Energy Efficiency in 2016 General Assembly Session

We've got some good news and bad news from Virginia's 2016 legislative session, including a step forward on EM&V. Read our Executive Director's recap.

You can also read our testimony and letter to the State Corporation Commission on Dominion Virginia Power and Washington Gas Light Company's energy efficiency programs.

Membership Survey Results

Thank you to everyone who weighed in our survey -- we heard from about 50 folks with some diverse perspectives and insightful feedback. Our Membership Committee (which is open to member participation) is analyzing the responses and will share results in the next e-newsletter.

A strong majority of respondents read this e-newsletter (yay!) and attend our meetings every spring and fall. Stay tuned as we'll be announcing the date for our May meeting soon!

Featured Member of the Month: Rappahannock Electric Cooperative

As a not-for-profit, consumer-owned utility, Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (REC) serves 160,000 homes and businesses across its 22-county service area, which stretches from the Western Virginia border in Clarke County south to near Charlottesville and east to West Point. As they explain, "While reliable and affordable electricity is the foundation of REC's mission, support to local communities, consideration of the environment, and service to its members complete REC's value equation."

Learn more about REC, their energy efficiency programs and their innovative program with myusage.com in their Featured Member profile.

Guest Blog Post: Clean Power Plan stakeholders group update

The last scheduled meeting of the VA DEQ Stakeholder Group to...
advise Governor McAuliffe on Virginia's implementation of the Clean Power Plan occurred Friday March 11. The group did not reach consensus on major decisions (e.g. whether a mass-based or rate-based plan is preferred in VA). Clean energy advocates - and this rep from non-industrial customers - were consistent voices for energy efficiency and innovative technology competing on a level playing field with conventional supply-side power sources. We are confident that robust energy efficiency would achieve the least-cost path to CPP compliance while enhancing the Virginia economy. Governor McAuliffe's stakeholder group on the Clean Power Plan.

A supplemental Stakeholder Group meeting might be scheduled in May, after utility IRPs are filed and additional national models are completed.

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).

We want to promote your events and success stories

Have an upcoming event that would be of interest to your colleagues in Virginia's energy industry? Send us the details at info@vaeec.org, and we'll be happy to promote the event here, on our website and via Facebook and LinkedIn.

We are also always on the hunt for energy efficiency success stories in the Commonwealth. If you have or know of success stories – new products showing results, innovative programs in practice, an effective marketing or outreach campaign, proven energy use reductions – please fill out this simple form and send it to us at info@vaeec.org.

Welcome to our newest VAEEC members

Our ranks continue to grow, and Clean Energy Solutions and U.S. Green Building Council both join at the Associate level. Join them and us!

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.