



April Featured Member



Our April Featured Member **project:HOMES** is a community development corporation dedicated to improving the quality of housing and living conditions for low-income, elderly and disabled residents by providing and maintaining safe, accessible and affordable homes. Their mission is “Improving lives by improving homes.” Since 1992, project:HOMES has been helping people in need in Central Virginia by building high quality, affordable homes and by making critical home repairs and improvements.

[Learn
More](#)

COVID-19

Pandemic Resources



What can be said about the COVID-19 pandemic that hasn't already been said? More and more resources are beginning to emerge to help us navigate this situation, and the VAEEC wants to be one of them. We are dedicated to supporting the energy efficiency industry and our members through these unprecedented circumstances and beyond.

What this means for you:

- [Let us know](#) how your business has been affected and how we can help.
- All March, April and May membership renewals have been extended to June 30th. If you need to pay in installments or suspend membership due to cash flow, please reach out and we'll be happy to work with you.
- If possible, we encourage renewing members to use our online credit card [payment portal](#) or ACH to reduce our need to go to the office and the bank.
- We have compiled a list of [resources](#) on health, employment, small business relief, and non-profit needs.
- [ACEEE](#) and [LifeHacker](#) have excellent advice for saving energy while working at home.

Good News and Interesting Perspectives

News Coverage

The VCEA has received ample news coverage throughout the General Assembly Session. Read about it in:

[Gov. Northam's Press Release](#)

[VAEEC Blog](#)

[NBC 12](#)

[WAVY](#)

[Virginian Pilot](#)

[WDBJ 7](#)

[Washington Post](#)

[Daily Energy Insider](#)

Virginia Clean Economy Act

GOVERNOR NORTHAM
SIGNS THE VCEA INTO LAW



Virginia Clean Economy Act

Last Sunday, Governor Northam signed the Virginia Clean Economy Act into law! This landmark law will pave the way for a carbon-free Virginia by 2045, ensuring investments in energy efficiency, solar, wind, and more. The VCEA mandates 5% energy savings from the investor-owned utilities by 2025, with the State Corporation Commission (SCC) determining future savings in three-year blocks. We are excited about the promising future for Virginia.



Earth Day 2020

This week marks the fiftieth anniversary of Earth Day. The origins of the holiday have been covered in the [New York Times](#) and [NPR](#) and highlight the importance of conservation. Many have recently drawn parallels between the current pandemic and climate change, such as this [post](#) from Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships.



For many VAEEEC members, every day is Earth Day. Energy efficiency is one of the easiest and most cost effective ways to reduce fossil fuel dependence and preserve natural resources. Though the celebrations may look different this year, check out these great opportunities to honor our planet.

[10 Ways to Celebrate Earth Day 2020](#) (Clark Nexsen)

[Online Earth Day Activities for Kids](#) (Dominion Energy)

[Let's Act on Energy Efficiency](#) (Alliance to Save Energy)

[Commit to Making Energy Efficiency Improvements at Home](#) (Viridian)

[20 Tips to Help the Environment](#) (USGBC)

C-PACE Updates

We're excited to share the new buzz around Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy, or C-PACE, in the Commonwealth.



New Bill Clears a Path for Future C-PACE Progress

Governor Northam signed HB 654 into law on April 8th, authorizing the Virginia Dept. of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) to sponsor a statewide C-PACE program. This move will make it easier for localities to provide clean energy financing for building owners and their communities. Once launched, localities simply opt-in, using standard ordinance language, program documents, and guidelines. This voluntary program will operate alongside already-established programs in the Cities of Fredericksburg and Petersburg and Arlington, Fairfax,

and Loudoun Counties. "By reducing time, cost and administrative hurdles, Virginia's statewide C-PACE program seeks to provide faster and more equitable access to capital to building owners around the state, particularly in smaller jurisdictions," said Dan Farrell of DMME in a recent statement. More information can be found on the [Mid-Atlantic PACE Alliance's website](#).

C-PACE Lender Resources Now Available

To date, over 200 mortgage lenders across the nation have consented to C-PACE assessments. VAEEC has put together a directory of mortgage lenders who have consented to C-PACE in the Mid-Atlantic region. If you are a property owner, contractor, or developer looking to utilize C-PACE financing, check the directory to see if your mortgage lender is on the list. If they're not listed, the VAEEC and the Mid-Atlantic PACE Alliance have put together a guide highlighting the top six reasons a mortgage lender would consent to a C-PACE assessment. *[The Case for Lender Consent: A C-PACE Guide for Mortgage Lenders & Property Owners](#)* is an excellent way to engage your property's senior lender(s) to assess their receptiveness to C-PACE early on in the project. Check out our [latest blog](#) for more information, including a general overview of how C-PACE benefits the lending community.

Upcoming Events and More



Spring 2020 Forum: An Interactive Virtual Experience

After much consideration, we're moving the Spring 2020 Forum online! Join us for this interactive, virtual event on **May 14th**. Don't miss this opportunity to interact with Virginia's energy efficiency leaders and help your business or organization grow. The event will feature:

- **2020 Legislative Session Review**
- **VAEEC's Vision for the Industry**, where members will elect three Board members
- **Virtual Networking**
- **Leveraging Energy Data from Start to Finish**
- **Achieving High-Performance Buildings**

[Registration is now OPEN](#) and is free for members.

Board Elections

Members will receive an email on **May 1st** with a link to vote in these candidates for the Board of Directors. Voting will be open through the Spring Forum. If you're not yet a member but would like your voice heard, join today!



George Barnes

2nd Term

Trane



Maggie Kelley

1st Term

**Southeast Energy
Efficiency Alliance**



Leigh Anne Ratliff

1st Term

**CPower Energy
Management**

Upcoming Webinars



C-PACE for Solar

The Mid-Atlantic PACE Alliance (MAPA) is offering a free webinar on **May 26th**. Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) financing is most often used for energy efficiency upgrades to buildings. However, C-PACE can also be used to finance renewable energy systems in combination with energy efficiency improvements, or solely for renewable energy systems such as solar PV. The



USGBC 2020 Legislative Recap

The 2020 session of the Virginia General Assembly was a positive one for Virginians who support energy efficiency, sustainability, and resiliency. Many key pieces of legislation were passed, adding momentum to state initiatives promoting a greener, healthier and more efficient environment for all citizens.

presenters will discuss the advantages of using C-PACE to finance rooftop solar PV systems, as well as provide case studies on how three different commercial buildings in the region were developed and financed.

[Register Today](#)

Join USGBC's Senior Policy Council, Liz Beardsley, and the VAEEC's Executive Director, Chelsea Harnish, on **May 28th** for a policy re-cap from the 2020 session. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the link below.

[Buy Tickets](#)

DOE Announces Notice of Intent to Issue Funding to Strengthen Federal Energy and Water Infrastructure



The U.S Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) intends to issue a funding opportunity to strengthen energy and water infrastructure across federal agencies. Projects will improve the energy efficiency of federal operations while stimulating economic development and creating

jobs in construction, building trades, and other sectors.

Issued on behalf of EERE's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), the funding opportunity is entitled "Assisting Federal Facilities with Energy Conservation Technologies (AFFECT) 2020 Federal Agency Call (FAC)." FEMP intends to issue the FAC in spring 2020.

[Learn More](#)

Renewing Members

Our work would not be successful without the continued support from our members!





Arlington
Public
Schools

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