

Res / Ord Body

GOOCHLAND COUNTY FORMALLY OPPOSES THE PROPOSED VALLEY LINK TRANSMISSION PROJECT

WHEREAS, Valley Link, a joint venture of Dominion Energy, FirstEnergy Transmission, and Transource Energy, has proposed the “Joshua Falls to Yeat” project, a 115mile, 765kilovolt (kV) transmission line spanning multiple counties in Central Virginia; and

WHEREAS, several of the currently proposed routes include creating miles of new transmission lines and cleared corridors through Goochland County, utilizing steel lattice structures approaching 160 feet in height and requiring significant, permanently cleared right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, Goochland County places a strong emphasis on preserving its rural character, agricultural lands, forested areas, and scenic landscapes, and seeks to ensure that any major infrastructure project is compatible with these longstanding community values; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recognizes that this project does not provide any direct benefit to the residents and businesses of Goochland County, particularly given that the transmission line is intended to move bulk power to areas outside Goochland County; and

WHEREAS, Goochland County maintains that largescale infrastructure proposals should thoroughly evaluate alternatives that have no negative impact to agricultural and forestry lands, avoid unnecessary disturbance to rural areas, and make use of existing infrastructure corridors whenever feasible; and

WHEREAS, many Goochland residents have expressed significant concerns regarding potential environmental, agricultural, and visual impacts associated with an overhead 765kV transmission line, and have indicated opposition to this project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 7th day of April, 2026, that the Goochland County Board of Supervisors formally opposes the construction of the Valley Link Joshua Falls–Yeat 765kV transmission line as currently proposed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board strongly urges Valley Link and the Virginia State Corporation Commission to abandon this project or fully explore alternatives that do not impact the citizens of Goochland County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board directs staff to coordinate with neighboring affected localities, regional stakeholders, the State Corporation Commission, representatives in the Virginia General Assembly, and representatives in the United States Congress to advocate against routes that adversely affect Goochland County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Goochland County Board of Supervisors requests that the County Administrator, County Attorney, and appropriate staff explore the steps that may be necessary and appropriate to determine the feasibility of Goochland County participating more fully before the Virginia State Corporation Commission with respect to the proposed Valley Link project, including the possibility of appearing as a respondent rather than solely as a public witness, and to examine how the County may best advocate for the interests and concerns of Goochland’s residents throughout the State Corporation Commission process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board encourages Goochland residents to remain engaged by submitting comments through the Valley Link project website, participating in future community meetings, and sharing their perspectives with the State Corporation Commission, the Governor of Virginia, Goochland County’s representatives in the Virginia General Assembly, and the United States Congress; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Valley Link, Dominion Energy, First Energy Transmission, Transource Energy, the Virginia State Corporation Commission, the Governor of Virginia, Goochland County’s representatives in the Virginia General Assembly, and the United States Congress.