

24-Hour media line: 800.559.3853

March 31, 2014

### **Duke Energy to remove coal ash from the Dan River near Danville**

DANVILLE, Va. – Duke Energy will soon begin removal of a deposit of coal ash from the Dan River, just upstream of the Schoolfield Dam in Danville, Va.

The deposit was identified through an extensive survey of the river, conducted by teams from Duke Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency and other federal and state agencies.

As part of the project, Duke Energy will stage crews and equipment at Abreu Grogan Park, in Danville. The park will be closed to the public, beginning April 1, to facilitate work on the project.

Work at the site and in the river is expected to be completed in late June, with Grogan Park reopening to the public by early July.

Danville citizens and others can find out more about the park closure, schedule for reopening and any changes to programming at [www.danville-va.gov](http://www.danville-va.gov). Danville citizens should expect additional equipment and traffic, and some additional noise around Grogan Park during the project.

Duke Energy has compensated the city of Danville for use of the park and lost revenue associated with programming at the park.

“This important work is a continuation of Duke Energy’s pledge to do the right thing for the river and surrounding communities,” said Paul Newton, Duke Energy president – North Carolina. “We are committed to working with the city of Danville, as well as state and federal agencies, to complete this work and to be responsive to the citizens of this community. We regret any inconvenience to those who use the park. We pledged that we would be accountable, and we are working hard to honor that pledge.”

Duke Energy crews and contractors will be removing material that has been identified and prioritized by the company, the U.S. EPA and other federal and state agencies. Crews will use vacuum dredging and dewatering equipment in the park and the river as part of the removal operation.

The removal process will involve vacuuming material from the river and then removing water from that material. The material is then placed in lined containers for transport to an approved lined landfill.

Crews will also remove material accumulated as part of the treatment process at the Danville water treatment facility near Grogan Park, and dispose of it in an approved lined landfill. Public drinking water in Danville remains safe. Ongoing water sampling demonstrates the Dan River has returned to pre-event water quality conditions.

Crews will carefully monitor Duke Energy's work throughout this project and take steps to protect drinking water and prevent downstream movement of material.

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., Duke Energy is a Fortune 250 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol DUK. More information about the company is available at: [www.duke-energy.com](http://www.duke-energy.com).

###