



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER
NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC
1510 GILBERT ST.
NORFOLK, VA 23511-2737

IN REPLY REFER TO:

11300

N00

5 Aug 15

Colonel Paul Olsen
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Norfolk District
803 Front Street
Norfolk, VA 23510

**US Army Corps of
Engineers
Norfolk District
Regulatory Office
Received by: RLS
Date: August 10, 2015**

Dear Colonel Olsen:

As Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (NRMA), I would like to take the opportunity to provide comments on the mission essential requirements for stable and reliable electric power source for military installations within the area of responsibility of NRMA.

Prior to providing specific comments on the topic, I would like to express our appreciation to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for working closely with NRMA installations within the Norfolk District. In that regard, I would like to affirm our continued interest and willingness to collaborate with the USACE as we work together to address the complex projects that affect navigation and rivers within the Norfolk District that impact on military installations located here.

Mission critical operations at NRMA installations such as Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, are dependent on stable and reliable electric power. Reliable electrical power enhances safety and improves the quality of life for our military, civilian and contractor personnel. Although our naval installations have backup power generators, their operations are for emergencies and power disruptions.

The Navy has an acute interest in permits related to electrical power transmission lines that service military installations within NRMA. Increasing population and business growth require improvements to the electric transmission grid in the Norfolk District serviced by Dominion Virginia Power. Their proposal to run 500 kilo-volt lines from the Surry County power station to a proposed Skiffs Creek switching station will directly impact these issues, and I believe could have a positive effect on electric power stability if implemented.

As electric power transmission lines' routes continue to be assessed, the potential military reliance on a stable power supply would seem to advocate improvements of electrical power transmission. The Navy supports continued efforts in this area.

It is expressly understood, however, that this letter is an expression of interest in the positive effect of stable and reliable electric power to military installations and does not create any right of action or obligation of government funds. We look forward to working with the USACE in continuing this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rick Williamson', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

RICK WILLIAMSON

Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy

Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic