



Albemarle County

Legislation Text

File #: 19-475, **Version:** 1

AGENDA DATE: 10/2/2019

TITLE:

Dominion Energy's Request for easement - Parcel 031B0-00-00-000B0

SUBJECT/PROPOSAL/REQUEST: Request the Board of Supervisors to schedule a public hearing to receive comments from the public on Dominion Energy's request for an underground easement.

ITEM TYPE: Consent Action Item

STAFF CONTACT(S): Richardson, Henry, Kamptner, Herrick, Stewart, Freitas

PRESENTER (S): Freitas

LEGAL REVIEW: Yes

REVIEWED BY: Jeffrey B. Richardson

BACKGROUND: Dominion Energy has requested an underground easement (Attachment A) on County owned property, parcel 031B0-00-00-000B0, to further its Strategic Underground Program. The goal of this program is to improve electrical service reliability by undergrounding certain overhead electric lines. The program is voluntary, and if the requisite easements are not obtained, the project will be placed on hold indefinitely. Dominion Energy will not utilize eminent domain to further the project.

Virginia Code § 15.2 - 1800(B) requires a public hearing for this proposed disposal of County property.

STRATEGIC PLAN: Mission: To enhance the well-being and quality of life for all citizens through the provision of the highest level of public service consistent with the prudent use of public funds.

DISCUSSION: This 8.56-acre parcel is in the Earlysville Forest subdivision and was donated to the County as a condition of a rezoning approval for the Earlysville Forest Planned Unit Development, and at one time was considered as a possible park site. An existing overhead utility easement crosses the property. Dominion Energy currently provides overhead service to Comcast, who is renting space on Dominion Energy's poles within the existing overhead easement. Approval of this easement would eliminate the overhead service to Comcast. Staff from Albemarle County Parks and Recreation, Community Development, Office of Economic Development, Albemarle County Public Schools, Albemarle County Police Department, and Albemarle County Fire Rescue have reviewed this easement request and have no issues or concerns with it.

BUDGET IMPACT: There are no budget impacts associated with this request.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board schedule a public hearing to receive comments from the public regarding Dominion Energy's request for an underground easement on County owned property (TMP 031B0-00-00-000B0).

ATTACHMENTS:

A- Dominion Energy's Request for Easement