

**ADDENDUM TO THE
VISUAL EFFECTS
ASSESSMENT FOR THE
PROPOSED DOMINION
VIRGINIA POWER SURRY TO
SKIFFES CREEK 500 kV
TRANSMISSION LINE**

**GREEN SPRINGS
BATTLEFIELD**

VDHR File No. 2011-2071



Prepared for:

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November 10, 2014

Introduction

The following summary represents an assessment of potential visual effects and survey summary for the Green Springs Battlefield located in James City County and within the Governor's Land Archaeological District. This resource was not included in the initial visual effects assessments for the Expanded APE associated with the Surry to Skiffes Creek 500 kV Transmission Line project. The battlefield was identified by the American Battlefield Protection Program during the consultation process.

The Battle of Green Spring

The Green Spring Battlefield lies between Jamestown Island, to the south, and the historical site of Green Springs Plantation, on present day Route 5, to the north. Unlike most American battlefields, it remains much as it was in 1781 based on a comparison of the current landscape with open fields and woodlands drawn on a detailed and accurate map drafted after the battle by Colonel Desandrouin, Chief Engineer under French Lieutenant General, Comte de Rochambeau (Figure 1). In 1973, the Battlefields of Green Spring were placed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the 2,000 acres Governor's Land Archaeological District (VDHR #047-0082). Recently, a 214 acre easement on the major portion of the battlefield, Mainland Farm, was conveyed by James City County to the Williamsburg Land Conservancy for stewardship and consists of trails, historic signage, and open fields bordered by woodlands.

On July 6, 1781, the last major land battle of the Revolutionary War's Virginia campaign prior to Yorktown, took place in fields along the James River, on what was Green Springs Plantation, in James City County, Virginia. United States Brigadier General "Mad" Anthony Wayne, led advance forces commanded by the Marquis de Lafayette against British troops under the command of General Cornwallis. The battle was a strategically planned trap for Lafayette's troops.

On July 4th, prior to the Battle of Green Spring on July 6th Cornwallis had moved south on the Virginia Peninsula planning to cross the James at the Jamestown ferry (Figure 2). The following day Lafayette arrived at Norrell's Mill about eight miles from the ferry. Tactically Cornwallis had sent his baggage train and Simcoe's Rangers across the river, concealing his main force in a wood line near the crossing. As part of his strategy Cornwallis also sent "deserters" to the Americans with false information about the position of the British forces. A small company of German jaegers and a few men from the Legion also gave the appearance of a rear guard picket with orders to resist the American advance as much as possible.

Brigadier General Wayne led the American forces, about 500 men, early on July 6 from Norrell's Tavern. When this company arrived at Green Spring Plantation, he surveyed the terrain and noted the presence of the British guards. Arriving shortly after, Lafayette decided to go ahead with the attack, ordering more troops forward from Norrell's Tavern. Minor skirmishing occurred while awaiting these reinforcements. Wayne's forces, with the reinforcements consisted of approximately 800 to 900 men made up of two companies of riflemen, one of dragoons, and most of the Pennsylvania militia and three pieces of artillery. Wayne, unknown to him, was outnumbered. Lafayette; however, watching from the riverbank observed the additional British troops and rode back to warn Wayne of the ambush, but was too late.

Wayne, seeing a vast amount of British soldiers emerging from the wood line and about to sweep over him, faced a difficult choice. If he retreated, it could cause the British to overwhelm both of his flanks. His men would be slaughtered in the panic. One choice remained. Mad Anthony Wayne charged with bayonets, storming straight through the enemy into a fire of muskets and grapeshot. Stuningly, his troops made it to within 70 feet of the British line. Lafayette rode directly into the middle of the fight to salvage a situation he had failed to prevent. Here his horse was gutted by a cannonball, but the two generals steadied the line and somehow conducted an orderly withdrawal.

Cornwallis had once again underestimated Lafayette, who had managed to salvage retreat from certain annihilation, but the battle was costly for both sides. Wayne lost twenty-eight soldiers and two guns, with 99 soldiers wounded and 12 missing. British casualties were estimated at seventy-five killed and wounded. Cornwallis, content to terminate action, safely crossed the James River. Lafayette sent General Wayne across the James River to keep an eye on Cornwallis in Portsmouth, while he pulled the rest of his army back to Malvern Hill. The partial engagement of the Battle of Green Spring was a near miss by the American forces under Lafayette and one of the British Army's last gasps before their ultimate fate on the fields of Yorktown.

The resource, at its closest point, is approximately 6.52 miles to the northwest of the proposed Skiffes Creek to Surry 500 kV transmission line. Computer line-of-sight modeling utilized during the view shed study as well as the fieldwork component of the project suggests that the proposed Dominion Virginia Power 500 kV line will not be visible from the resource due to distance and tree cover (Figures 3-4). ***Therefore, under current conditions, and according to the line-of-sight analysis, the resource will not have a view of the proposed undertaking. It is recommended, therefore, that the proposed project will have no effect on the Green Springs Battlefield within the Governor's Land Archaeology District (VDHR #47-0082).***



Figure 1. Detail of 1781 Desandrouin Map
(http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/29/Virginia1781_SpencersAndGreenSpring.jpg)

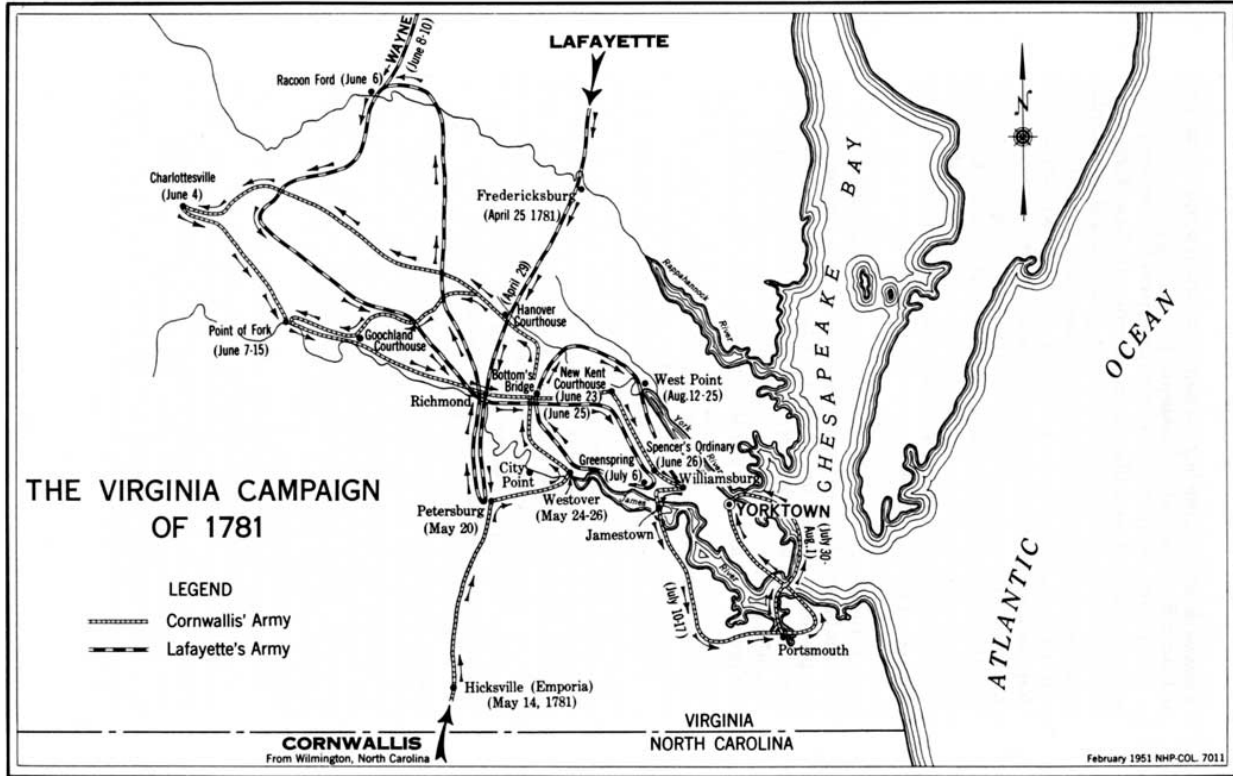


Figure 2. Map Depicting Troop Movements during the Virginia Campaign (http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/hh/14/hh14a1.htm).

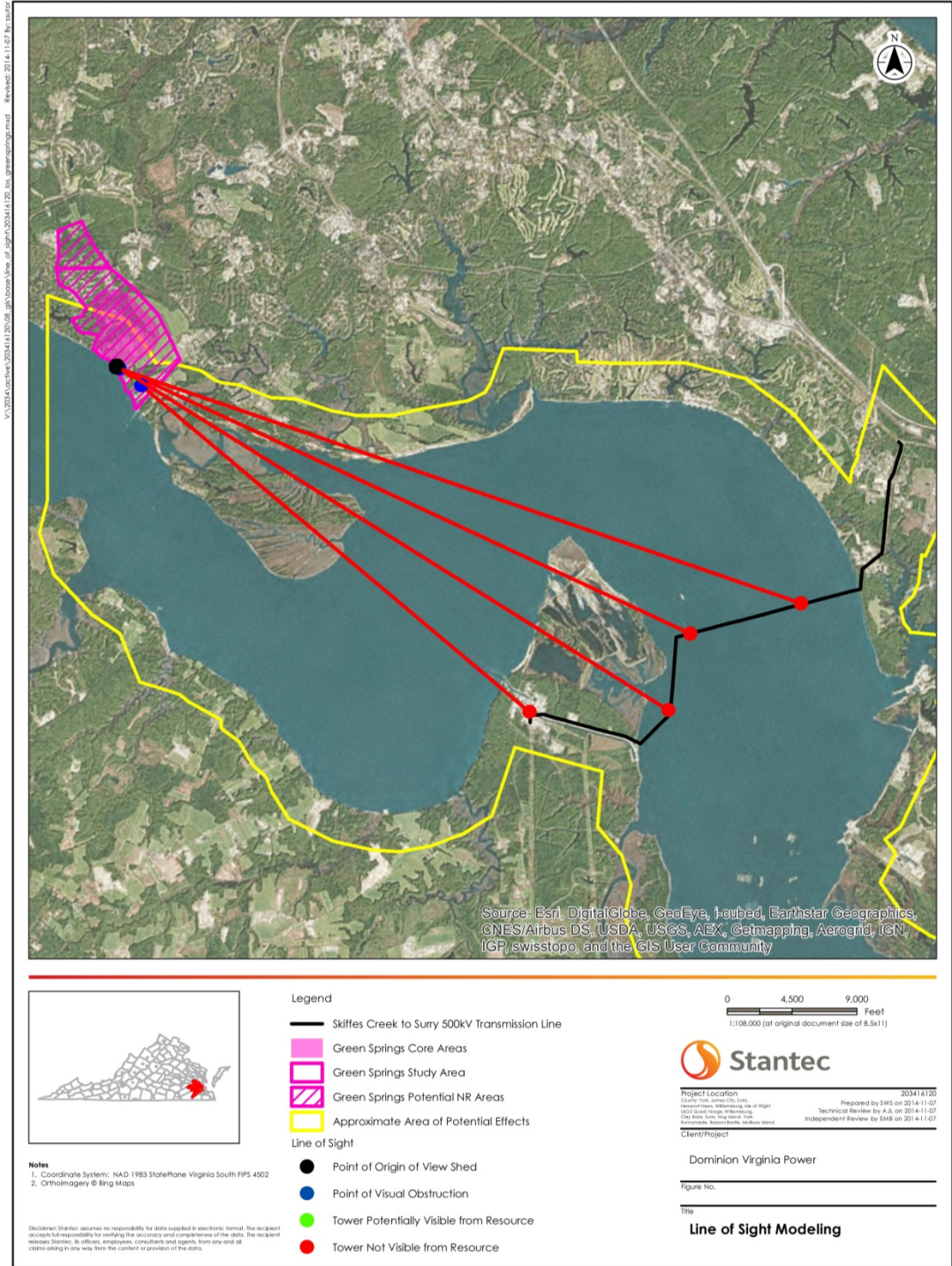
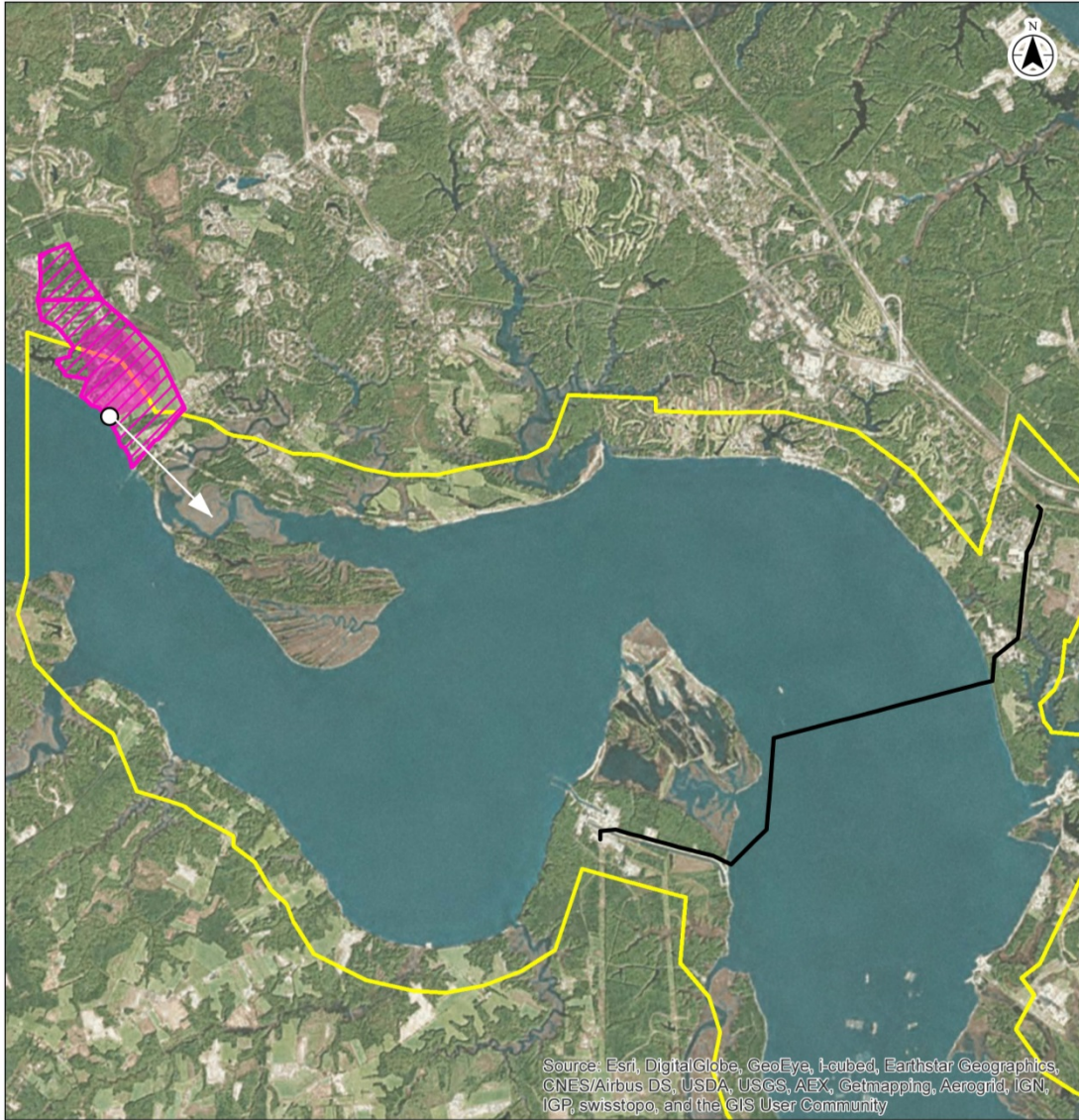
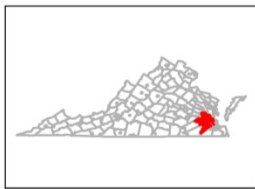


Figure 3. View Shed Modeling and Selected Lines-of-Sight for the Green Springs Battlefield within the Governor’s Land Archaeological District (VDHR #047-0082).

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Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



- Legend**
- Photograph Location
 - Skiffes Creek to Surry 500kV Transmission Line
 - Green Springs Potential NR Areas
 - Green Springs Study Area
 - Approximate Area of Potential Effects

0 4,500 9,000 Feet
1:108,000 (at original document size of 8.5x11)



Project Location
 County: York, James City, York
 Prepared by: JWS on 2014-11-07
 Checked by: W. Williams on 2014-11-07
 Technical Review by: A.J.S. on 2014-11-07
 Independent Review by: ENR on 2014-11-07
 Client/Project

Dominion Virginia Power

Figure No.
 Title

Photograph Location and Direction

- Notes**
1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane Virginia South FIPS 4502
 2. Orthoimagery © Bing Maps

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Figure 4. Aerial of the Green Springs Battlefield with Photograph Direction towards Proposed Transmission Line Corridor.



Figure 5. View from Green Springs Battlefield within the Governor's Land Archaeological District (VDHR #047-0082) Looking Southeast towards the Proposed Skiffes Creek to Surry 500 kV Transmission Line River Crossing (Crossing is not Visible).

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