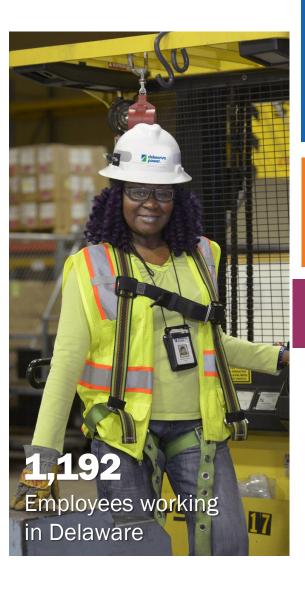


**DNREC Public Hearing: Delmarva Power & Light Subaqueous Lands Permit** 

Presented by: Jim Smith, Delmarva Power

October 1, 2019

#### **Overview of Delmarva Power**



527,000

Electric customers

5,400 mi<sup>2</sup>

Service area (DE and MD)



13,000 miles of distribution lines &1,500 miles of transmission lines



17,000

Customers connected to energy assistance in 2018

433

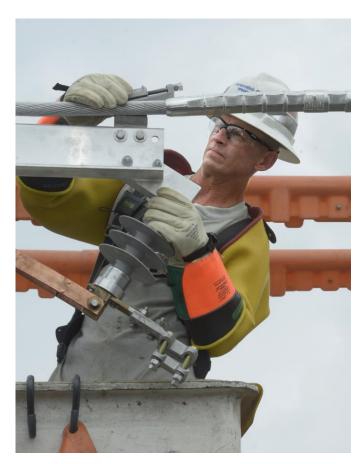
IBEW Local 1238 and 1307 members



An Exelon Company

# Delmarva Power electric reliability improvements in Southeastern Sussex County

- Delmarva Power is committed to providing safe, reliable, and affordable service for our customers and communities. As part of this effort, we are planning a modernization project to install an underground cable across Whites Creek.
- As the demand for energy grows in southeastern Sussex County, Del., this work is part of a series of projects to improve reliability for more than 13,000 Delmarva Power customers in the areas of Bethany Beach, Cedar Neck, Clarksville, Millville, Ocean View and South Bethany.

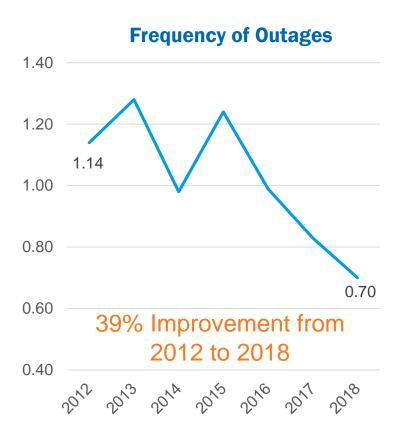


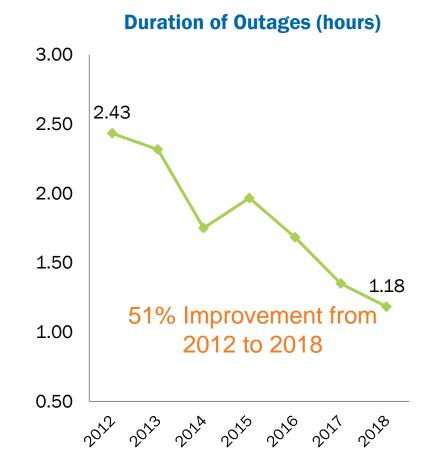


## Delmarva Power electric reliability improvements in Southeastern Sussex County

- With the continued growth in the southeastern Sussex coastal area, these enhancements will provide Delmarva Power the ability to improve electric service in the following ways:
  - Increased capacity to serve a growing area
  - Significant decrease in the duration and frequency of power outages
  - Strengthening the system during times of peak demand
  - Quicker restoration during power interruptions
- The Whites Creek project is part of a broader strategic effort to strengthen and modernize the energy grid serving Sussex County.
- This effort includes dozens of targeted projects in communities across the southeastern part of the county, hardening our critical energy infrastructure and building a more resilient grid to prevent outages.
- Due to our efforts, customers have seen a 34 percent decrease in the frequency of electric outages in the last five years, throughout our Delaware service area.

#### **Continued Improvements in Service Reliability for Customers**







### Whites Creeks Electric Reliability Improvement Project

- In an effort to enhance reliability in the Ocean View and Millville areas, Delmarva Power proposes to extend its 12-kV electric distribution line across Whites Creek. The new lines are needed to provide electric service redundancy to Delmarva Power customers on both sides of the creek.
- With the new crossing, future power interruptions will be limited since Delmarva Power will be able to reroute power across the both sides of the creek to keep electricity flowing for its customers. A "loop" feed will replace the current "radial" feed.
- Delmarva Power conducted a comprehensive review of potential options to enhance service reliability and determined that installing a cable under Whites Creek would be the most cost-effective and least impactful option.
- To minimize impacts, a horizontal directional drilling method will install the lines under the creek without any expected effects to the tidal or non-tidal wetlands.
- Four, four-inch lines encased in PVC will be installed in a 16-inch tunnel at a minimum of 20 feet below the creek bed.

#### **Construction information and timeline**

- Delmarva Power is committed to working closely with its customers, the community and government officials to address questions and minimize impacts throughout the project.
- The installation on each side of the creek will be within an existing Delmarva Power easement with no impacts to buildable areas of any lots.
- The installation will interconnect between Daisey Avenue on the east side of the creek and Peaceful Lane on the west side.
- At the conclusion of the cable installation, property restoration will occur for the areas disturbed as a direct result of this project.
- Delmarva Power will work with other utilities through the normal Miss Utility process on utility location procedures.
- In accordance with the application submitted to DNREC, the construction methods and materials for pipelines and other conduits shall, at a minimum, be in accordance with the applicable state and federal regulations governing the installation and operation of the pipelines, and shall conform to generally accepted engineering practices for said activities.
- Construction work will be completed within the times identified in the construction permits, with a focus on keeping noise levels from construction activities within established thresholds.



#### **Construction information and timeline**

- Construction and installation is expected to take approximately two weeks, weather pending, during daytime hours.
- The impact to residents should be minimal. A bore machine will be installed on the west side of creek in The Solitudes and a reel with the conduits on the Daisey Avenue side.
- The bore rig will establish an initial pilot bore and create the 16-inch tunnel under the creek. The final step will be the pulling of the bundled conduits through from east to west.
- Contractors will adhere to construction guidelines set forth by the Town of Ocean View. During construction, there will be intermittent lane closures at the west end of Daisey Avenue, but residents will have access to the street.
- The new line will interconnect with an existing switch cabinet in The Solitudes and a new, below grade splice box along the south side of Daisey Avenue, which will be 4x8 feet and 3 feet deep. Delmarva Power will work with Foreside Commons on a flexible, reasonable location for that splice box.
- A new pole will be installed in front of the Sussex County lift station on Daisey Avenue to accommodate the transition from overhead to underground power.



#### **Delmarva Power is committed to environmental stewardship**

- Delmarva Power's commitment to the environment extends beyond operating in compliance with applicable laws, regulations and requirements. We strive to not only act responsibly but also to serve in a leadership capacity in addressing the environmental challenges that impact our company and our stakeholders.
- We have conducted a thorough environmental analysis of the project and are working with the appropriate local, state, and federal agencies to obtain the appropriate permits that are generally involved with this type of project. We are committed to mitigate any potential environmental impacts, as required by these agencies.



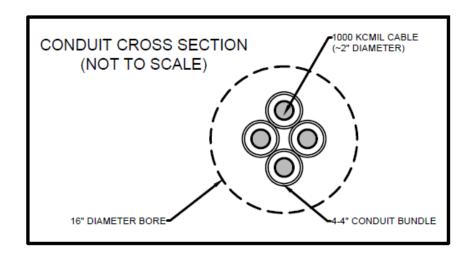




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- Delmarva Power will avoid and minimize impacts to natural resources by locating bore pits in uplands and boring deep beneath the creek to minimize potential impacts to the creek.
- Time of year restrictions will be observed between March 1 and September 30 in support of spawning activities for aquatic species, including the American Eel, Horseshoe Crabs, and Summer Flounder.
- Received federal permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers required for work or structures in navigable waters of the United States and/or the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States including wetlands.
- Erosion and sediment control plans have been submitted to Sussex County.
- Restoration of work areas will be done once construction is complete.

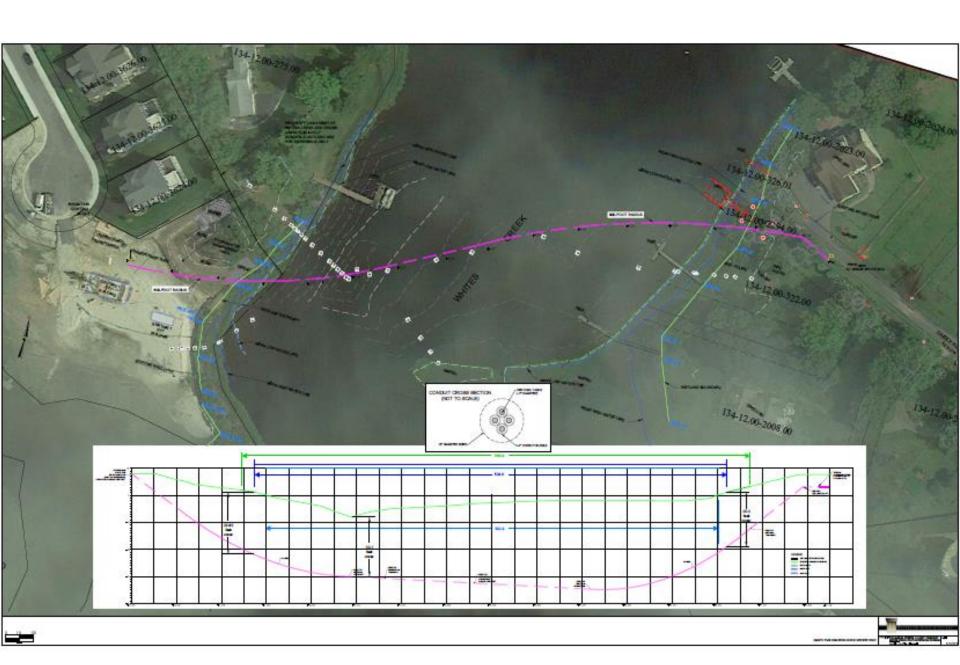
### Area of work and depiction of the cable







### Whites Creek electric reliability improvement project map



# Thank you

