

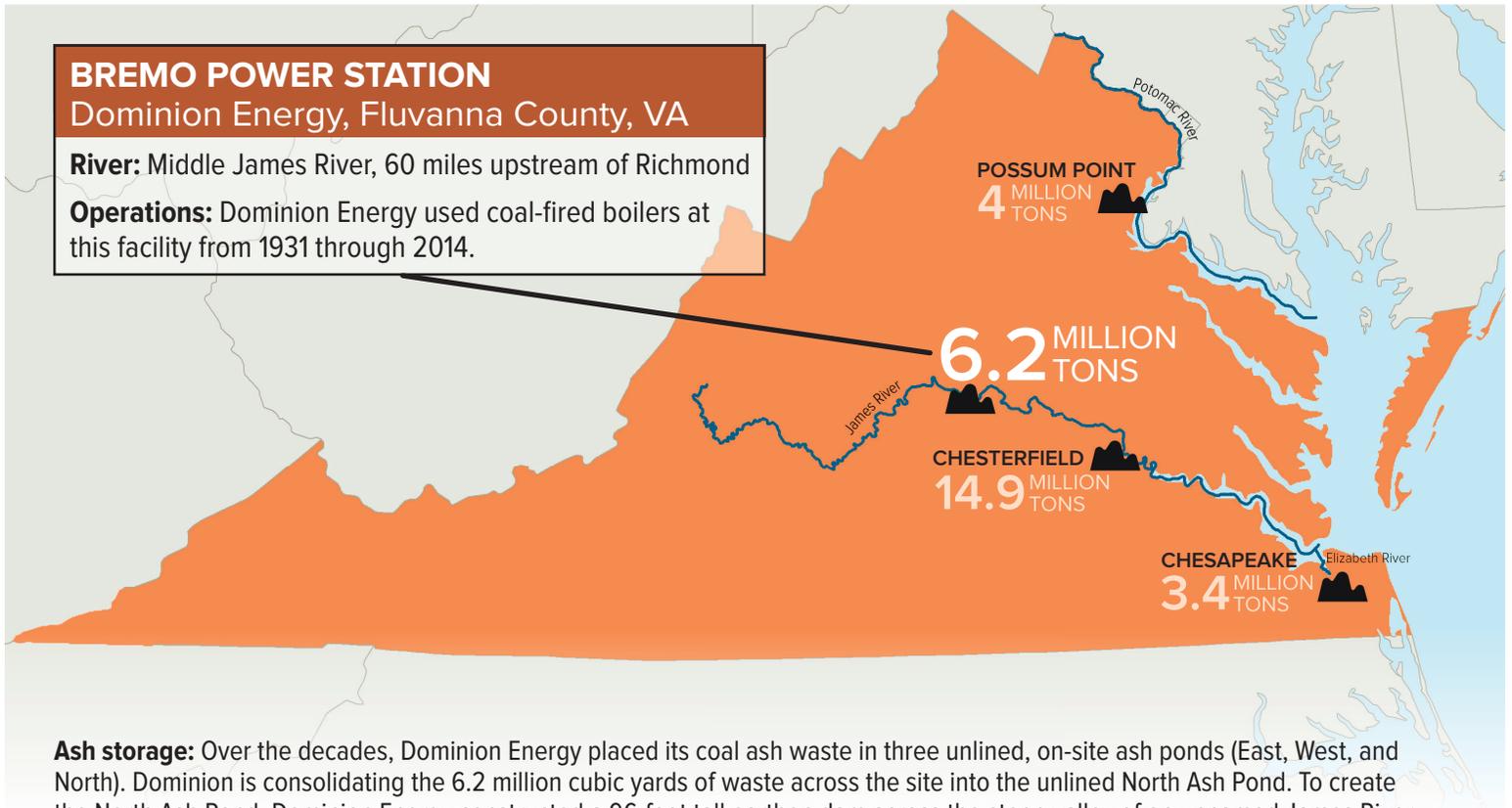
# DOMINION PUTTING VIRGINIA AT RISK

## BREMO POWER STATION

Dominion Energy, Fluvanna County, VA

**River:** Middle James River, 60 miles upstream of Richmond

**Operations:** Dominion Energy used coal-fired boilers at this facility from 1931 through 2014.



**Ash storage:** Over the decades, Dominion Energy placed its coal ash waste in three unlined, on-site ash ponds (East, West, and North). Dominion is consolidating the 6.2 million cubic yards of waste across the site into the unlined North Ash Pond. To create the North Ash Pond, Dominion Energy constructed a 96-foot tall earthen dam across the steep valley of an unnamed James River tributary and filled in the unlined pit with coal ash waste. After consolidation is complete, Dominion Energy is planning to leave the ash sitting in the unlined pit, perched above the James River with a thin cover installed on top.

- **Coal ash is full of heavy metals and carcinogens.** At the Bremo Power Station, numerous coal ash contaminants have been detected in groundwater, including boron, mercury, and radium. Dominion has disclosed a formal exceedance of the groundwater protection standard for lithium.
- **The pollution isn't contained.** The North Ash Pond is almost entirely saturated with groundwater, which flows through and beneath the pond, confirmed by Dominion regulatory filings. The groundwater picks up toxic pollutants along the way and carries them toward the James River.
- **Communities, drinking water supplies, and the James River at risk.** Expert analysis shows that a cap at Bremo "will not prevent continued contamination of groundwater." While a cap would reduce rainwater infiltrating the coal ash, groundwater would continue to flow through the sides and bottom of the pond.
- **Vulnerable to hurricanes and strong rains.** Earthen dams, like the one at Bremo Power Station, can fail. These risks are multiplied during heavy rainfall events like Hurricane Florence. Intense rains increase pressure on dams and can lead to structural failure.

Leaving coal ash in unlined lagoons is not acceptable. To deal effectively with this toxic legacy, the ash must be dug up. It then must be placed in a modern, lined landfill away from waterways or sold for use in concrete and cement. This approach has already proven to be environmentally beneficial and cost-effective in other Southeastern states and can work in Virginia with additional benefits such as creating local jobs, generating tax revenue, and improving property values.



For more information, visit: [vcnva.org/coalash/](http://vcnva.org/coalash/)