



ENERGY EFFICIENCY IS A SMART INVESTMENT FOR VIRGINIA

Energy efficiency is a \$1.5 billion industry in Virginia that supports more than 75,000 jobs. However, it's benefits often go unnoticed or overlooked. During his time in office, Governor McAuliffe made an effort to prioritize energy efficiency and established the Governor's Executive Committee on Energy Efficiency (GEC), to track the Commonwealth's progress towards meeting the state's ten percent energy efficiency goal. We respectfully ask Governor-Elect Northam to continue prioritizing energy efficiency by continuing the GEC. The following recommendations build upon that work and supplement the recommendations in our latest report, "Why Energy Efficiency is a Smart Investment for Virginia." We are outlining concrete steps the Northam administration can take to hasten the advancement of energy efficiency in the Commonwealth.



**ENERGY
EFFICIENCY
ACCOUNTS
FOR
75,000 JOBS
IN VIRGINIA**

1. UTILITY PROGRAMS

Utility energy efficiency programs are an integral part of the energy efficiency landscape in Virginia. In the 2016 Virginia Energy Plan update, 98% of the programs measured toward the voluntary 10% energy reduction goal were utility-sponsored, highlighting the critically important role they play in Virginia energy policy. The Northam administration should consider:

1. Supporting efforts during the 2018 General Assembly session to allocate utility over-earnings towards energy efficiency programs that would benefit consumers.
2. Working with the General Assembly to appoint a new Commissioner to the SCC who understands the value and importance of energy efficiency programs to consumers.
3. Providing funding to the State Energy Office (DMME) to engage in proceedings at the SCC in order to effectively communicate the administration's policy positions.

General Assembly Updates

The 2018 General Assembly session kicked off last week and things are (not surprisingly) moving pretty quickly. We will be updating our [legislation page](#) each Friday with updates of the week's activities.

Carbon Rule & Clean Energy Virginia Initiative

Last November, the Virginia Air Pollution Control Board approved Governor McAuliffe's [regulations to limit carbon emissions](#) from Virginia's electric generating facilities. These regulations will:

- cap emissions at 33 or 34 million tons
- reduce carbon emissions 30% between 2020-2030

There is currently an open comment period through April 9th, 2018 and public hearings taking place throughout the Commonwealth

Governor Transition

Late December, the Virginia Energy Efficiency Council attended Governor Ralph Northam's Policy Council on Commerce and Trade in Richmond.

The VAEEC's main asks of the incoming administration are included in [this one-pager](#), which summarizes the report we released earlier this year, *Why Energy Efficiency is a Smart Investment for Virginia*.

[Read more about how the VAEEC's role in Governor-Elect Northam's transition.](#)

Membership Directory

The Virginia Energy Efficiency Council is excited to announce a new member benefit starting later this month: [the VAEEC Membership Directory](#). This member-only tool will be password protected and hosted on the VAEEC website.

in early March on the Clean Energy Virginia Initiative.

CARBON TRADING RULE 2018 PUBLIC HEARING DATES

The Department of Environmental Quality is hosting public hearings across the commonwealth seeking comments on the proposed Virginia Clean Energy Initiative. VAEEC encourages our members to attend and speak.

02.09	WOODBIDGE Department of Environmental Quality Northern Regional Office, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193
02.12	RICHMOND Department of Environmental Quality DEQ Central Office, 1111 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219, 3rd Floor Conference Room
02.14	ROANOKE Department of Environmental Quality Blue Ridge Regional Office, Room 600, 3019 Peters Creek Road Roanoke, VA 24019
03.07	ABINGDON Department of Environmental Quality, Southwest Regional Office, 355 Deadmore St, Abingdon VA
03.08	ROANOKE Department of Environmental Quality, Blue Ridge Regional Office, 3019 Peters Creek Rd, Roanoke VA
03.12	VIRGINIA BEACH Department of Environmental Quality, Tidewater Regional Office, 5636 Southern Blvd, Virginia Beach VA
03.14	HARRISONBURG Department of Environmental Quality, Valley Regional Office, 4411 Early Rd, Harrisonburg VA
03.15	WOODBIDGE Department of Environmental Quality, Northern Regional Office, 13901 Crown Ct, Woodbridge VA
03.19	RICHMOND Department of Environmental Quality, Central Office, 1111 E. Main St, 3rd Floor Meeting Room, Richmond VA



To be included, a member must provide appropriate directory contact information via [this quick form](#) and membership dues must be fully paid.

New C-PACE Study

Developed on behalf of the Energy Efficiency For All Project, the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation just released a report, *Commercial PACE for Affordable Multifamily Housing*, looking into the handful of affordable multifamily transactions that have used Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy financing, or C-PACE.

[Read more about the findings of the new report.](#)

News & Resources:

[Financing Was Once A Big Barrier To Energy Efficiency. Times Are Changing.](#) (Alliance to Save Energy)

[Cold Weather Is Testing The Electric Grid. FERC Should Remember The Cheapest Solution.](#) (Alliance to Save Energy)

[How Many Hipsters Does It Take to Change the Lightbulb?](#) (Bloomberg)

[In Push for 100% Renewable Energy, Efficiency Is Key](#) (Clean Energy Finance Forum)

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