

## **Charlottesville**

### **Proposed 2026 General Assembly Legislative Priorities – Sustainability**

- Support the Commonwealth’s re-entry in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).
- Maintain the intent of the Virginia Clean Economy Action (VCEA).
- Maintain the intent of the Clean Cars Standard; support adequate state resources for localities to invest in EVs and EV infrastructure.
- Support legislation related to utility Integrated Resource Planning reform (e.g., improving accessibility for nontraditional stakeholders, load growth data transparency, prioritizing energy efficiency and energy storage).
- Support legislation that creates a robust distributed energy resources (DER) environment to achieve both grid reliability and climate goals (e.g., shared solar, DER interconnection requirements, virtual power plants, power storage, state-level financing mechanisms).
- Support legislation that expands opportunities for net metering programs (e.g., eliminate the cap, standby charges, and fees).
- Fund the Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank.
- Support data center reform legislation to minimize environmental impacts and reduce financial burden on rate payers (e.g., building data disclosure, cost-share reform, transmission cost allocation).
- Support legislation authorizing localities to require greater building energy efficiency (stretch codes) and establish commercial building benchmarking within their jurisdictions
- Support legislation to enact a Bottle Bill (a.k.a., a beverage container deposit and redemption system) in Virginia.

## Notations to Support Consideration

- Support the Commonwealth's re-entry in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).
  - [City is participating in a second amicus brief in support of Brief of Appellee regarding Virginia's withdrawal from RGGI; first one filed in January 2024.](#)
- Maintain the intent of the Virginia Clean Economy Action (VCEA).
  - [Summary of the VCEA](#)
- Maintain the intent of the Clean Cars Standard; support adequate state resources for localities to invest in EVs and EV infrastructure.
  - [HB1791: Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Program and Fund; established and created. \(Introduced by: Richard C. "Rip" Sullivan, Jr. - Chief Patron\)](#)
  - [HB2087: Electric utilities; transportation electrification, definitions. \(Introduced by: Irene Shin - Chief Patron\)](#)
- Support legislation related to utility Integrated Resource Planning reform (e.g., improving accessibility for nontraditional stakeholders, load growth data transparency, prioritizing energy efficiency and energy storage).
  - [HB2413: Electric utilities; integrated resource plans, Phase I or Phase II files updated plans, etc. \(Introduced by: Candi Mundon King - Chief Patron\)](#)
  - [SB1021: Electric utilities; integrated resource plans, Phase I or Phase II files updated plans, etc. \(Introduced by: Scott A. Surovell - Chief Patron\)](#)
  - [SB 500: Electric utilities; integrated resource plans, grid-enhancing technologies and advanced conductors. \(Introduced by: Jennifer D. Carroll Foy\)](#)
- Support legislation that creates a robust distributed energy resources (DER) environment to achieve both grid reliability and climate goals (e.g., shared solar, DER interconnection requirements, virtual power plants, power storage, state-level financing mechanisms).
  - [Shared Solar Minimum Bill - SCC docket \[PUR-2025-00031\]\(#\)](#)
  - [Interconnection Direct Transfer Trip \(DTT\) - SCC docket \[PUR-2024-00211\]\(#\)](#)
  - [HB2346: Virtual power plant pilot program; each Phase II Utility shall petition SCC for approval to conduct \(Introduced by: Phil M. Hernandez - \(Chief Patron\)](#)
- Support legislation that expands opportunities for net metering programs (e.g., eliminate the cap, standby charges, and fees).
  - [Dominion's Net Metering Program Update Proposal - SCC docket \[PUR-2025-00079\]\(#\).](#)

- Fund the Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank.
  - [HB2509](#): Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Bank; established, report (Introduced by: Alfonso H. Lopez - Chief Patron)
- Support data center reform legislation to minimize environmental impacts and reduce financial burden on rate payers (e.g., building data disclosure, cost-share reform, transmission cost allocation)..
  - Siting/Zoning
    - [HB1601/SB1449](#): Locality authority to require site assessments for data centers on a variety of factors - sound, water, energy, etc.
    - [HB1984](#): No siting of data centers near parks, schools, or residential areas
    - [HB2026](#): Data centers classified as industrial use in localities' comprehensive plans, limiting their siting options
    - [SB1448](#): Requires a regulatory permitting system for Resource Intensive Facilities (RIF) which includes environmental impact
    - [SB284](#): No siting near historically significant sites.
  - [HB2027](#): CPCN for high load facilities
  - [HB2035](#): Water and energy usage info, statewide clearinghouse
  - [HB2377](#): Requires localities to incorporate alternative cooling methods into comprehensive plans for data center siting approvals
  - [HB2578](#): Clean energy and EE requirements for data centers to achieve retail sales and use tax exemption
  - [HB910](#): Requires energy use reports from data centers to VADOE
  - Cost Allocation
    - [HB2101/SB960](#): expanded version of [HB2084](#) (passed)
    - [HB2684](#): Requires electric utilities to plan out generation and transmission infrastructure, specifically avoiding stranded assets (from data centers)
    - [HJR64](#): Study of revenue sharing for localities hosting data center infrastructure
    - [SB1243](#): Prohibits data center infrastructure cost sharing
    - [SB191](#): Meet data center demand at lowest possible cost
- Support legislation authorizing localities to require greater building energy efficiency (stretch codes) and establish commercial building benchmarking within their jurisdictions
  - [HB950](#) (Patron – Lopez and Sullivan) – 2024 session
  - [HB379](#) (Patron - Sullivan) – 2022 Session

- Support legislation to enact a Bottle Bill (a.k.a., a beverage container deposit and redemption system) in Virginia.
  - <https://www.vabottlebill.org/>