Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee Meeting

Wednesday July 23, 2014

Presented by:
Hayes Framme
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.

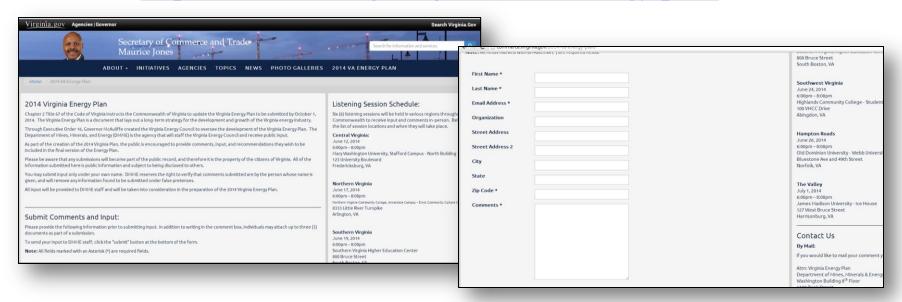
- Study to be included in Energy Plan when released on October 1
- DMME hired a contractor to conduct study: Virginia Center for Coal & Energy Research
- Short timeframe to complete study
- Rule not final until June 2015 so uncertainty in effects on Virginia

Public Input

- --Six (6) Public Listening Sessions
- --VEC Members in MWCOG footprint
 - Steve Walz Director, Environmental Programs, MWCOG
 - **Francis Hodsoll** Founder, Virginia Advanced Energy Industries Association
 - Steven Jumper Director, Public Policy, WGL Holdings, Inc.

--Web Page

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



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				L																		
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

CONTACT INFO

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