



The Bottom Line: Virginia Energy Efficiency News + Views

News and Resources

[How energy efficiency enables stable capital markets](#) (Rocky Mountain Institute)

[Opower to remain in Arlington](#) (Washington Business Journal)

[Supreme Court delivers big win for energy efficiency](#) (Alliance to Save Energy statement on FERC/demand response ruling)

[Old buildings are US cities' biggest sustainability challenge](#) (Harvard Business Review)

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Our Governor on Supreme Court and Clean Power Plan

Last week the Supreme

VAEEC.ORG | February 17, 2016

Share your feedback, help shape the VAEEC

This is your chance to shape the future of the VAEEC. We're taking stock of our membership structure, the benefits we provide and the ways we communicate -- and we need to hear from you.

Interested in regional happy hours or webinars?
What information and resources that we share provide the most value?
Would you pay to attend our meetings? Let us know!



Virginia Energy Efficiency Council: Membership Survey Winter 2016

1. How did you initially hear about VAEEC?

- Colleague
- Conference/Event (VAEEC speaker or booth)
- Email/newsletter
- Other

2. How important is EE in the work you do for your position and your organization?

- Very important, it's the focus of my job and/or organization.
- Important, I spend up to half my time on EE-related work.
- Not very important, I spend less than a quarter of my time on EE-related work.
- More of a personal interest than for my current job.

Please pencil in some time to answer our short 10-question survey by Friday, March 4.

VAEEC members: [Take this survey.](#)

Non-member stakeholders: [Take this survey.](#) Not sure if you're a member? [Check here.](#)

General Assembly Update

This week brings us to the half way point for the 2016 General Assembly session. Most of the House and Senate energy bills were heard in their respective committees last week.

[Get an update on the bills -- HBs 352, 1053, 1174 and SB 395 -- that VAEEC endorsed.](#)



Featured Member of the Month: Community Housing Partners and their Weatherizers Without Borders work

Court granted a stay, halting implementation of the Clean Power Plan. Governor McAuliffe issued the following statement in response:

"Over the last several months my administration has been working with a diverse group of Virginia stakeholders that includes members of the environmental, business, and energy communities to develop a strong, viable path forward to comply with the Clean Power Plan. As this court case moves forward, we will stay on course and continue to develop the elements for a Virginia plan to reduce carbon emissions and stimulate our clean energy economy."

[Read more about those stakeholder meetings in our guest blog post by Arlington County's John Morrill, VAEEC Governance Board member.](#)

Christiansburg-based Community Housing Partners, or CHP (Business Gold VAEEC member), does incredible work creating and sustaining "communities that promote vitality in neighborhoods, foster wealth-building for individuals, and contribute to a better environment for future generations" through sustainable development, architectural design, construction, homeownership, housing management, resident services, energy training and research, emergency home repair, and weatherization.



COMMUNITY HOUSING PARTNERS

But what's equally impressive is their work not just outside the Commonwealth but outside the United States. As a founding partner of Weatherizers Without Borders (WWB), CHP works with various global entities to fight energy inefficiency and energy poverty in order to improve the health, safety, comfort, and economy of families across the globe in Central and South American countries.



[Read more about CHP and Weatherizers Without Borders.](#)

Guest Blog Post: Clean Power Plan stakeholders group update

Governor McAuliffe's stakeholder group on the Clean Power Plan (CPP) met for the third time on Friday, February 12, and began getting into the details of the choices before us. The McAuliffe Administration and Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ) are moving forward with a Virginia implementation plan despite the recent Supreme Court stay on the EPA regulation targeting greenhouse gases.



Energy efficiency should have a strong role in the Virginia CPP implementation plan. The state has high per-capita electricity use, due to decades of low prices and limited programs for efficiency. The Commonwealth has enormous potential for cost-effective energy efficiency savings. How well the state captures this potential for economic gain will depend in large part on the implementation plan Virginia designs. Stay tuned for more.

John Morrill is the energy manager for Arlington County. He is on the Governance Board of VAEEC, and he was appointed to the CPP Stakeholder Group on behalf of the Virginia Association of Counties (VACO).

The VAEEC is a broad coalition whose mission is to assess and support programs, innovation, best practices and policies that advance energy efficiency in Virginia and to provide a forum for stakeholder interaction.