



COMMISSION ON ELECTRIC UTILITY REGULATION (CEUR)
SUMMARY OF ENERGY LEGISLATION PASSED BY 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

APRIL 27, 2026

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF 2026 ENERGY LEGISLATION AND ACTIONS BY GOVERNOR

Legislation	Summary	Governor's Action	Governor's Recommendation
HB2 (Sickles) / SB72 (Srinivasan) . Electric utilities; energy efficiency upgrades, report.	- Establishes that it shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to reduce, wherever feasible and cost-effective, heating related costs of living for low-income residents. - Section 1 bill requires Dominion and APCo to provide by December 31, 2031, prescriptive efficiency measures to at least 30 percent of qualifying households (8,400 and 2,000 qualifying households, respectively), if measures are determined to be in the public interest by the State Corporation Commission (SCC). - Requires prescriptive efficiency measures to be included in the next applicable income-qualified and age-qualified energy efficiency program filing with the SCC. - Allows the SCC to determine if the targets are feasible and adjust them before January 1, 2030. - Clarifies that it is the duty of the utility or its designated agent, not the duty of an installer, to identify qualifying households. - Requires utilities to consult directly with the Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to utilize state and federal funding to reduce utility program costs. - Allows the SCC to provide performance-based incentives to achieve targets, including early action credit. - Prohibits the SCC from penalizing utilities if they do not meet the 30 percent target.	Amended	Simplifies code language to reduce repetition (replaces “30 percent target described in § 1 of this act” with “targets” in reference to SCC determination of target feasibility and utility abilities or penalties for inabilities to meet said targets).

	• Requires utilities to report their plans and progress to the SCC by January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter. • Requires utilities to report—at least triennially—updated and aggregated ratepayer data on bill and energy savings from energy efficiency and demand response programs. • Any study of potential energy efficiency and demand response cost savings necessary to comply with the requirements of this section shall assume, in at least one projected scenario, 75 percent customer awareness of energy efficiency and demand response programs across each customer class. • Requires utilities to make reasonable efforts to incorporate recommendations or feedback from a task force that evaluates barriers to access and enrollment in current programs.	
HB3 (LeVere Bolling) / SB5 (Locke) . Income-Qualified Energy Efficiency and Weatherization Task Force; established, report.	• Requires DHCD to establish the Income-Qualified Energy Efficiency and Weatherization Task Force with Virginia Energy. • Requires the task force to include representatives from DHCD, Virginia Energy, the Department of Social Services, at least 12 nonlegislative citizen members, and a representative of staff from the CEUR. • Key responsibilities of the task force include (i) identifying barriers to accessing energy efficiency programs, (ii) providing policy recommendations to coordinate federal, state, and utility resources, and (iii) submitting a plan to provide energy efficiency and weatherization repairs to all income-qualified households by December 31, 2034. • Requires the task force to meet at least six times and submit its findings and recommendations by September 30, 2027, to the governor, several legislative committees, and the CEUR.	Approved
HB29 (Torian) . Budget Bill.	• Requires DEQ to file regulations within 90 days for the Commonwealth to rejoin the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).	Approved
HB67 (Feggans) / SB25 (Carroll Foy) . Offshore wind industry; workforce	• • Requires Virginia Energy to assess the availability of offshore wind developers and related firms in the Commonwealth and consult with higher education institutions in developing training resources.	Approved
HB84 (Laufer) / SB777 (Rouse) . Electric utilities and licensed suppliers of	• Requires by February 1 of each year that each investor-owned electric utility or licensed supplier submit to the SCC a report of any recorded vote cast by the utility, the licensed	

electricity; regional transmission entities.	The report shall include a brief description explaining how each recorded vote is in the public interest.	
HB153 (Thomas) / SB94 (Roem) . Data centers; site assessment, sound	- Requires HEUF applicants to submit to a locality prior to siting approval a site assessment of the sound profile of the HEUF on residential units and schools within 500 feet of the HEUF property boundary. - Allows localities to require a site assessment to examine the effect of the proposed facility on ground and surface water resources, agricultural resources, parks, registered historic sites, and forestland on the HEUF site or contiguous land. - Requires that the electric utility providing retail service to the new HEUF submit to the locality a form describing (i) any new or existing substations that will be used to serve the HEUF and (ii) the anticipated transmission voltage required to serve the HEUF. - Requires localities to use site assessments to assess consistency with the policies of the locality's comprehensive plan and compliance with the locality's adopted noise ordinances, zoning ordinance provisions, and other applicable laws and regulations. - Clarifies that the bill's provisions do not apply to an applicant seeking to expand or modify an already existing or approved facility and the expansion does not exceed an additional 100 MW of demand.	Approved
HB242 (Cole, J.G.) . Public utilities; budget plan payment increases.	- Prohibits a public utility—other than a water or sewerage utility—from increasing a customer's monthly payment more than once in a 12-month period if (i) the customer is - Defines “budget plan” as a fixed billing option with monthly payments estimated from the succeeding 12-month period.	Approved
HB256. (Simonds) / SB425 (Bagby) . Comprehensive plan; environmental justice strategy.	- Requires that beginning July 1, 2026, each city with a population greater than 20,000 and each county with a population greater than 100,000, during the next scheduled and all <i>Note: Although this bill does not contain specific energy provisions, it has the potential to impact the energy sector, such as decisions concerning energy infrastructure.</i>	Approved
HB257 (Simonds) . Comprehensive plan;	Encourages localities to utilize relevant and available data and research related to social determinants of health to consider how the locality's comprehensive plan will impact the locality's public health and access to health care services.	Approved

social determinants of health.	• <i>Note: Although this bill does not contain specific energy provisions, it has the potential to impact the energy sector, such as decisions concerning energy infrastructure.</i>		
HB284 (Feggans) / SB371 (McPike) . Electric utilities; electric demand flexibility programs, high energy demand customers, report.	• Defines "high energy demand customer" as a customer that has electric demand of 25 MW • Directs Dominion and APCo to file a petition with the SCC by January 15, 2027, for approval of voluntary demand flexibility programs that apply to high energy demand customers. • The bill directs each electric cooperative that serves one or more high energy demand customers to establish a voluntary demand flexibility program for these customers by January 1, 2029. • Directs electric cooperatives to convene a technical work group to inform the development of their flexibility programs. The work group will (i) gather information and develop program proposals; (ii) consider all forms of demand flexibility; (iii) consider whether any existing programs, rates, or tariffs satisfy the provisions of this section. • Directs the work group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the SCC no later than September 30, 2027. • Requires Dominion and APCo to file status reports on their demand flexibility programs with the SCC three years after initial program approval and every three years thereafter. • Starting in 2028, requires the SCC to annually submit information summarizing the status and performance of such programs as part of an existing report.	Approved	
HB285 (Helmer) / SB223 (VanValkenburg) . Distributed Energy Resources Task force; created, membership, reports, sunset.	• Section 1 bill creates the Distributed Energy Resources Task Force as an executive branch advisory commission to advance energy affordability and integrated distributed energy • Assigns the task force numerous responsibilities that include (i) reviewing existing state laws and regulations regarding DER use and market access, (ii) making recommendations to the SCC to streamline interconnection standards and timelines in compliance with relevant engineering and underwriting standards, and (iii) making recommendations to the SCC regarding actions to harmonize Virginia's interconnection and retail frameworks with PJM's plan for complying with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order No. 2222. • Task force includes members of the House and Senate, gubernatorial appointees, and the Chair of the CEUR or their designee.	Amended	• Increases the DER Task Force membership to include the Chief Energy Officer, or their designee, as the chair.

	• Directs the task force to complete (i) an interim report by October 1, 2026; (ii) a report with findings and recommendations—including whether to make the advisory commission permanent—by November 1, 2026; and (iii) a deployment report summarizing policies implemented by June 30, 2027.	
HB317 (Pope Adams) / SB743 (Aird) . Damage or trespass to public services or utilities or critical infrastructure; penalties.	• Clarifies that the intentional destruction of critical utility infrastructure that is subject to a class 4 felony includes the destruction of related fixtures, equipment, and information technology systems.	Approved
HB323 (Sullivan) . Data centers; Department of Energy shall lead efforts to accelerate use of waste heat, report.	• Requires Virginia Energy to lead efforts to accelerate the use of waste heat from data centers. • Requires Virginia Energy to convene a work group that includes representatives of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP), the data center industry, gas and electric utilities, localities, relevant state agencies, potential users of waste heat, and other relevant stakeholders to provide expertise and feedback on its efforts. • Directs Virginia Energy to submit a report with findings and recommendations for promoting the use of waste heat from data centers to the General Assembly by September 1, 2026.	Approved
HB369 (Reid) / SB598 (Deeds) . Electric utilities; renewable portfolio standard program, zero-carbon electricity, etc.	• Renames the Accelerated Renewable Energy Buyers program to the Accelerated Clean Energy Buyers program, applicable to commercial or industrial customers of Dominion and • Expands the scope from what previously only included renewable energy and energy storage to now include zero-carbon electricity generation resources such as nuclear or fusion. • These expanded eligible sources of capacity, energy, or renewable energy certificates (RECs) can be obtained by accelerated clean energy buyers (“buyers”) to offset non-bypassable Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) compliance costs. Such compliance costs are based on the amount of RECs or zero-carbon electricity units obtained in proportion to the buyer's total electric energy consumption. • Contains an exception for costs associated with an offshore wind facility pursuant to §56-585.1:11 • Allows accelerated clean energy buyers to contract with Dominion, APCo, or an individual to obtain zero-carbon electricity from generation resources within the PJM region under certain conditions.	Approved

	- Starting July 1, 2026, buyers may contract with APCo, Dominion, or a third party for zero-carbon electricity from PJM generation resources that began operating after January 1, 2015. Electricity from resources operational before January 1, 2015, is also eligible if: - Investments increase power output after July 1, 2026; - A financial agreement is entered into after July 1, 2026, to prevent the facility's previously announced early retirement or decommissioning due to financial constraints.	
HB395 (Krizek) / SB250 (Surovell) . Electric utilities; small portable solar generation devices, local regulation	- Defines a new type of small portable solar system, under 1,200 watts: a plug-in photovoltaic - Exempts these systems from interconnection rules or participating in net metering agreements. - Creates liability protections for utilities and requires plug-in-solar systems to meet National Electric Code standards and be certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory. - Prohibits localities from banning portable solar systems if such systems follow height and setback requirements and provisions for local historic, architectural preservation, and corridor protection districts. - Restricts landlords from prohibiting a tenant from installing portable balcony on the exterior of the tenant's premises, provided that reasonable restrictions may be established concerning size, manner, and placement. - Directs the SCC to develop by September 1, 2026, a notification form for a customer of an electric utility or cooperative to install a small portable solar generation device. - Directs the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to convene a work group to evaluate and develop recommendations regarding the safety standards and requirements for small portable solar generation devices and submit a report on its recommendations and findings to several General Assembly committees, including the CEUR, by November 15, 2026. The work group must include representatives from DHCD, Virginia Energy, investor-owned utilities, electric cooperatives, clean or advanced energy business associations, environmental advocacy organizations, the Department of Fire Programs, and the Virginia Association of Realtors, as well as other interested stakeholders as determined by the Secretary. - Contains a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. As introduced, SB250 was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	Amended Enables the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to assign a designee to convene the safety standards work group, submit recommendations and findings, and related activities.

[HB397 \(Herring\)](#) / [SB802 \(Locke\)](#). Clean energy and community flood preparedness; market-based trading program.

- Directs the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the State Air Pollution Control Board to establish and maintain a market-based trading program consistent with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

Approved

[HB429 \(LeVere Bolling\)](#) / [SB249 \(Surovell\)](#). Electric utilities; definitions, integrated resource plans, report.

- Requires Dominion and APCo to identify the transmission and distribution infrastructure (in addition to the generation and non-generation sources) needed to provide reliable,
- Requires APCo to resume filing IRPs (APCo was previously exempt) and requires Dominion and APCo to file IRPs every three years (rather than every two years).
- Extends the planning timeframe from 15 to 20 years, requires utilities to identify a single preferred portfolio of generation and non-generation resources that meets VCEA requirements, and requires utilities to model one scenario that achieves greater energy savings than required by statute.
- Requires the stakeholder engagement process to occur annually (during both triennial IRP filings and annual updates) and be facilitated by a third party selected by the SCC.
- Requires Dominion and APCo to provide a subset of stakeholders with access to the same modeling software and inputs used to develop their IRP modeling scenarios.
- Requires the SCC to convene a work group with CEUR staff, utilities, and stakeholders to develop planning guidelines for IRPs and report to the CEUR and relevant General Assembly committees by March 1, 2027.
- Requires the SCC to complete IRP planning regulations by September 1, 2027.
- **As introduced, SB249 was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.**

Approved

[HB434 \(LeVere Bolling\)](#) / [SB621 \(Srinivasan\)](#). Electric utilities; grid utilization programs; State Corporation Commission.

- Requires Dominion and APCo to petition the SCC for approval of electric grid utilization metrics by October 15, 2026.
- Requires any grid utilization metric proposed by the utilities to include the ratio of peak distribution load to total distribution grid capacity, the percentage of kWh's on the distribution system that are lost, an analysis of constrained distribution circuits, and an evaluation of distribution performance during system peaks.
- When approving grid utilization metrics, the SCC is required to include (i) a timeline for increasing grid utilization and (ii) a description of how the SCC may consider grid utilization when reviewing cost-recovery of distribution investments.

Approved

	Requires the SCC to include in its annual report to the CEUR an assessment of utility performance compared to grid utilization metrics; the SCC may consider the potential for utilities to increase their grid utilization through non-wires alternatives such as energy storage resources and virtual power plants.	
HB466 (Cohen) / SB310 (Hackworth) . State Corporation	- Requires the SCC to complete proceedings involving an application for a certificate, permit, or approval required for the construction or operation by a public utility of certain transmission lines within nine months. - Allows the SCC to extend the nine-month period for up to 120 days for applications regarding certain transmission lines.	Approved
HB496 (Guzman) / SB553 (Srinivasan) . Certain data from water users; water use consumption for domestic, etc., purposes, data centers.	- Requires that certain water users currently subject to reporting requirements established by the State Water Control Board must report separately the total volumes of potable and - Contains a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. <i>Note: Although this bill does not contain specific energy provisions, it has the potential to impact the energy sector given the relationship between water-based cooling systems and energy usage in the built environment.</i>	Approved
HB507 (McAuliff) . Data centers; permit requirements, emission limits for certain engine-generator sets.	Prohibits DEQ from issuing an air permit for any application submitted for a data center on or after July 1, 2026, unless the emission limit for each engine-generator established by such permit is equal to or less than the emissions achieved by a Tier 4 equivalent engine-generator.	Approved
HB508 (McAuliff) / SB340(Perry) . Small renewable energy projects; agrivoltaics definition.	- Defines "agrivoltaics" for the purposes of small renewable energy projects. "Agrivoltaics" means the intentional co-location of agricultural production and solar energy generation on the same land that (i) is designed to prioritize and sustain agricultural productivity while integrating renewable energy generation, (ii) allows the ongoing production and sale of marketable agricultural products throughout the solar array's life, (iii) is part of a farm business that is consistent with commercial agricultural production, (iv) has provisions for decommissioning to protect the land's agricultural resources and productivity,	Approved

	(v) does not significantly displace farming activity, and (vi) ensures flexibility for farmers to adapt to market conditions and support operational needs.	
HB549 (Hope) / SB589 (Salim) . Trees; conservation and replacement during development process in certain localities, report.	• Defines "tree canopy" or "tree cover" for the purposes of tree replacement during development processes. • Establishes tree canopy targets for additional residential sites. • Provides an exemption from such an ordinance if the locality concurs that the strict application of the requirements would result in unnecessary or unreasonable hardship to the developer or prevent the development of uses and densities otherwise allowed by the locality's zoning or development ordinance. • The ordinance allows the locality to monitor and assess without entering the property the condition and coverage of tree canopies at development sites up to 20 years. • <i>Note: Although this bill does not contain specific energy provisions, it has the potential to impact the siting, development, construction, and financing of energy projects.</i>	Approved
HB562 (Reid) / SB487 (McPike) . Electric cooperatives; authorized to establish and implement a virtual power plant program.	• Allows electric cooperatives to establish and implement a virtual power plant program on or after January 1, 2027. • Allows the SCC to review the program at the electric cooperative's next general rate proceeding.	Approved
HB590 (Hernandez) / SB382 (Surovell) . Smart Solar Permitting Platform; established, residential solar energy systems.	• Directs Virginia Energy to establish and administer the Smart Solar Permitting Platform by July 1, 2027. • Directs Virginia Energy to convene a work group to determine the appropriateness of adding a surcharge to local government permitting fees to defray state costs of the platform and report its findings to the General Assembly on or before November 1, 2026. The work group shall include representatives from the Virginia Association of Counties, the Virginia Municipal League, local government permitting offices, contractors, and other stakeholders deemed appropriate by the Director of Virginia Energy. • Directs localities to allow applicant submissions to construct a residential solar energy system either through the platform or through an alternative platform by July 1, 2028. • Allows Virginia Energy to grant an extension of up to six months for a locality to implement its alternative platform. • Requires localities that adopt an alternative platform to report to Virginia Energy by March 1 of each year to determine if the alternative platform is equivalent to the state-administered platform.	Approved

HB628 (Callsen) / SB175 (VanValkenburg). Renewable energy portfolio standard program; requirements, power purchase agreements.	- Increases the annual percentage of total distributed generation resources within the RPS program from 1 percent to 4.5 percent for 2026-2030 and 5 percent for 2031-2045. - Amends the date by which 75 percent of Dominion’s RPS requirements must be met with resources located in Virginia from 2025 to 2027. - Removes the 50 kW capacity requirement for solar projects to be eligible for third-party power purchase agreements. - Requires Dominion to procure an additional 800 MW of renewable energy from previously developed project sites (increasing the requirement from 200 MW to 1,000 MW). - Requires the SCC to initiate a proceeding no later than July 1, 2033, to evaluate future availability of RECs from solar, wind, and anaerobic digestion resources of one megawatt or less located in the Commonwealth; allows the SCC to increase or decrease by up to one percentage point the percentage of a utility's requirements in future compliance years. As introduced, HB628 was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	Approved	
HB672 (Maldonado). Appliance minimum energy and water conservation standards; requirement of manufacturers.	- Requires Virginia Energy to adopt energy and water conservation standards equivalent to the last applicable federal standards (as of December 31, 2025) if the federal government - Prohibits the sale, lease, or rent of new products in Virginia that do not meet or exceed these equivalent standards.	Approved	
HB683 (Herring) / SB659 (Craig). Solar Interconnection Grant Fund and Program established; report; sunset.	- Establishes the Solar Interconnection Grant Program to award grants on a competitive basis to public bodies to offset the interconnection costs of solar facilities. - Requires that priority be given to solar facilities located on previously developed project sites. - As of March 14, 2026, the Senate and House budgets included \$2 million for the Grant Program. As introduced, these bills were a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	Approved	
HB711 (Herring) / SB347 (VanValkenburg). Solar facilities; local regulation, special exceptions.	Creates siting standards for ground-mounted solar projects with various criteria to be included in a local ordinance, such as specifications for setbacks, fencing, solar panel height, visual impacts, and grading, and a decommissioning plan for solar energy equipment and facilities, unless otherwise permitted by right.	Amended	Amends definition of agrivoltaics to reflect that in § 10.1-1197.5 which was established by HB508/SB340. Agrivoltaics in this section is in the context of solar panel height limitations,

	• Defines agrivoltaics within the context of establishing and allowing variances for solar panel height limitations; agrivoltaics in site development may warrant height variances necessary to produce both agricultural products and solar energy using the same land. • Requires localities to provide a record of special exception decisions to the SCC, including the reason for any adverse decision, any finding of nonconformity with the local comprehensive plan, and the date of the comprehensive plan’s last revision. • Requires the SCC to maintain on its public website a searchable database of all solar special exception decisions and the reasons for any adverse decisions made over a period of at least five years. • Provisions apply only to ground-mounted solar facilities of 1 MW or more for which an application for local approval is filed on or after July 1, 2026. • As introduced, these bills were a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	and the ability to allow for height variances for projects utilizing agrivoltaics in land use. • Adds state and federal “laws” as a distinct category for which ground-mounted solar projects must comply, alongside regulations and permits.
HB799 (Torian) / SB403 (Lucas). Power Transformer Manufacturing Grant Fund; created.	• Establishes the Power Transformer Manufacturing Grant Fund to provide grants between July 1, 2026, and July 1, 2035, to a qualified company that (i) engages in the manufacture of • Limits the amount of grant funds awarded to \$4.6 million per fiscal year and an aggregate amount to \$29.4 million. • <i>Note: Although this bill does not contain specific energy provisions, it affects the energy industry by impacting supply chain availability of power transformers, a necessary component for transmission and distribution infrastructure.</i>	Approved
HB807 (Sullivan) / SB254 (Surovell). Electric utilities; shared solar programs; Phase II Utility.	• Directs Dominion to release an additional 525 MW of capacity for part two of its shared solar program (replacing previous 150 MW of additional capacity) upon the earlier of (i) a • Directs Dominion to petition the SCC to initiate a proceeding no later than when 268 MW of part two of the program is substantially complete to determine the capacity of expansion for part three. • As part of a proceeding for part three of the shared solar program, directs the SCC to evaluate the costs and benefits of the program and consider the results in determining future allocations of program capacity and changes in program design.	Approved

HB809 (Sullivan) / SB255 (Surovell). Electric utilities; shared solar programs, Phase I Utility.	• Expands the APCo shared solar program: by July 1, 2026, an additional 50 MW is available and by January 1, 2028, an additional 50 MW is available. • By May 1, 2029, APCo is required to petition the SCC to initiate a proceeding to determine further capacity expansion of the shared solar program. Requires the SCC to use the proceeding to also examine the costs, benefits, and impacts of the program. • Requires a new net crediting implemented by July 1, 2027, to establish a consolidated billing system for APCo. • As introduced, these bills were a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	Approved
HB828 (Herring) / SB516 (Deeds). Electric utilities; disconnection reports, State Corporation Commission database, annual summary.	• Creates a public dashboard on electric utility disconnections to be maintained by the SCC. • Requires Dominion, APCo, and electric cooperatives to report monthly data on residential customers involuntarily disconnected, including the total number of customers disconnected by utility and zip code, amounts of arrearages owed by disconnected customers, length of time before customers are reconnected, and the number of customers in arrears but not yet disconnected. • Requires the SCC to publish the disconnection information in a comprehensive and easily accessible online database separately for each utility. • Beginning September 1, 2027, the SCC is required to report annually to the CEUR and the governor on trends in electric utility disconnections, including seasonal trends in disconnection rates and amounts of arrearages owed. • Contains a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. • As introduced, these bills were a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	Approved
HB833 (McClure). Land subdivision and development; optional provisions of a subdivision ordinance; etc.	• Authorizes localities to include in their subdivision ordinances a requirement for electric • Directs Virginia Energy to (i) evaluate the design and deployment of the electric distribution infrastructure necessary to support the installation of electric vehicle charging facilities in new single-family and multifamily residential developments, (ii) provide recommendations on the appropriate number and type of EV charging spaces for new commercial and industrial developments, and (iii) report its findings and recommendations to the SCC no later than November 15, 2026.	Approved

	Contains a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027, provided Virginia Energy’s findings recommend such provisions.		
HB884 (Herring) . Electric utilities; Percentage of Income Payment Program, eligibility, delayed effective date.	- Amends the eligibility criteria of the Percentage of Income Payment Program (PIPP) beginning January 1, 2027, to include any retail electric customer of Dominion or APCo - Amends the objectives of the program by limiting electric bill payments to no more than three percent of the participant’s annual household income if the heating source is <u>not</u> electricity and no more than five percent if the heating source is electricity. - Contains a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.	Approved	
HB889 (Shin) / SB497 (Perry) . Transmission lines, certain;		Approved	
	Declares it the policy of the Commonwealth to prioritize existing linear infrastructure corridors over new corridors when siting new electric transmission facilities.		
HB891 (Shin) / SB443 (McPike) . Siting of battery energy storage projects; commercial solar photovoltaic generation facilities, etc.	- Allows a battery energy storage project as a permitted accessory use in all zoning districts on any parcel of land that is subject to an approved special exception for a solar facility, if the - Clarifies that provisions of the bill do not (i) limit the authority of a host locality to enforce compliance with applicable codes or ensure the safe operation of the battery energy storage project or (ii) preclude the developer of a storage project from negotiating a siting agreement with the host locality. - Clarifies that battery energy storage projects with an initial interconnection request filed prior to July 1, 2030, and that are constructed in accordance with the provisions of the bill, are subject to the applicable local ordinance and regulation in effect on July 1, 2026.	Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute	- Clarifies that accessory use battery storage projects cannot have a higher capacity rating than the associated solar facility. - Clarifies that the bill does not preclude the developer or the host locality from negotiating a siting agreement.
HB892 (Shin) . Electric utilities; integrated resource plans; SCC to investigate electric load forecasts.	- Directs the SCC to initiate a proceeding no later than March 1, 2027, to investigate electric load forecasting practices by Dominion, APCo and electric cooperatives. - Requires Dominion to provide information related to forecasting its compliance with the RPS in its IRP, excluding information related to accelerated renewable energy buyers (soon	Amended	Removes language related to the disclosure of customer-level or location-specific information provided by Dominion, APCo, and electric cooperatives

	to be accelerated clean energy buyers) or customers purchasing electricity from a licensed supplier.	
HB893 (Sullivan) . Electric utility integrated resource planning; energy storage resources.	- Requires Dominion to assess in its IRP the use of energy storage resources through appropriate modeling that accounts for economic charge and discharge times and represents - Directs the utility to systematically evaluate and consider proposing energy storage investments.	Approved
HB895 (Sullivan) / SB448 (Bagby) . Electric utilities; energy storage requirements, Department of Energy to develop model ordinance.	- Expands energy storage targets for Dominion: 16,000 MW of short-duration energy storage capacity by 2045 and 4,000 MW of long-duration energy storage capacity by 2045, with 20 - Expands energy storage targets for APCo: 780 MW of short-duration energy storage capacity by 2040 and 520 MW of long-duration energy storage capacity by 2045. - Directs Virginia Energy to create a model ordinance for energy storage projects by December 1, 2026, to be updated every three years, which includes minimum safety standards in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 855 Standards for the Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems. - Directs Virginia Energy to convene a work group to advise on developing or updating model energy storage ordinances. The work group must include representatives from DEQ, the Department of Fire Programs, an association representing localities, a nonprofit agricultural advocacy organization, an environmental organization, trade associations related to solar, energy storage, and clean energy, storage project engineers, electric utilities, and any other stakeholders deemed relevant by Virginia Energy. - Requires Dominion and APCo to demonstrate compliance with NFPA 855 for energy projects proposed for construction, acquisition, or procurement. - Directs Dominion to petition at least three different long duration energy storage technologies to be demonstrated through a technology demonstration program for long-duration energy storage, and to report the outcomes of the demonstration program by October 1, 2030. - Directs the SCC to initiate a technical conference no later than September 1, 2026, to evaluate nationwide safety standards and practices for short-duration energy storage development, and the reasonableness and prudence of the safety standards required by APCo and Dominion. - Directs the SCC to approve an independent auditor to participate in developing criteria for request-for-proposals (RFPs) for energy storage and reviewing results. It also directs the	Approved

	independent auditor to evaluate and submit a report to the SCC on the energy storage resources available to and selected by APCo and Dominion as compared to those available and selected by electric utilities in other states or regions of the US. • Clarifies that the provisions of the Act are only effective upon the determination of the SCC through a proceeding that finds that the technology is viable and that the energy storage targets are reasonably achievable. Directs the SCC to have a final order of such proceeding by March 1, 2031, and adjust storage targets if necessary. • Directs the SCC to evaluate utilities' RFPs and allows the SCC to require modifications. Additionally, it directs utilities to not prohibit proposal submissions that comply with the most recent NFPA 855 in the 2026 RFP. Lastly, it directs utilities to revise and reissue RFPs issued prior to July 1, 2026, if necessary to comply with the provisions. Clarifies that the SCC can revisit such proposal requirements and evaluation criteria in subsequent proceedings.	
HB898 (Herring). Electric utilities, certain; SCC to determine maximum amount of fees for disconnection, etc.	• Section 1 bill that directs the SCC to determine, in the next relevant cost recovery proceeding initiated after July 1, 2026, the maximum allowable amount of fees for • Clarifies that "utility" means an electric company, natural gas supplier, water supplier, or wastewater service provider that is subject to SCC regulation.	Approved
HB903 (Sullivan) / SB251 (Surovell). Electric utilities; performance-based regulation framework.	• Requires the SCC to independently consider whether certain aspects of a performance-based regulatory (PBR) framework for Dominion and APCo are in the public interest and develop recommendations for the General Assembly; in conducting the study, the SCC is required to consider its 2025 report, "Opportunities for Performance-Based and Alternative Regulatory Tools in Virginia." • Requires the SCC to consider several aspects of a PBR framework, including (i) moving rate adjustment clauses (RAC) into utility base rates and consolidating remaining RACs; (ii) incentives for utilities to better manage fuel costs and share fuel cost savings with ratepayers; (iii) incentives to ensure the utilities are complying with the energy efficiency and RPS requirements in the Virginia Clean Economy Act; and (iv) using an all-source competitive procurement framework to identify the most cost-effective generation sources. • Requires the SCC to accept public comments and conduct a technical conference or other stakeholder process to inform its recommendations. • Requires the SCC to complete its work and submit a report to the CEUR and other legislative committees by July 1, 2027.	Approved

	• As introduced, these bills were a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	
HB921 (Lopez) / SB818 (Suetterlein) . Electric utilities; licensed retail suppliers; renewable portfolio standard requirements.	• Authorizes any commercial or industrial customer of Dominion or APCo to purchase generation from a licensed supplier other than their incumbent utility if their noncoincident • Reduces from five years to 18 months the advance notice retail choice customers must provide their incumbent utility before resuming purchasing generation from it. • Authorizes Dominion and APCo to petition the SCC at any time for adjustments to its generation and distribution rates to reallocate costs associated with customers with at least 100 MW of demand who enter or exit the retail choice program after July 1, 2026.	Approved
HB1002 (Tran) . Utilities, certain; notice procedures for nonpayment.	• Requires all public utilities (including electric utilities) to provide customers with notices of disconnection for nonpayment in any other language used by their locality for voting or • Requires the department, beginning September 1, 2026, to maintain (i) an online list of localities required to provide voting or election materials in minority languages and (ii) a list of those languages. • Requires all public utilities to make “reasonable efforts” to provide customers with information about payment assistance, payment plans, and energy savings programs before disconnecting service.	Approved
HB1062 (Hernandez) / SB327 (VanValkenburg) . Electric utilities; pilot program for electric energy conservation, solar energy generation.	• Requires Dominion and APCo to petition the SCC by December 31, 2026, for approval of pilot programs for energy conservation, solar generation, and energy storage resources for • Sets initial annual spending levels by the utilities at \$23 million for Dominion and \$5 million by APCo, with funding adjusted annually by the larger of the consumer inflation rate or the utility’s 15-year compound annual growth rate. Requires the pilot programs to be funded by utility customers. • Requires the utilities to provide direct incentives to customers through the pilot programs and requires Dominion to make reasonable efforts to prioritize these incentives for individuals in housing owned by a redevelopment and housing authority.	Approved

	Requires the SCC by November 1, 2026, to convene a technical conference to evaluate the feasibility of Dominion and APCo creating programs modeled after Pay As You Save (PAYS). If found feasible and in the public interest, Dominion and APCo are required to petition the SCC for approval of these programs by May 1, 2027.		
	Section 1 bill requires Dominion and APCo to conduct a comprehensive assessment of		
HB1065 (Hernandez) / SB508 (VanValkenburg) . Electric utilities; comprehensive assessments, surplus interconnection service.	- Requires Dominion to identify at least five points of interconnection and APCo to identify at least two points at which using surplus interconnection service (SIS) may be feasible. - Requires Dominion and APCo to create pilot programs of at least 500 MW and 100 MW, respectively, for energy storage and solar generation facilities that use SIS. Requires the SCC to appoint an independent auditor by March 1, 2027, to review utility RFPs for such facilities. - Requires the utilities to include the results of the RFPs in their 2027 RPS filings required by §56-585.5.D.4.	Amended	Gives Dominion and APCo discretion to create pilot projects of <i>less than</i> 500 MW and 100 MW, respectively; previously, language in the enrolled versions required the utilities to create programs equal to these MW amounts.
HB1081 (Webert) . Working Lands Preservation, Office of; powers and duties; small renewable energy projects fees.	- Requires the Office of Working Lands Preservation in the Department of Forestry to serve as a trustee to administer the in-lieu fees in trust for small renewable energy projects. - Requires fees to be used to acquire conservation easements and cover any expenses associated with acquiring such easements.	Approved	
	Creates a “carve out” for geothermal heating and cooling systems within the RPS; Dominion		
HB1102 (Singh) / SB252 (Surovell) . Renewable energy portfolio standard program; energy from geothermal heating/cooling systems, report.	- Sets a deficiency payment of \$100 per MWh that is required for geothermal systems but not procured and retired by utilities. - Requires Dominion and APCo to issue a quarterly RFP for RECs from geothermal systems and exempts the utilities from the \$100/MWh deficiency payments for any RECs not available at or below \$100 through the RFP. - Allows utilities to procure and retire RECs subject to the \$45/MWh deficiency payment for any geothermal RECs not available at or below \$100. - Requires the SCC to evaluate the procurement and retirement of geothermal RECs and issue its report to relevant General Assembly committees by November 1, 2028.	Approved	

	- Requires the Real Estate Appraiser Board to develop regulations for a continuing education curriculum and training for appraisers on how to accurately determine the value of real estate with solar, geothermal, and solar water heating investments; the Board must report on the status of that curriculum and training by November 1, 2026 to several General Assembly committees, including the CEUR. As introduced, these bills were a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	
HB1151 (Willett) / SB423 (Perry) . Electric utilities; duty to furnish adequate service, high-demand customers.	- Clarifies that utilities can delay load interconnection requests if there is insufficient available generation or transmission capacity. - Allows for direction from FERC on load interconnections. - Contains a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027. As introduced, these bills were a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	Approved
HB1191 (Shin) / SB377 (Surovell) . Utility substation construction agreements; electric cooperatives.	- Permits an electric cooperative to enter into an agreement to construct a substation with a member of said electric cooperative receiving regulated electric service. - To be eligible, the customer must have a demand of at least 20 MW and need a point of interconnection with a transmission line of at least 230 kV. - Requires that a participating customer transfer ownership of the completed substation to its electric cooperative, either as a donation or for mutually agreed considerations. - Requires an electric cooperative to operate such a substation solely at the participating customer's expense and directs the SCC to exclude the costs of the substation from general or base rates paid by customers.	Approved
HB1225 (Shin) / SB407 (Boysko) . Transportation electrification; integrated resource planning; fast-charging stations, etc.	- Authorizes Dominion and APCo to file a proposed tariff with the SCC to provide electric vehicle charging stations and related distribution infrastructure; requires the SCC to issue an - Requires Dominion and APCo to file transportation electrification plans by February 1, 2028, and every three years thereafter. Transportation electrification plans are required to include programs to facilitate electric vehicle charging station deployment, rate designs that benefit rural and historically economically disadvantaged areas, customer education and outreach programs, and other elements. - Beginning January 1, 2028, prohibits Dominion or APCo from petitioning the SCC for cost recovery of expenditures on electric vehicle charging stations unless they are at or beyond the radial distance determined by the SCC from any privately-owned charging stations.	Approved

	- Requires the SCC to initiate a rulemaking proceeding by June 1, 2027, to determine the appropriate radial distance between privately-owned electric vehicle charging stations and stations owned by Dominion or APCo. Final rules from the proceeding are required by December 31, 2027. - Requires the SCC to review its rules for an appropriate radial distance by December 31, 2029 and sunsets the provisions of the bill on July 1, 2031.	
HB1234 (Sewell) / SB26 (Carroll Foy) . Land development; solar canopies in surface parking areas, delayed effective date.	- Authorizes a locality to pass an ordinance requiring a land developer, as a condition of approval, to install a solar canopy over at least 50 percent of a qualified parking area with - Ordinance applies to privately- and publicly-owned parking areas serving nonresidential developments. - Provides an exemption in whole or in part from such an ordinance if (i) it prevents development otherwise allowed by the locality or (ii) shading reduces the amount of electricity generated by the solar canopy more than a certain amount. - Contains a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.	Approved
HB1255 (Shin) . Net energy metering; standby		
_____ _____	- Directs the SCC to (i) consider whether it has sufficient authority to regulate current fuel and purchased power cost risk-mitigation practices by these utilities or establish new risk-mitigation practices and (ii) include corresponding legislative recommendations in its annual report the CEUR required by §56-596.B.	Approved
HB1266 (Tran) . Environmental Justice in Permitting Process Guidance Memo; DEQ to publish an updated version.	- Section 1 bill directs DEQ to publish an updated version of the Environmental Justice in the Permitting Process Guidance Memo for public comment. - Requires the public comment process to include two public town halls held no later than July 31, 2026. - Directs DEQ to respond to public comments by October 31, 2026, and issue the final guidance memo by December 31, 2026.	Approved

[HB1360 \(Shin\).](#)

Investor-owned electric utilities; requirements in fuel factor proceedings conducted with SCC.

- Section 1 bill requires investor-owned utilities to include, in any fuel factor proceedings before the SCC, information about coal- and oil-fueled generating facilities designated as
- Directs the SCC to use existing authority to assess on a case-by-case basis whether it was reasonable and prudent for the utility to commit its coal- and oil-fueled facilities as must-run.
- Clarifies that the SCC must deny cost recovery for any must-run decisions by a utility that it deems unreasonable or imprudent.

Approved

[HB1393 \(LeVere Bolling\).](#)

Electric utilities; pilot programs for energy assistance and weatherization for certain individuals.

- Extends until 2038 the statutory spending commitments by Dominion and APCo to fund energy assistance and weatherization programs.
- Updates the utility spending commitments to at least \$1 million and no more than \$1.5 million annually by APCo and at least \$156 million and no more than \$204 million in the aggregate between 2026 and 2038 for Dominion (at least \$13 million annually).
- Extends to 2033 Dominion's ability to recover the costs of its strategic undergrounding program for overhead distribution lines. Limits the average cost per mile to \$900,000 and the annual increase in undergrounding investment to four percent of Dominion's distribution rate base.
- Requires Dominion, in any generation and distribution rate proceeding beginning between January 1, 2027, and July 1, 2033, to petition the SCC for approval to assign to its G5 customer class all (i) net PJM capacity costs and (ii) financing costs for distribution infrastructure to interconnect new G5 customers.
- Directs Dominion to include in its next biennial rate proceeding a proposal to revise its tariff for supplementary, maintenance, or standby service for customers with power plants, effective as of January 1, 2028. The SCC must evaluate whether the proposal is in the public interest and does not adversely impact any other ratepayers.
- Authorizes Dominion on or before July 15, 2026, to petition the SCC for approval to finance deferred fuel costs. Requires the SCC to issue a final order within four months of such a petition filed between May 1, 2026, and July 15, 2026. Requires that the provisions of the fourth enactment clauses of [Chapter 757](#) and [Chapter 775](#) of the 2023 Acts of Assembly (allowing customers with demand greater than five MW to opt out of financing their pro rata obligations for deferred fuel cost charges) are applicable to such a petition.
- Directs the SCC to require that Dominion and APCo, to the greatest extent practicable, use the prevailing wage rate and registered apprenticeship programs for certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) petitions of 5 MW or greater filed after July 1, 2026
 - *Note: this labor provision is unique to HB1393 compared to Lucas' similar SB253.*

Amended

- Clarifies SCC discretion over the cost prudence of Dominion's strategic undergrounding program.
- Reduces the potential annual cost recovery of undergrounding from four to two percent of Dominion's total distribution rate base.
- Eliminates the requirement that Dominion petition the SCC for approval to assign capacity costs and financing costs for distribution infrastructure to its GS-5 customer class; replaces with broader language to avoid cost shifting.
- Narrows the high-load customer employment threshold from 200 to 10,000.
- Adds language requiring the SCC to determine whether any petition filed by Dominion to finance deferred fuel costs is in the public interest.
- Reduces Dominion's return on equity from 9.8 to 9.3 percent and requires the utility to return excess profits to customers.

HB1439 (Shin) / SB823 (Bagby). Contractors; regulation, solar installation companies, sale, lease, etc., of solar energy systems.	• Authorizes the Board of Contractors to require specific provisions and disclosures relating to the sale, lease, or power purchase agreement for a residential solar energy system. • Requires a sale, lease, or power purchase agreement for a residential solar system to have a written contract that includes specific provisions related to the installation company, system design and performance or production guarantees, and information related to invoices and payments. • Determines that a willful violation of the bill provisions is subject to a civil penalty of no more than \$2,500 per violation to be remitted to the Low-to-Moderate Income Solar Loan and Rebate Fund. • Contains a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027.	Approved
HB1444 (Lopez) / SB225 (Surovell). Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank; created, report, membership.	• Establishes the Virginia Clean Energy Bank (“the Bank”) to accelerate the deployment of clean energy projects, greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects, and other qualified projects through the strategic deployment of public funds in the form of grants, loans, credit enhancements, and other financing mechanisms. • Directs the Bank to develop a strategic plan by December 15, 2026, and update it by December 15 in even-numbered years thereafter, to prioritize the Bank's activities over the next two years. • Directs the Bank to adopt a long-term investment strategy no later than December 15, 2026, and update it every four years thereafter. • Directs the Bank to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Bank no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly.	Amended • Renames the Bank the “Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank and Fund” or “the Fund.” • Clarifies that the Fund is non-reverting and consists of sub-funds for general fund, non-general fund, and federal fund dollars. • Reduces the total size of the Advisory Board from ten to eight members. • Changes the composition of the Board: increases from five to six the number of nonlegislative members, including two members (rather than one) to be appointed by the Governor; reduces from five to two the number of ex officio members.
HB1467 (Franklin, L.V.). Electric utilities; virtual power plant pilot program; Phase I Utilities.	• Requires APCo to petition the SCC for approval to conduct a virtual power plant pilot program by July 1, 2027. • Directs APCo to petition the SCC by June 15, 2028, for a program tariff or variations of a tariff structure through which residential, commercial, and industrial customers may enroll, either directly or through an aggregator, and conclude its initial phase by February 1, 2030. • Directs the SCC to conduct a review of the results and effectiveness of the program at the conclusion of the initial phase and consider lessons from programs in relation to PJM’s implementation of FERC Order No. 2222. As part of the evaluation, the SCC must initiate a proceeding to establish a permanent program, with procurement targets and performance metrics for the program.	Approved

HB1487 (Singh) / SB827 (Srinivasan). Underground transmission lines; pilot program, clarifies qualifying projects, report.	• Expands the pilot program for underground transmission lines (§54-585.1:5) from two 230 kV lines to four qualifying projects of new lines, at least a portion of which must have a • To be a qualifying project, at least part of the proposed transmission line must be within a quarter mile of an area zoned residential and a CPCN petition must be filed between January 1, 2025, and July 1, 2033. Specifies that a qualifying project includes a certain proposed transmission line for which a CPCN was pending SCC approval as of February 1, 2026. • Creates a financing mechanism for qualifying projects that requires each participating locality to pay at least 50 percent of the marginal cost (defined in the bill) of placing the line underground in the locality. • Authorizes a locality participating in a qualifying project to pay for its portion of the marginal cost of the underground transmission line through an additional levy on electricity consumption (not to exceed \$0.99 per month on residential customers), bonds, or its own allocation of funds.	Approved
HB1491 (Singh). Electric utilities; construction of new overhead transmission lines, siting requirements.	• For new transmission lines of 500 kV or larger proposed by Dominion, requires the SCC to prioritize routes in which the center of the route is more than 150 feet from any dwelling, school, daycare, or place of worship unless there is no practicable alternative.	Approved
HB1530 (Torian) / SB836 (Lucas). Transformer Manufacturing Expansion Grant Fund; established.	• Establishes the Transformer Manufacturing Expansion Grant Fund to provide grants between July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2041, to a qualified company that (i) engages in the • Limits the amount of grant funds awarded to \$5.1 million per fiscal year and the aggregate amount to \$60 million. • <i>Note: Although this bill does not contain specific energy provisions, it affects the energy industry by impacting supply chain availability of power transformers, a necessary component for transmission and distribution infrastructure.</i>	Approved
SB43 (Roem). Demand response programs; evaluation and assessment by	• Directs Virginia Energy, in consultation with the SCC, to evaluate and assess the benefits and impacts of and best practices and implementation recommendations for demand • Requires Virginia Energy to submit a report of such evaluation and assessment to several General Assembly committees by November 1, 2026.	Approved

SB253 (Lucas). Electric utilities; pilot programs for energy assistance and weatherization for certain individuals.	• Extends until <u>2038</u> the statutory spending commitments by Dominion and APCo to fund energy assistance and weatherization programs. • Updates the utility spending commitments to at least \$1 million and no more than \$1.5 million annually by APCo and at least \$156 million and no more than \$204 million in the aggregate between 2026 and 2038 for Dominion (at least \$13 million annually). • Extends to <u>2033</u> Dominion’s ability to recover the costs of its strategic undergrounding program for overhead distribution lines. Limits the average cost per mile to \$900,000 and the annual increase in undergrounding investment to four percent of Dominion’s distribution rate base. • Requires Dominion, in any generation and distribution rate proceeding beginning between January 1, 2027, and July 1, 2033, to petition the SCC for approval to assign to its G5 customer class all (i) net PJM capacity costs and (ii) financing costs for distribution infrastructure to interconnect new G5 customers. • Directs Dominion to include in its next biennial rate proceeding a proposal to revise its tariff for supplementary, maintenance, or standby service for customers with power plants, effective as of January 1, 2028. The SCC must evaluate whether the proposal is in the public interest and does not adversely impact any other ratepayers. • Authorizes Dominion on or before July 15, 2026, to petition the SCC for approval to finance deferred fuel costs. Requires the SCC to issue a final order within four months of such a petition filed between May 1, 2026, and July 15, 2026. Requires that the provisions of the fourth enactment clauses of Chapter 757 and Chapter 775 of the 2023 Acts of Assembly (allowing customers with demand greater than five MW to opt out of financing their pro rata obligations for deferred fuel cost charges) are applicable to such a petition. • As introduced, SB253 was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	Amended	• Clarifies SCC discretion over the cost prudence of Dominion’s strategic undergrounding program. • Reduces the potential annual cost recovery of undergrounding from four to two percent of Dominion’s total distribution rate base. • Eliminates the requirement that Dominion petition the SCC for approval to assign capacity costs and financing costs for distribution infrastructure to its GS-5 customer class; replaces with broader language to avoid cost shifting. • Narrows the high-load customer employment threshold from 200 to 10,000. • Adds language requiring the SCC to determine whether any petition filed by Dominion to finance deferred fuel costs is in the public interest. • Reduces Dominion’s return on equity from 9.8 to 9.3 percent and requires the utility to return excess profits to customers.
SB256 (McPike). Appliance minimum energy and water conservation standards; requirement of manufacturers.	• Requires Virginia Energy to adopt energy and water conservation standards equivalent to the last applicable federal standards (as of December 31, 2025) if the federal government removes any products or categories from the minimum energy and water conservation standards set by the federal Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975. • Prohibits the sale, lease, or rent of new products in Virginia that do not meet or exceed these equivalent standards.	Amended	• Adds enactment clauses to SB256 that (i) the provisions of the bill would become effective

			Finance and Appropriations committees on any costs of or funding needed for administering the standards, including testing costs.
SB267 (VanValkenburg) . Electric utility infrastructure; Dept. of Energy & SCC to conduct comprehensive analysis, report.	- Requires Virginia Energy, in consultation with the SCC, Dominion, and APCo to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the current electric utility infrastructure and identify - Requires Virginia Energy and the SCC to identify any voluntary regulatory pathways in which large-load customers could directly finance such projects as a condition of accelerated interconnection.	Approved	
SB294 (Aird) . Va. Residential Landlord & Tenant Act; submetering, energy allocation, & ratio utility billing systems.	- Requires a notice of termination for nonpayment of rent to include the tenant's charges and payments, including for energy and utility bills if the rental agreement provides for use of submetering equipment, energy allocation equipment, or ratio utility billing system. - Contains a delayed effective date of July 1, 2027.	Approved	
SB333 (Hackworth) . Remediated Mine Gas Grant Program; established, report.	- Directs Virginia Energy to establish the Remediated Mine Gas Grant Program to award grants on a first-come, first-served basis to projects that capture and utilize methane from - Requires each grant recipient to submit a report to Virginia Energy describing the project status, commissioning milestones, and preliminary capture volumes no later than October 1 of any year in which funds are made available for the program. - Directs Virginia Energy to submit a report summarizing the information received from grant recipients to several General Assembly committees no later than January 1 of any year after funds are made available for the program.	Approved	
SB515 (Deeds) . Electric Utility Regulation, Commission on; scope and name changes to Energy Commission of Virginia.	- Renames the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation ("CEUR") as the Energy Commission of Virginia. - SB515 <u>as introduced</u> would have expanded the CEUR's scope to focus more broadly on energy, including natural gas and the SCC's regulation of natural gas utilities (not included in passed bill). As introduced, this bill was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	Approved	

[SB645 \(Surovell\)](#). Air Pollution Control Board; regulations, small renewable energy projects, anaerobic tech., report.

- Clarifies that a small renewable energy project subject to permit by rule under existing law includes a certain electric generation facility (i) in Planning District 8 with a capacity of no
- Requires DEQ, in coordination with Virginia Energy and several other specified entities, to assess technologies for reducing carbon dioxide and methane emissions in waste-to-energy facilities, assess technologies to create biomethane, and recommend legislative changes to ensure the market viability of such facilities. DEQ must report its findings to the State Air Pollution Board no later than December 1, 2026.

Approved

TABLE 2: SUMMARY OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONSIDERATION OF GOVERNOR’S AMENDMENTS TO 2026 ENERGY LEGISLATION

Legislation	Summary (as sent to Governor)	Governor’s Recommendation(s)	Veto Session Outcome
HB2 (Sickles) / SB72 (Srinivasan) . Electric utilities; energy efficiency upgrades, report.	• Establishes that it shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to reduce, wherever feasible and cost-effective, heating related costs of living for low-income residents. • Section 1 bill requires Dominion and APCo to provide by December 31, 2031, prescriptive efficiency measures to at least 30 percent of qualifying households (8,400 and 2,000 qualifying households, respectively), if measures are determined to be in the public interest by the State Corporation Commission (SCC). • Requires prescriptive efficiency measures to be included in the next applicable income-qualified and age-qualified energy efficiency program filing with the SCC. • Allows the SCC to determine if the targets are feasible and adjust them before January 1, 2030. • Clarifies that it is the duty of the utility or its designated agent, not the duty of an installer, to identify qualifying households. • Requires utilities to consult directly with the Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to utilize state and federal funding to reduce utility program costs. • Allows the SCC to provide performance-based incentives to achieve targets, including early action credit. • Prohibits the SCC from penalizing utilities if they do not meet the 30 percent target. • Requires utilities to report their plans and progress to the SCC by January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter. • Requires utilities to report—at least triennially—updated and aggregated ratepayer data on bill and energy savings from energy efficiency and demand response programs. • Any study of potential energy efficiency and demand response cost savings necessary to comply with the requirements of this section shall assume, in at least one projected scenario, 75 percent customer awareness of energy efficiency and demand response programs across each customer class. • Requires utilities to make reasonable efforts to incorporate recommendations or feedback from a task force that evaluates barriers to access and enrollment in current programs.	• Replaces “30 percent target described in § 1 of this act” (lines 37-38 of enrolled version) with “targets” to better conform the language to § 1 and clarify that Phase I and Phase II utilities cannot be penalized for not meeting their targets, whether 30 percent or a fixed number of households.	• <u>Accepted</u> amendment conforming the bill language and clarifying that utilities cannot be penalized for not meeting any target.

HB285 (Helmer) / SB223 (VanValkenburg). Distributed Energy Resources Task force; created, membership, reports, sunset.	• Section 1 bill creates the Distributed Energy Resources Task Force as an executive branch advisory commission to advance energy affordability and integrated • Assigns the task force numerous responsibilities that include (i) reviewing existing state laws and regulations regarding DER use and market access, (ii) making recommendations to the SCC to streamline interconnection standards and timelines in compliance with relevant engineering and underwriting standards, and (iii) making recommendations to the SCC regarding actions to harmonize Virginia’s interconnection and retail frameworks with PJM’s plan for complying with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Order No. 2222. • Task force includes members of the House and Senate, gubernatorial appointees, and the Chair of the CEUR or their designee. • Directs the task force to complete (i) an interim report by October 1, 2026; (ii) a report with findings and recommendations—including whether to make the advisory commission permanent—by November 1, 2026; and (iii) a deployment report summarizing policies implemented by June 30, 2027.	• Increases the DER Task Force membership to include the Chief Energy Officer, or their designee, as the chair.	• <u>Accepted</u> amendment increasing membership to include the Chief Energy Officer, or their designee, as the chair.
HB395 (Krizek) / SB250 (Surovell). Electric utilities; small portable solar generation devices, local regulation	• Defines a new type of small portable solar system, under 1,200 watts: a plug-in photovoltaic system also known as “balcony solar.” • Exempts these systems from interconnection rules or participating in net metering agreements. • Creates liability protections for utilities and requires plug-in-solar systems to meet National Electric Code standards and be certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory. • Prohibits localities from banning portable solar systems if such systems follow height and setback requirements and provisions for local historic, architectural preservation, and corridor protection districts. • Restricts landlords from prohibiting a tenant from installing portable balcony on the exterior of the tenant's premises, provided that reasonable restrictions may be established concerning size, manner, and placement. • Directs the SCC to develop by September 1, 2026, a notification form for a customer of an electric utility or cooperative to install a small portable solar generation device. • Directs the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to convene a work group to evaluate and develop recommendations regarding the safety standards and requirements for small portable solar generation devices and submit a report on its recommendations	• Enables the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to assign a designee to convene the safety standards work group, submit recommendations and findings, and related activities.	• <u>Accepted</u> amendments enabling the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to assign a designee to the work group.

	and findings to several General Assembly committees, including the CEUR, by November 15, 2026. The work group must include representatives from DHCD, Virginia Energy, investor-owned utilities, electric cooperatives, clean or advanced energy business associations, environmental advocacy organizations, the Department of Fire Programs, and the Virginia Association of Realtors, as well as other interested stakeholders as determined by the Secretary. • Contains a delayed effective date of January 1, 2027. • As introduced, SB250 was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.		
HB711 (Herring) / SB347 (VanValkenburg). Solar facilities; local regulation, special exceptions.	• Creates siting standards for ground-mounted solar projects with various criteria to be included in a local ordinance, such as specifications for setbacks, fencing, solar panel height, visual impacts, and grading, and a decommissioning plan for solar energy equipment and facilities, unless otherwise permitted by right. • Defines agrivoltaics within the context of establishing and allowing variances for solar panel height limitations; agrivoltaics in site development may warrant height variances necessary to produce both agricultural products and solar energy using the same land. • Requires localities to provide a record of special exception decisions to the SCC, including the reason for any adverse decision, any finding of nonconformity with the local comprehensive plan, and the date of the comprehensive plan’s last revision. • Requires the SCC to maintain on its public website a searchable database of all solar special exception decisions and the reasons for any adverse decisions made over a period of at least five years. • Provisions apply only to ground-mounted solar facilities of 1 MW or more for which an application for local approval is filed on or after July 1, 2026. • As introduced, these bills were a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	• Amends definition of agrivoltaics to reflect the definition in § 10.1-1197.5 (established by HB508/SB340). Agrivoltaics in this section is in the context of solar panel height limitations, and the ability to allow for height variances for projects utilizing agrivoltaics in land use. • Adds state and federal “laws” as a distinct category for which ground-mounted solar projects must comply, alongside regulations and permits.	• <u>Accepted</u> amendments (i) clarifying the definition of agrivoltaics and (ii) adding state and federal laws with which projects must comply.
HB891 (Shin) / SB443 (McPike). Siting of battery energy storage projects; commercial solar photovoltaic generation facilities, etc.	• Allows a battery energy storage project as a permitted accessory use in all zoning districts on any parcel of land that is subject to an approved special exception for a • Clarifies that provisions of the bill do not (i) limit the authority of a host locality to enforce compliance with applicable codes or ensure the safe operation of the battery	• Clarifies that accessory use battery storage projects cannot have a • Clarifies that the bill does not preclude the developer or the host	• <u>Accepted</u> Governor’s substitute clarifying (i) the maximum capacity rating of accessory battery storage projects and (ii) site agreements between the developer and host locality.

	energy storage project or (ii) preclude the developer of a storage project from negotiating a siting agreement with the host locality. Clarifies that battery energy storage projects with an initial interconnection request filed prior to July 1, 2030, and that are constructed in accordance with the provisions of the bill, are subject to the applicable local ordinance and regulation in effect on July 1, 2026.	locality from negotiating a siting agreement.	
HB892 (Shin). Electric utilities; integrated resource plans; SCC to investigate electric load forecasts.	- Directs the SCC to initiate a proceeding no later than March 1, 2027, to investigate electric load forecasting practices by Dominion, APCo and electric cooperatives. - Requires Dominion to provide information related to forecasting its compliance with the RPS in its IRP, excluding information related to accelerated renewable energy buyers (soon to be accelerated clean energy buyers) or customers purchasing electricity from a licensed supplier.	- Makes location-specific information (in addition to consumer-specific - Removes language requiring anonymized datasets if the SCC determines that customer-level or location-specific information is necessary, ensuring SCC discretion over whether data needs to be anonymized.	<u>Accepted</u> amendment making location-specific information subject to confidentiality protections deemed appropriate by the SCC. <u>Accepted</u> removal of language directing the SCC to require the use of anonymized data if customer-level or location-specific information is necessary.
HB1065 (Hernandez) / SB508 (VanValkenburg). Electric utilities; comprehensive assessments, surplus interconnection service.	- Section 1 bill requires Dominion and APCo to conduct a comprehensive assessment - Requires Dominion to identify at least five points of interconnection and APCo to identify at least two points at which using surplus interconnection service (SIS) may be feasible. - Requires Dominion and APCo to create pilot programs of at least 500 MW and 100 MW, respectively, for energy storage and solar generation facilities that use SIS. Requires the SCC to appoint an independent auditor by March 1, 2027, to review utility RFPs for such facilities. - Requires the utilities to include the results of the RFPs in their 2027 RPS filings required by §56-585.5.D.4.	Gives Dominion and APCo discretion to create pilot projects of less than 500 MW and 100 MW, respectively; previously, language in the enrolled versions required the utilities to create programs equal to these MW amounts.	<u>Accepted</u> amendments giving Dominion and APCo discretion to create pilot projects of less than 500 MW and 100 MW.
HB1393 (LeVere Bolling). Electric utilities; pilot programs for energy assistance	- Extends until 2038 the statutory spending commitments by Dominion and APCo to fund energy assistance and weatherization programs. - Updates the utility spending commitments to at least \$1 million and no more than \$1.5 million annually by APCo and at least \$156 million and no more than \$204	Clarifies SCC discretion over the cost prudence of Dominion's strategic undergrounding program.	<u>Rejected</u> amendments (i) clarifying SCC discretion over cost prudence and (ii) reducing the potential annual

and weatherization for certain individuals.

million in the aggregate between 2026 and 2038 for Dominion (at least \$13 million annually).

- Extends to 2033 Dominion’s ability to recover the costs of its strategic undergrounding program for overhead distribution lines. Limits the average cost per mile to \$900,000 and the annual increase in undergrounding investment to four percent of Dominion’s distribution rate base.
- Requires Dominion, in any generation and distribution rate proceeding beginning between January 1, 2027, and July 1, 2033, to petition the SCC for approval to assign to its G5 customer class all (i) net PJM capacity costs and (ii) financing costs for distribution infrastructure to interconnect new G5 customers.
- Directs Dominion to include in its next biennial rate proceeding a proposal to revise its tariff for supplementary, maintenance, or standby service for customers with power plants, effective as of January 1, 2028. The SCC must evaluate whether the proposal is in the public interest and does not adversely impact any other ratepayers.
- Authorizes Dominion on or before July 15, 2026, to petition the SCC for approval to finance deferred fuel costs. Requires the SCC to issue a final order within four months of such a petition filed between May 1, 2026, and July 15, 2026. Requires that the provisions of the fourth enactment clauses of [Chapter 757](#) and [Chapter 775](#) of the 2023 Acts of Assembly (allowing customers with demand greater than five MW to opt out of financing their pro rata obligations for deferred fuel cost charges) are applicable to such a petition.
- Directs the SCC to require that Dominion and APCo, to the greatest extent practicable, use the prevailing wage rate and registered apprenticeship programs for certificate of public convenience and necessity (CPCN) petitions of 5 MW or greater filed after July 1, 2026
 - *Note: this labor provision is unique to HB1393 compared to Lucas’ similar SB253.*

- Reduces the potential annual cost recovery of undergrounding from
- Eliminates the requirement that Dominion petition the SCC for approval to assign capacity costs and financing costs for distribution infrastructure to its GS-5 customer class; replaces with broader language to avoid cost shifting.
- Narrows the high-load customer employment threshold from 200 to 10,000.
- Adds language requiring the SCC to determine whether any petition filed by Dominion to finance deferred fuel costs is in the public interest.
- Reduces Dominion’s return on equity from 9.8 to 9.3 percent and requires the utility to return excess profits to customers.

cost of undergrounding from four to two percent.

- Accepted amendment eliminating the requirement that Dominion petition for SCC approval to assign capacity costs and distribution infrastructure financing costs to GS-5 customers.
- Rejected amendment narrowing the high-load customer employment threshold from 200 to 10,000
- Accepted amendment requiring the SCC to determine whether any petition filed by Dominion to finance deferred fuel costs is in the public interest.
- Rejected amendment reducing Dominion’s return on equity from 9.8 to 9.3 percent and requiring the utility to return excess profits to customers.

[HB1444 \(Lopez\)](#) / [SB225 \(Surovell\)](#).
Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank; created, report, membership.

- Establishes the Virginia Clean Energy Bank (“the Bank”) to accelerate the deployment of clean energy projects, greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects,
- Directs the Bank to develop a strategic plan by December 15, 2026, and update it by December 15 in even-numbered years thereafter, to prioritize the Bank’s activities over the next two years.
- Directs the Bank to adopt a long-term investment strategy no later than December 15, 2026, and update it every four years thereafter.

- Renames the Bank the “Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank and Fund” or “the Fund.”
- Clarifies that the Fund is non-reverting and consists of sub-funds for general fund, non-general fund, and federal fund dollars.

- Rejected amendment renaming the Bank.
- Rejected amendment clarifying that the fund is non-reverting and consists of three sub-funds.
- Accepted amendments reducing the size of the Board from ten to eight and changing the composition of the Board.

	• Directs the Bank to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an annual executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Bank no later than the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly.	• Reduces the total size of the Advisory Board from ten to eight • Changes the composition of the Board: increases from five to six the number of nonlegislative members, including two members (rather than one) to be appointed by the Governor; reduces from five to two the number of ex officio members.	
SB253 (Lucas) . Electric utilities; pilot programs for energy assistance and weatherization for certain individuals.	• Extends until 2038 the statutory spending commitments by Dominion and APCo to fund energy assistance and weatherization programs. • Updates the utility spending commitments to at least \$1 million and no more than \$1.5 million annually by APCo and at least \$156 million and no more than \$204 million in the aggregate between 2026 and 2038 for Dominion (at least \$13 million annually). • Extends to 2033 Dominion’s ability to recover the costs of its strategic undergrounding program for overhead distribution lines. Limits the average cost per mile to \$900,000 and the annual increase in undergrounding investment to four percent of Dominion’s distribution rate base. • Requires Dominion, in any generation and distribution rate proceeding beginning between January 1, 2027, and July 1, 2033, to petition the SCC for approval to assign to its G5 customer class all (i) net PJM capacity costs and (ii) financing costs for distribution infrastructure to interconnect new G5 customers. • Directs Dominion to include in its next biennial rate proceeding a proposal to revise its tariff for supplementary, maintenance, or standby service for customers with power plants, effective as of January 1, 2028. The SCC must evaluate whether the proposal is in the public interest and does not adversely impact any other ratepayers. • Authorizes Dominion on or before July 15, 2026, to petition the SCC for approval to finance deferred fuel costs. Requires the SCC to issue a final order within four months of such a petition filed between May 1, 2026, and July 15, 2026. Requires that the provisions of the fourth enactment clauses of Chapter 757 and Chapter 775 of the 2023 Acts of Assembly (allowing customers with	• Clarifies SCC discretion over the cost prudence of Dominion’s • Reduces the potential annual cost recovery of undergrounding from four to two percent of Dominion’s total distribution rate base. • Eliminates the requirement that Dominion petition the SCC for approval to assign capacity costs and financing costs for distribution infrastructure to its GS-5 customer class; replaces with broader language to directing the SCC to prevent cost shifting. • Narrows the high-load customer employment threshold from 200 to 10,000. • Eliminates the requirement that Dominion propose to revise its tariff for customers with power plants. • Adds language requiring the SCC to determine whether any petition filed by Dominion to finance deferred fuel costs is in the public interest.	• <u>Rejected</u> amendments (i) clarifying SCC discretion over cost prudence • <u>Accepted</u> amendment eliminating the requirement that Dominion petition for SCC approval to assign capacity costs and distribution infrastructure financing costs to GS-5 customers. • <u>Rejected</u> amendment narrowing the high-load customer employment threshold from 200 to 10,000 • <u>Accepted</u> amendment eliminating the requirement that Dominion revise its tariff for customers with power plants. • <u>Accepted</u> amendment requiring the SCC to determine whether any petition filed by Dominion to finance deferred fuel costs is in the public interest. • <u>Rejected</u> amendment reducing Dominion’s return on equity from

	demand greater than five MW to opt out of financing their pro rata obligations for deferred fuel cost charges) are applicable to such a petition. • As introduced, SB253 was a recommendation of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation.	• Reduces Dominion’s return on equity from 9.8 to 9.3 percent and requires the utility to return excess profits to customers.	9.8 to 9.3 percent and requiring the utility to return excess profits to customers.
		• Adds enactment clauses to SB256	
<u>SB256 (McPike).</u> Appliance minimum energy and water conservation standards; requirement of manufacturers.	• Requires Virginia Energy to adopt energy and water conservation standards equivalent to the last applicable federal standards (as of December 31, 2025) if the federal government removes any products or categories from the minimum energy and water conservation standards set by the federal Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975. • Prohibits the sale, lease, or rent of new products in Virginia that do not meet or exceed these equivalent standards.		• <u>Accepted</u> amendments adding both enactment clauses.

Disclaimer: this memorandum has been developed by the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation to help inform Commission members and the public on the status of the 2026 General Assembly session as it relates to energy policy in Virginia. This information is not meant to be comprehensive, but rather a summary for general informational purposes only. It should not be used as a substitute for advice from a qualified legal attorney.

Information about the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation can be found online: <https://dls.virginia.gov/commissions/eur.htm>. There you will find information regarding past and future meetings, annual reports, a member listing, as well as a link to join the mailing list. Questions may be directed to Carrie Hearne, executive director of the Commission, via email at chearne@ceur.virginia.gov.