



1800 Platt Springs Road  
West Columbia, South Carolina 29169  
803.814.0868  
beth@partlowlaw.com

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**Jan 13 2026**

**S.C. SUPREME COURT**

January 13, 2026

Hon. Patricia A. Howard  
Clerk  
South Carolina Supreme Court  
PO Box 11330  
Columbia, SC 29211

RE: Request for status update and notice of economic effects  
Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League, Appellant, v. SCDES and  
Dominion Energy, Respondents  
Appellate Case No. 2025-000181

Dear Ms. Howard:

On behalf of Dominion Energy, we write to inquire about the status of the Court's decision in the above-referenced case.

The South Carolina Supreme Court held oral arguments in this case on June 24, 2025. The permit at issue is a Section 401 water quality certification/navigable waters permit authorizing Dominion Energy to expand an existing right-of-way by ten feet to install a new natural gas pipeline adjacent to an existing pipeline in Florence County. Dominion Energy first applied for the permit in 2020 when the company projected that demand for natural gas capacity in the Pee Dee and Myrtle Beach area would exceed available supply over time. Unfortunately, construction has been stayed by order of the Court of Appeals.

As demonstrated in evidence before the Court, the economic effects and harm to the public due to the delay of pipeline construction are significant. In 2023, Dominion filed an un rebutted affidavit projecting excess costs of \$5 million to provide liquified natural gas via truck rather than natural gas via pipeline through 2026.

Letter to Hon. Patricia Howard

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This combination of substantially increasing costs and effects on economic development has prompted Dominion to ask about the status of the Court's review of the case. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

s/Brooks M. Smith

Brooks M. Smith, admitted *pro hac vice*  
TROUTMAN PEPPER LOCKE LLP  
1001 Haxall Point, 15th Floor  
Troutman Pepper Building  
Richmond, VA 23219  
Telephone: (804) 697-1414  
E-mail: [brooks.smith@troutman.com](mailto:brooks.smith@troutman.com)

s/Elizabeth B. Partlow

Elizabeth B. Partlow (S.C Bar No. 4348)  
LAW OFFICES OF ELIZABETH B. PARTLOW, LLC  
1800 Platt Springs Road  
West Columbia, SC 29169  
Telephone: (803) 814-0868  
E-mail: [beth@partlowlaw.com](mailto:beth@partlowlaw.com)

*Counsel for Respondent Dominion Energy, Inc.*

cc: Jesse Sanchez, Esq. (via email)  
Stephen A. Spitz, Esq. (via email)  
Bennett Smith, Esq. (via email)  
Christopher P. Whitehead, Esq. (via email)  
Karen Ratigan, Esq. (via email)  
Emily Wyche, Esq. (via email)  
Susie Carlson, Esq. (via email)