

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jim Goller

(803) 600-1570

Jim.goller@hamptonwildlifefund.org

November 20, 2018

Board of Directors

Deidre Menefee
Chair
Wadmalaw Island

William H Short Jr.
Vice-Chair
Columbia

Mary Ammons
Secretary
Lexington

William L. Hiott
Treasurer
Charleston

Elliott Close
Rock Hill

Campbell D. Coxe
Darlington

Marvin Davant
Columbia

Tommy Hardwick Jr.
Ft. Mill

Julius L. Leary
Greenwood

David McCord
Little River

J.B. Schwiers
Greenville

Frank Sistare
Spartanburg

Obie K. Stokes
Florence

Emeritus

Linda M. Amick
Irmo

Executive Director
Jim Goller
Beaufort

Hampton Wildlife Fund Receives Grant from Dominion Energy

Grant supports marine science education of Charleston area
elementary students

The Harry R.E. Hampton Wildlife Fund has received a \$5,000 Environmental Education and Stewardship Grant from Dominion Energy.

The grant will support the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) Carolina Coastal Discovery Marine Education Program, a day-long, outdoor environmental education program geared to helping students actively learn the South Carolina State Science Curriculum Standards, exposing students to STEM careers, and creating a new generation of environmental stewards of the Charleston area marine ecosystem.

In 2016, 34% of all South Carolina 5th grade students scored "Not Met" on the Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) in science, indicating a clear learning gap (SC Dept. of Education, 2016) and the need for additional methods of teaching science standards. Our hands-on approach to learning improves students' understanding and retention of science standards.

Students spend their day in our outdoor classroom and aboard the 40' catamaran *Discovery*, where a SCDNR educator leads the students in hands-on activities such as dissections or marine life identifications. Students use the tools of a marine scientist to reinforce the state science standards and their real- world applications. The educators also work to help the students understand their role in sustaining this unique marine environment by practicing wise stewardship. More than 250 students from Charleston area schools will participate in the program.

“As part of Dominion Energy’s ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability, we are thrilled to work with Hampton Wildlife Fund by supporting innovative education programs for South Carolina’s students,” said Kristen Beckham, external affairs representative for

Dominion Energy. “We believe in the tremendous benefits of environmental education such as critical thinking and real-world problem solving. When we can inspire students by getting them excited about nature, we also believe we can ignite a passion for science and for preserving our environment.”

Dominion Energy has awarded \$1 million in Environmental Education and Stewardship grants to a variety of initiatives across the company’s footprint. Donations were shared by nearly 130 nonprofit organizations and schools working to improve natural spaces or encourage environmental stewardship in 12 states.

About the Hampton Wildlife Fund

The Harry R.E. Hampton Memorial Fund (HWF) was established in 1981 to memorialize Harry R.E. Hampton (1897-1980), a S.C. journalist and conservationist who was instrumental in the establishment of the Congaree National Park and the S. C. Wildlife Commission, which later evolved into the SCDNR. Mr. Hampton was also the first president of the S.C. Wildlife Federation. The fund was begun to endow scholarships in his name and fund conservation projects in South Carolina through the SCDNR, thus continuing his legacy of stewardship.

HWF has provided \$3.65 million in financial support to a wide diversity of projects and activities since its inception. In addition, the Fund has awarded over \$472,000 in scholarships to deserving South Carolina students majoring in environmental science or related fields, journalism and law enforcement/criminology. Funds are obtained solely through private donations, special promotional projects and fundraising events. For more information, visit www.hamptonwildlifefund.org.

About Dominion Energy

Nearly 6 million customers in 19 states energize their homes and businesses with electricity or natural gas from Dominion Energy (NYSE: D), headquartered in Richmond, Va. The company is committed to sustainable, reliable, affordable, and safe energy and is one of the nation's largest producers and transporters of energy with nearly \$80 billion of assets providing electric generation, transmission and distribution, as well as natural gas storage, transmission, distribution, and import/export services. As one of the nation's leading solar operators, the company intends to reduce its carbon intensity 50 percent by 2030. Through its [Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation](#), as well as [EnergyShare](#) and other programs, Dominion Energy plans to contribute more than \$30 million in 2018 to community causes throughout its footprint and beyond. Please visit www.DominionEnergy.com, Facebook or Twitter to learn more. To learn more about Dominion Energy’s proposed merger with SCANA, visit www.BrighterEnergyFuture.com.