

Southampton County

The Project

Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC's (TCO) Virginia Reliability Project (VRP or Project) would replace two existing segments of the TCO Pipeline System to ensure reliable and abundant natural gas supply. TCO has been providing energy to the Hampton Roads region for more than 70 years through its existing pipelines. As demand for natural gas rises across the region, these updates will enhance natural gas reliability and help meet the current and future needs for Hampton Roads.

The Project involves replacing approximately 48 miles of 12-inch steel pipe with 24-inch steel pipe along the TCO system. Additionally, upgrades will be completed at the existing Emporia and Petersburg Compressor Stations.

Economic Impact

The project would entail over \$696 million in new investment, with construction expected to begin in the second quarter of 2024 and an in-service date of November 2025. The project will also provide a much-needed economic boost to its host communities and Virginia.

- As of March 2021, Virginia was still down 153,594 jobs from where it had been in March 2020 before the full impact of the pandemic came in April.
- As of March 2021, seven of the eight host communities that will benefit from VRP had also yet to fully recover and were still below the employment level they enjoyed in March 2020.
- The construction sector, which will be most directly affected by VRP, is frequently a high-paying, economic mainstay in rural communities and proved to be one of the more robust employment sectors during the pandemic.

VRP would provide a significant economic contribution to the Commonwealth, including an estimated one-time pulse of economic activity during construction that would support approximately:

- 3,635 jobs
- \$194.5 million in associated labor income
- \$562.6 million in economic output
- \$7.7 million in local tax revenue
- \$8.6 million in state tax revenue

Southampton County Impact

VRP would provide an estimated one-time pulse of economic activity to the Southampton County during construction that would support approximately:

- 205 jobs
- \$8.9 million in associated labor income
- \$28.8 million in economic output
- \$433,100 in one-time local tax revenue from construction
- \$133,400 in ongoing annual net new local tax revenue from property tax

