

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee Meeting

Wednesday July 23, 2014

Presented by:

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Advisor for Infrastructure and Development
Office of the Secretary of Commerce and Trade

VEP Background

Code of Virginia requires the Virginia Energy Plan to be updated by October 1st, 2014 with an interim report by October 1 of the third year of each administration.

Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (DMME) is the agency tasked with preparing the Virginia Energy Plan.

Per statute, DMME will consult with the Department of Environmental Quality, the State Corporation Commission, and the Center for Coal and Energy Research during preparation of the Virginia Energy Plan.

Commonwealth Energy Policy

Areas of Focus:

Accelerate the development and use of renewable energy sources – Virginia can become a hub of innovative and alternative energy research and development by focusing on expanding the use of the Commonwealth's underutilized renewable assets, such as solar and offshore wind.

Increase energy productivity through greater efficiency – Virginia can become a national leader in energy efficiency practices that will increase the productivity of the energy used by citizens and businesses throughout the Commonwealth, while not imposing a disproportionate adverse impact on economically disadvantaged or minority communities.

Promote a diverse energy mix – Virginia should continue to increase the diversity of sources used to generate energy in the Commonwealth to ensure that we are not overly-reliant on particular sources.

Grow jobs in the energy sector – Virginia's quality higher education institutions and world-class community college system are well-positioned to educate and prepare the next generation of energy workers. A trained and skilled energy workforce will attract new businesses and help expand existing businesses.

VEC Duties

Receive, review, and evaluate input offered by Virginia's residents and businesses related to the Plan;

Develop strategies to make Virginia a national leader in energy efficiency and ensure that the cost of energy for Virginia consumers remains highly competitive;

Develop strategies to increase the diversity of energy used to power Virginia, while ensuring a commitment to the most efficient use of existing energy sources;

Develop strategies to increase Virginia's renewable energy economy and grow the entire energy industry in Virginia by retaining, expanding, and attracting businesses in the energy sector;

Develop strategies to increase the international export of Virginia's coal;

Identify opportunities to expand Virginia's needed energy infrastructure and to increase the reliability of the Commonwealth's existing energy infrastructure;

Review an analysis of any regulations proposed or promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel-fired electric generating units under § 111(d) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7411(d);

Provide expertise and advice on other policy strategies deemed appropriate during the drafting of the Plan to grow the energy industry in the Commonwealth; and,

Monitor the implementation of the Plan, provide strategic guidance to ensure successful achievement of Plan goals, and review the interim update of the Plan required to be presented by October 1, 2017.

EPA Proposed Rule: “111(d)” Study

Virginia Energy Plan Statute modified in 2014 to require an analysis of EPA rules regarding carbon emissions.

- Study to be included in Energy Plan when released on October 1
- DMME hired a contractor to conduct study: Virginia Center for Coal & Energy Research
- Short timeframe to complete study
- Rule not final until June 2015 so uncertainty in effects on Virginia

Public Input

--Six (6) Public Listening Sessions

--VEC Members in MWCOG footprint

- **Steve Walz** – Director, Environmental Programs, MWCOG
- **Francis Hodson** – Founder, Virginia Advanced Energy Industries Association
- **Steven Jumper** – Director, Public Policy, WGL Holdings, Inc.

--Web Page

<http://commerce.virginia.gov/2014-va-energy-plan/>

The screenshot displays the '2014 VA Energy Plan' public input website. The top navigation bar includes 'Virginia.gov', 'Agencies | Governor', and 'Search Virginia.Gov'. The main header features a photo of Secretary of Commerce and Trade Maurice Jones and a search bar. Below the header, a navigation menu lists 'ABOUT', 'INITIATIVES', 'AGENCIES', 'TOPICS', 'NEWS', 'PHOTO GALLERIES', and '2014 VA ENERGY PLAN'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled '2014 Virginia Energy Plan', contains introductory text about the plan's purpose and submission instructions. The right column, titled 'Listening Session Schedule:', lists six listening sessions across the state: Central Virginia (June 12, 2014), Northern Virginia (June 13, 2014), Southern Virginia (June 13, 2014), Southwest Virginia (June 24, 2014), Hampton Roads (June 26, 2014), and The Valley (July 1, 2014). Each session includes the date, time, and location. Below the schedule is a registration form with fields for First Name, Last Name, Email Address, Organization, Street Address, Street Address 2, City, State, and Zip Code. A 'Comments' field is also present. The form is partially filled out with information for the Southwest Virginia session.

2014 Virginia Energy Plan
Chapter 2 Title 67 of the Code of Virginia instructs the Commonwealth of Virginia to update the Virginia Energy Plan to be submitted by October 1, 2014. The Virginia Energy Plan is a document that lays out a long-term strategy for the development and growth of the Virginia energy industry. Through Executive Order 16, Governor McAuliffe created the Virginia Energy Council to oversee the development of the Virginia Energy Plan. The Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (DMME) is the agency that will staff the Virginia Energy Council and receive public input. As part of the creation of the 2014 Virginia Plan, the public is encouraged to provide comments, input, and recommendations they wish to be included in the final version of the Energy Plan. Please be aware that any submissions will become part of the public record, and therefore it is the property of the citizens of Virginia. All of the information submitted here is public information and subject to being disclosed to others. You may submit input only under your own name. DMME reserves the right to verify that comments submitted are by the person whose name is given, and will remove any information found to be submitted under false pretenses. All input will be provided to DMME staff and will be taken into consideration in the preparation of the 2014 Virginia Energy Plan.

Submit Comments and Input:
Please provide the following information prior to submitting input. In addition to writing in the comment box, individuals may attach up to three (3) documents as part of a submission. To send your input to DMME staff, click the "submit" button at the bottom of the form. **Note:** All fields marked with an Asterisk (*) are required fields.

Listening Session Schedule:
Six (6) listening sessions will be held in various regions throughout the Commonwealth to receive input and comments in-person. Below is the list of session locations and when they will take place.

- Central Virginia:**
June 12, 2014
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Mary Washington University, Stafford Campus - North Building
125 University Boulevard
Fredericksburg, VA
- Northern Virginia:**
June 13, 2014
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus - Ernst Community Center
8333 Little River Turnpike
Arlington, VA
- Southern Virginia:**
June 13, 2014
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Southern Virginia Higher Education Center
800 Bruce Street
South Boston, VA
- Southwest Virginia:**
June 24, 2014
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Highlands Community College - Student Center
100 VHCC Drive
Abingdon, VA
- Hampton Roads:**
June 26, 2014
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Old Dominion University - Webb University Center
Bluestone Ave and 49th Street
Norfolk, VA
- The Valley:**
July 1, 2014
6:00pm – 8:00pm
James Madison University - Ice House
127 West Bruce Street
Harrisonburg, VA

Registration Form:
First Name *
Last Name *
Email Address *
Organization
Street Address
Street Address 2
City
State
Zip Code *
Comments *

VEP Process

Engaging the public and interested stakeholders throughout much of the process

Public listening sessions, website, proactive outreach

Public Input deadline: **August 8, 2014**

Multiple drafts developed by DMME and advised by VEC

Action	May	June	July	August	September	October
VEP Drafting Process	■	■	■	■	■	
Stakeholder Engagement	■	■	■	■		
Public Input Period		■	■	■		
Public Listening Sessions		■	■	■		
2014 VEP published electronically						■

Public Listening Sessions

There were six (6) public listening sessions throughout Virginia

Location	Attendees	Speakers	VEC Members
University of Mary Washington (Central)	30	11	10
NoVA Community College (NoVA)	41	17	5
Southern Virginia Higher Education Center (Southern)	27	12	5
Va. Highlands Community College (Southwest)	72	29	2
Old Dominion University (Hampton Roads)	44	15	5
James Madison University (Valley)	67	28	10
Total	281	112	37

Public Listening Sessions

TOPICS

Solar:

Low level of installed solar relative to neighboring states

Net metering

Offshore/Onshore Wind:

No commercial-scale installed wind

Energy Efficiency:

Need to increase focus

Distributed Generation:

Need to increase focus

Cost to consumer:

Business factor to keep in consideration

Thank You

CONTACT INFO

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