



**SMALL UAV
COALITION**

*A Partnership for
Safety & Innovation*

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Small UAV Coalition Welcomes Dominion Energy as Associate Member

Coalition Growth Reflects Industry Commitment to Supporting the Continued Development of a Regulatory Framework for Commercial UAS Operations

WASHINGTON, DC – August 1, 2019 – The [Small UAV Coalition](http://smalluavcoalition.org) is pleased to announce that Dominion Energy has joined the Coalition as an Associate member.

Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) are a critical tool for the energy industry and customers, enabling safer, more efficient routine inspections and service restoration after major weather events. Dominion Energy has been pioneering the use of UAS in the energy industry since starting its UAS program in early 2014 to augment its existing inspections. It is a leader in innovation and has partnered with the Virginia Tech Mid-Atlantic Aviation Partnership for the UAS Integration Pilot Program (IPP) to test drone technology. It recently became one of the only energy companies in the country to win approval from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for expanded beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) drone flights.

“We are researching and developing new, innovative uses for drones to serve our customers,” said Nate Robie, UAS Program Manager for Dominion Energy. “Drone flights lead to safer and more environmentally friendly inspections of energy infrastructure. Joining the Small UAV Coalition will help us lend our voice to the growing chorus of companies looking to grow this important business solution.”

Dominion Energy’s unique expertise and experience, particularly operations BVLOS and in the vicinity of critical infrastructure, will enhance the Coalition’s efforts as it continues to work with the FAA on forthcoming regulations to enable expanded commercial operations, including a notice of proposed rulemaking for remote identification due in September.

For more information on the Small UAV Coalition, please visit www.smalluavcoalition.org, contact press@smalluavcoalition.org, or follow [@smallUAVs](https://twitter.com/smallUAVs) on Twitter.

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