

# VIRGINIA ENERGY EFFICIENCY COUNCIL

# 2022 Annual Report

During 2022, the Virginia Energy Efficiency Council was instrumental in advocating for programs and policies that expanded energy efficiency into every corner of the Commonwealth. For the first time ever, **Virginia broke into the Top 20 on the annual ACEEE State Energy Efficiency Scorecard and continued to be recognized as a leader in the southeast.** This recognition is a reflection of our members' hard work and our dedication to advancing energy efficiency throughout Virginia. During the 2022 General Assembly, we worked with our ESCo members and the state energy office to **successfully pass legislation** allowing EPC to cover full roof replacements. We also educated legislators on why **Virginia should stay in RGGI** and to maintain current funding levels for low-income energy efficiency programs. By participating in proceedings before the SCC, we ensured that the **energy efficiency goals set forth in the VCEA** remain achievable. We worked alongside Virginia Energy and the Virginia PACE Authority as they developed and **launched a new statewide C-PACE program.** In anticipation of new federal funding, we worked with our members to develop a holistic **workforce development** initiative, which would establish a direct pathway for energy efficiency career training and placement that will meet the needs of energy efficiency employers.

All of this progress was made possible by the support of our members. We look forward to working with you in the new year to create, implement, and share energy efficiency solutions that improve the quality of life throughout Virginia.



## TOP 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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### VIRGINIA RANKED #20 ON THE ACEEE STATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

Up from #25 in 2020, Virginia was cited as a regional leader in the Southeast for the Virginia Clean Economy Act and recent work to expand energy efficiency.

### \$227M FOR LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES

In the first 18 months of Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative carbon auctions, \$30M went to the Weatherization Deferral & Repair program and \$109M went to Affordable & Special Needs Housing.

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### ENERGY EFFICIENCY LEGISLATION

Working with our ESCo members and Virginia Energy, we successfully facilitated the passage of legislation that removed the roof exemption for Energy Performance Contracting.

### STATEWIDE C-PACE PROGRAM

We worked alongside Virginia Energy and the Virginia PACE Authority to develop and launch the statewide Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program.

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### NEW ENERGY EFFICIENCY RESOURCES

We expanded our resources by creating three WDR case studies, an introduction to EE webpage and factsheet, two RGGI webpages, and co-produced three RGGI videos.

### VAEEC EVENTS

Throughout the year, the VAEEC hosted two forums, two roundtable discussions, two webinars, and one awards ceremony. For the fourth year, we co-hosted the VA Clean Energy Summit.

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### TWO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

We developed two workforce development proposals in order to establish a larger pipeline for energy efficiency career training and advancement that meets the needs of EE employers.

### INTERVENED IN DOMINION'S DSM FILING

Once again, we formally intervened in Dominion Energy's Demand Side Management filing before the SCC.

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### MET WITH DECISION MAKERS

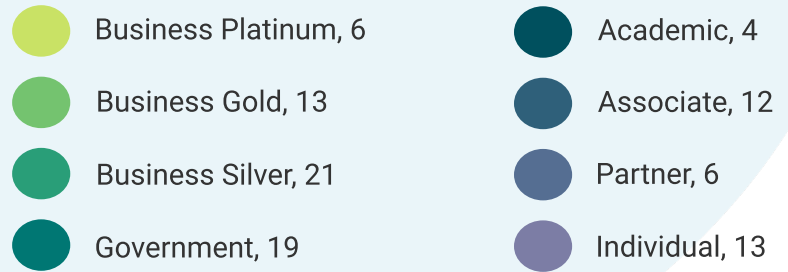
We held meetings with legislators and decision makers, including the Dep. Sec. of Commerce & Trade, the VA Dept. of Energy and Dept. of Housing & Community Development, and state delegates and senators, to discuss the importance of EE.

### NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

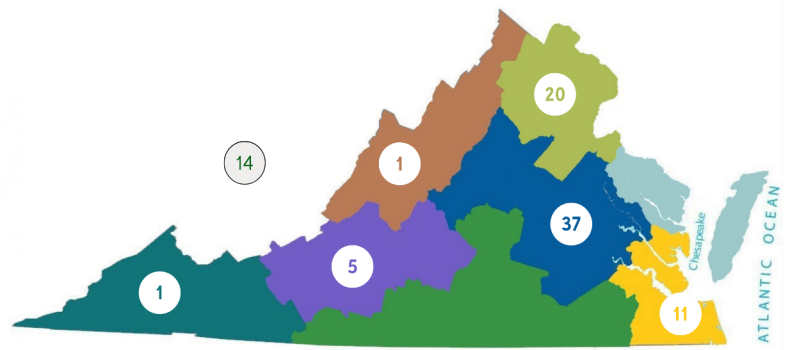
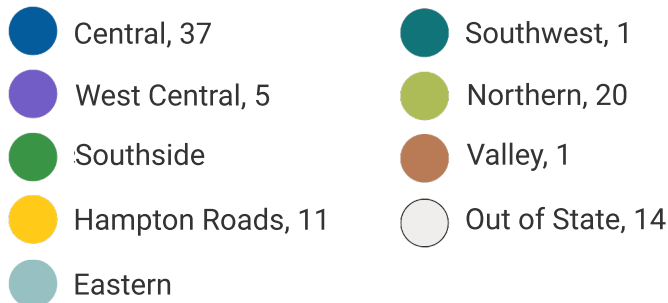
Working with our committees and Board of Directors, we created our next, three year strategic plan that will guide the organization and our work.

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## 2022 MEMBERSHIP

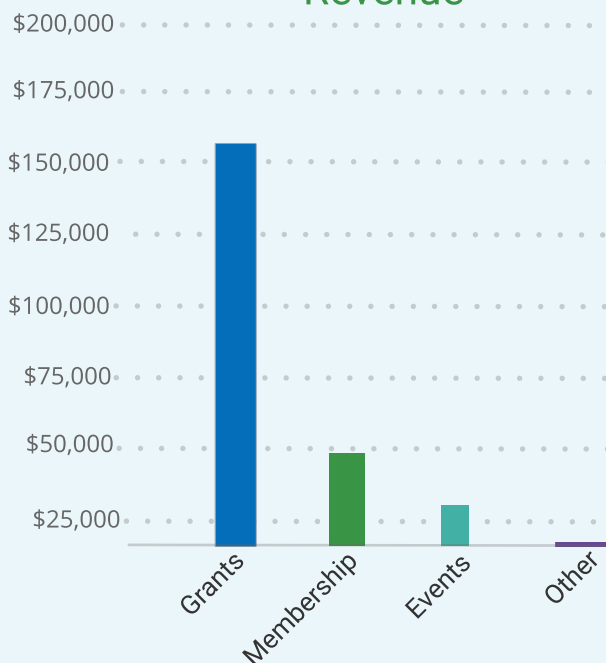


## Member Headquarter Locations

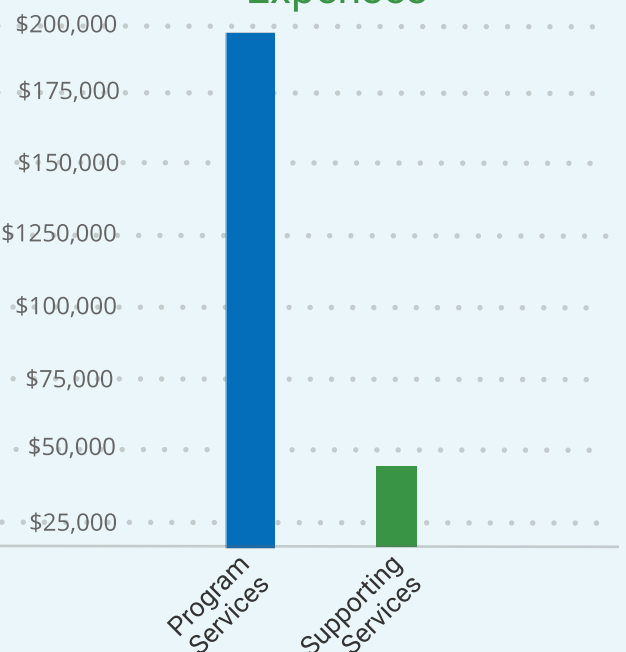


## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### Revenue



### Expenses



## Membership

The VAEEC continued to provide member-exclusive benefits, including 9 weekly legislative updates during the General Assembly, 16 dedicated email communications, and 12+ member features. 17 new members joined the organization. We also added 2 new Board members to our Board of Directors.

## Utility Programs & Regulation

In 2022, the VAEEC continued to chair the Dominion Energy policy subgroup and attended all of the energy efficiency stakeholder meetings on the design and implementation of new energy efficiency programs. We also held monthly meetings with the utility's energy conservation staff and provided testimony in Dominion's Demand Side Management proceeding before the State Corporation Commission. Additionally, we provided stakeholder feedback in the design and launch of Rappahannock Electric Cooperative's Vividly Brighter program, Virginia's first on-bill energy efficiency financing program.

## Policy Initiatives

A large focus of our 2022 policy work was around safeguarding Virginia's participation in RGGI and ensuring that 50% of the carbon trading funds continued to go to energy efficiency programs for Virginia's low-income communities. We created fact sheets, case studies, and videos to help protect Virginia's participation in RGGI; submitted public comments to the Air Board on the benefits of RGGI; prepared draft talking points for members and other interested parties to submit their own RGGI comments to the Air Board; and created a RGGI webpage to include information on the benefits of RGGI and the regulatory timeline. With 18 months of data on hand, we also began meeting with supportive legislators and local weatherization providers in November and December to educate them on the tangible benefits RGGI energy efficiency funds are providing to their constituents. The success of implementing energy efficiency programs and policies relies on a robust and well-trained energy efficiency workforce. However, energy efficiency businesses are struggling to find and hire skilled workers. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provided an opening to create a holistic workforce development initiative. Partnering with many of our members, we submitted a proposal to Virginia Energy to utilize this funding in order to braid existing funding into one holistic initiative focusing on recruitment, training, and placement. We developed a WFD slide deck based on our proposals, which we shared with key decision-makers, including the Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade under Governor Youngkin. Additional policy work included submitting public comments on the 2022 Virginia Energy Plan detailing the importance of energy efficiency, and working with our energy service company members and Virginia Energy during session to pass legislation allowing full roof replacements to be covered by Energy Performance Contracting.

## Government Engagement

The VAEEC offered several opportunities for Virginia municipalities and state agencies to learn from one another and industry experts, provide input on legislation and programs, network with one another, and stay up to date on the latest energy efficiency news and state policies. We hosted government-focused events and produced a variety of original content to help our members understand and implement some of the policies and programs we helped establish. This included hosting two building performance roundtable discussions on the 2021 High-Performance Buildings Act, webinars on EPC and building performance, and sessions on federal funding opportunities and case studies of successful programs during our biannual forums. We also worked alongside Virginia Energy and the Virginia PACE Authority as they developed and launched a new statewide C-PACE program.

## New Technologies & Strategic Electrification

The VAEEC continued to identify opportunities for the advancement of new energy efficiency technologies by: collaborating with Dominion Energy Innovation Center on a smart metering webinar; hosting three panels on energy efficiency technologies – filtration, heat pumps, and advanced windows; attending webinars, conferences, and events to deepen the organization's own understanding of decarbonization and electrification technologies; and compiling reports and resources on energy efficiency technologies to share with our membership via e-newsletters and social media. We have also been leading the conversation on decarbonization and keeping energy efficiency at the forefront. Not only did we include a panel on decarbonization at our fall Energy Efficiency Forum, but we led the only decarbonization panel at this year's Virginia Clean Energy Summit.

## Events & Resources

In 2022, we continued to host our two premiere forums and the Virginia Energy Efficiency Leadership Awards, in addition to other events such as webinars, networking events, two roundtable discussions on building performance, as well as co-hosting the fourth annual Virginia Clean Energy Summit. We also produced several original resources: two RGGI webpages; three Weatherization Deferral & Repair case studies; one EPC factsheet; weekly legislative updates during session; one Affordable & Special Needs Housing funds map; and one Intro to Energy Efficiency webpage and factsheet. We also co-produced three RGGI videos and kept our Government Clearinghouse up to date.

## STAFF

**CHELSEA HARNISH**  
*Executive Director*

**JESSICA GREENE**  
*Outreach Director*

**REBECCA HUI**  
*Office Manager*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance  
*Vice Chair*

**KC BLEILE**  
Viridiant  
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U.S. Green Building Council  
*Secretary*

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Siemens Industry

**JOYCE BODOH**  
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Moseley Architects

**BILL EGER**  
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**STEPHEN EVANKO**  
Dominion Due Diligence Group

**MICHAEL HUBBARD**  
Dominion Energy

**MEGAN PARTRIDGE**  
Franklin Energy

**LEIGH ANNE RATLIFF**  
Trane Technologies

**CARRIE WEBSTER**  
Henrico County



## CONNECT WITH US

**Join an advisory committee.** We have four volunteer committees that dedicate time to our work and mission.

- EDUCATION & EVENTS
- MEMBERSHIP
- POLICY & PROGRAMS
- TECHNOLOGY



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Efficiency Council



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