

Governor's
COMMISSION on
CLIMATE CHANGE



Governor's Commission on Climate Change

Status of Recommendations

**Presentation to the Virginia Commission on
Energy and the Environment**
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Increase Energy Efficiency & Conservation: *Current Progress*

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- ARRA: grant/rebate program for residential efficiency projects
- ARRA: expanding Energy Star appliance rebate program
- ARRA: energy efficiency and conservation block grants to local governments
- Weatherization program expansion
- Uniform Statewide Building Code: 30% efficiency improvement by 2012
- HB 2506: electric utilities general rate of return on efficiency investments
- SCC consumer education program



Increase Energy Efficiency & Conservation: *The Future*

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- 19% Electric Utility Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (HB 2176, SB 1248)
- Dynamic rates (HB 2105, SB 1339)
- Advanced metering (HB 2105, SB 1339)
- Efficiency and conservation incentives for commercial and industrial consumers



Advocate for Federal Action to Reduce GHG Emissions

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- *Current progress*
 - House climate and energy bill meets CCC criteria
 - Fuel Economy standards also reflect CCC recommendation
- *The Future*
 - Transportation reauthorization



GHG Emissions/Vehicle Miles Traveled

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Current Progress

- Statewide Transportation Plan will be integrated and multi-modal (HB 2019/HB 2420, SB 1398/SB 1475)
- Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment – RFP for consultant services - technical assistance to assist localities in establishing urban development areas
- E.O. 82 promotes telework

The Future

- Local governments – enhance the convenience of transit compared to driving (e.g. parking standards)
- Incentives such as split rate property tax and commuter tax credit



Efficiency of Vehicle Fleet, Use of Alternative Fuels

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Current Progress

- ARRA, Diesel Emission Reduction Assistance program: projects to reduce idling, retrofit engines, replace vehicles
- E.O. 82: state diesel procurement – 2% biodiesel
- (“Cash for Clunkers”)

The Future

- Other incentives for purchasing fuel efficient vehicles
- Alternative fuel/hybrid infrastructure
- Speed limit enforcement, public ed on driving habits
- Statewide biodiesel standard



Increase Proportion of Energy Demands Met with Renewable Sources: *Current Progress*

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ARRA:

- Grant/rebate program for residential renewable projects
- Finance renewable projects in state buildings
- Grant/rebate program for renewable projects in local gov't and school bldgs
- Grants: biomass conversion and waste-to-energy



Increase Proportion of Energy Demands Met with Renewable Sources: *The Future*

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- Increase voluntary Renewable Portfolio Standard to 15% by 2025 (HB 2105, SB 1339)
- Ensure net metering parity (HB 2105, SB 1339)
- Statewide waste diversion goal of 50%
- SCC: interconnection rules, feed-in tariffs, combined heat and power
- (Offshore wind)



Increase Proportion of Energy Demands Met with Emissions-Free Sources

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Current Progress

- ARRA: economic development support for new and expanding clean energy businesses

The Future

- General Assembly policy statements supporting nuclear, solar, wind
- Legislation to expand solar photovoltaic manufacturing grant to other non-emitting technologies (HB 2235, SB 1215)



Carbon Sequestration

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Both are needed

- Protect/enhance natural capacity
 - Carbon crediting and debiting system
 - No net loss of capacity
 - Tree canopy preservation standards
 - VDOT mowing standards (June 09)
- Research/promote carbon capture and storage technology
 - VA Tech and other universities



Lead By Example

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- *Progress: Executive Order 82*
 - Green building requirement for state buildings
 - Fleet efficiency requirements
 - Green Commonwealth Challenge: reducing VMT associated with business travel and commuting
 - Energy savings requirements
- *The Future: expand to local governments*
 - Already innovating: Go Green Virginia



Other Recommendations

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- Public Education
 - *Progress:* Virginia Public Climate Change Education Training Program (DEQ)
- Continually monitor, track and report on GHG emissions and climate changes
 - *Progress:* GHG Inventory - every 3 years
 - *Future:* GHG reporting legislation
- More aggressive state GHG reduction goal
- Accelerate research and development
- Review state agency and local government authority to account for climate change in their actions



Key Challenges Going Forward

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- Prepare for and Adapt to Impacts of Climate Change
- Focus and Expand State Capacity to Ensure Implementation of the Climate Change Action Plan



Adaptation

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- Adaptation is the longest section of the Plan - 28 recommendations
- Includes strategies for local governments (particularly in coastal areas) and agencies across state government
- The need to adapt will affect natural resources management, agriculture and forestry, emergency planning, infrastructure



State Capacity

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- Secretary of Natural Resources leading now
- Greater coordination will be needed in the future



Questions?

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