










STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets				
 Enacted	<p>Net-zero by 2045</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 1192 - Virginia Energy Plan (2020)	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2020
Climate Action Plans				
 Not Enacted	<p>Climate action plans are documents that clearly outline the policies and strategies that the state intends to implement to meet its emissions reduction targets. Draft plans are often published first, and after a period of public comments and revisions, a final plan is released.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	
State Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory				
 Enacted	<p>The 2016-2020 Greenhouse Gas Inventory was published in November 2022.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SB 1282 (2021)• 2016-2020 Greenhouse Gas Inventory (2022)	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2022










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 Not Enacted	Climate Bureaucracy Climate bureaucracy consists of dedicated climate offices and staff, interagency working groups, task forces, and other bodies made up of government staff. These bodies are often responsible for writing a state's climate plan and implementing the policies and strategies identified to meet its climate targets.	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	
	Climate Advisory Bodies Climate advisory bodies often write or advise on a state's climate plan, and make non-binding recommendations on climate policy design and implementation. The bodies can consist of all non-government members, or be a mix of government and non-government members.	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	
	Environmental Justice Community Definitions "Environmental justice communities" are geographic areas in which the percentage of the population of color is higher than the statewide share, or are census block groups in which at least 30% of the population has an annual household income less than 80% of the area's median income and 200% of the federal poverty level. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 406 (2020) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2020





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 Enacted	Environmental Justice Mapping Tools	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2022
	VA EJScreen+ Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VA EJScreen+ (2022) 			
 Not Enacted	Environmental Justice Community Investment Requirements	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
	Environmental justice (EJ) community investment requirements help ensure communities most impacted by environmental burdens are benefitting equitably from public programs by requiring a certain percentage of funds and/or benefits from other policies are allocated to EJ communities.			
 Enacted	Environmental Justice Bureaucracy	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2021
	DEQ – Office of Environmental Justice Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 406 (2020) • Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group • DEQ – Office of Environmental Justice (2021) 			










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Environmental Justice Advisory Bodies				
 Enacted	<p>Virginia Council on Environmental Justice</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virginia Council on Environmental Justice (2019)	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2019
Cumulative Impact Assessment				
 Not Enacted	<p>Cumulative impact assessments determine the health and environmental impacts of renewing or granting a permit for certain pollution-generating facilities in environmental justice communities. Increased pollution burdens in communities may result in the permit application being denied.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
Just Transition Plans				
 Not Enacted	<p>Just transition plans are documents that outline policies and recommendations aimed at supporting communities, workers, and industries affected by the transition away from fossil fuels. The plans often focus on workforce development and retraining, job creation, and economic diversification.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	

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Just Transition Offices and Staff				
 Not Enacted	Just transition offices and staff assist workers and communities transitioning away from fossil fuel extraction and use, typically through retraining programs and support with relocation and economic diversification. Offices and staff also coordinate with other state agencies to effectively design policy to achieve a just transition.	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Just Transition Advisory Bodies				
 Not Enacted	Just transition advisory bodies write or advise on a state's just transition plan or report, and make recommendations on ways to support affected workers, communities, and industries. The bodies can consist of all non-government members, or be a mix of government and non-government members.	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Just Transition Funds				
 Not Enacted	Just transition funds support initiatives and investments aimed at facilitating the equitable transition of workers and communities affected by shifts in industries or policies that transition from fossil fuels.	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Green Banks				
 Not Enacted	Green banks are public, quasi-public, or non-profit entities that use innovative financing to invest in climate solutions and attract private capital across various economic sectors.	Cross-Sector	Climate Finance	





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 In-Progress	Carbon Pollution Pricing The Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act authorized Virginia to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a cap-and-trade program that covers the electricity sector. Virginia was a participating state from 2021-2023. In June 2023, the Air Pollution Control Board voted to advance Governor Youngkin's proposal to withdraw from RGGI. In November 2024, a judge ruled that Virginia can't withdraw from RGGI without the state legislature's authorization. The ruling stated the state's Air Pollution Control Board exceeded its authority when it voted to exit the program. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 981 (2020) • SB 1027 (2020) • Case No. CL23000173-00 Decision (2024) 	Cross-Sector	Carbon Valuation	
 Enacted	Social Cost of Carbon Utilities must incorporate the social cost of carbon in applications for new generating facilities. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 1526 (2020) 	Cross-Sector	Carbon Valuation	2020







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Clean Energy and Renewable Portfolio Standards				
 Enacted	<p>100% renewable energy for Phase II Utilities by 2045 100% for Phase I Utilities by 2050</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HB 1526 (2020)• SB 851 (2020)	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	2020
Electricity Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets				
 Not Enacted	<p>Electricity greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are set by a state to limit GHG emissions in the electricity sector. These targets aim to reduce emissions by different amounts over time, often expressed as percentage relative to a baseline year.</p>	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	
Clean Energy Plans				
 Not Enacted	<p>Clean energy plans are documents that outline the policies and strategies states can implement to meet clean energy targets. Draft plans are often published first, and after a period of public comments and revisions, a final plan is released.</p>	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	

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 Not Enacted	Distributed Generation Carve-out The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPOT – Generation Carve-outs in Virginia Policy Components  0/5	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	
 Partially Enacted	Net Metering The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPOT - Net Metering in Virginia • SPOT - Aggregate Net Metering in Virginia Policy Components  6/11	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	






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Shared Renewables				
 Partially Enacted	<p>The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SPOT - Shared Renewables in Virginia <p>Policy Components</p>  <p>4/6</p>	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	
Community Choice Aggregation				
 Enacted	<p>Virginia has an active community choice aggregation program.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SB 1269 (1999)	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	1999
Energy Storage Targets				
 Enacted	<p>3,100 megawatts (MW) of energy storage capacity by 2035 from the state's two investor-owned utilities (2,700 MW for Dominion and 400 MW for Appalachian Power Company). 10% of projects must be deployed behind the meter, and 35% of capacity must be owned by non-utility entities.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HB 1526 (2020)	Electricity	Transmission, Distribution, and Energy Storage	2020










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Interconnection Standards				
 Enacted	<p>Virginia received a C grade from Freeing the Grid.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Freeing the Grid Virginia Grade (2023)	Electricity	Transmission, Distribution, and Energy Storage	2023
Coal Phaseouts				
 Enacted	<p>Requires 100% renewable energy by 2045 or 2050, depending on the type of electric utility, and does not include energy derived from coal in its definition of renewable electricity.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HB 1526 (2020)• SB 851 (2020)	Electricity	Coal Retirement	2020
Coal Plant Securitization				
 Not Enacted	<p>Coal securitization is a financing tool that allows utility companies to refinance debt they issued to build coal plants and close the facilities early without taking a financial hit or passing costs on to ratepayers.</p>	Electricity	Coal Retirement	
Residential Energy Codes				
 Enacted	<p>The statewide energy code for residential construction is 2021 IECC with amendments.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virginia State Energy Code (2023)	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2023







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Commercial Energy Codes				
 Enacted	<p>The statewide energy code for commercial building construction is 2021 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2019.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virginia State Energy Code (2023)	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2023
Stretch Building Energy Codes				
 Not Enacted	<p>Stretch building energy codes are an optional, more stringent building code established by the state that local jurisdictions can adopt to require that newly constructed buildings are more efficient than the baseline state codes.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	
Appliance Standards				
 Not Enacted	<p>Appliance standards set minimum energy and water conservation requirements for appliances and equipment.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	
Building Performance Standards				
 Not Enacted	<p>Building performance standards establish energy and/or greenhouse gas performance targets for existing buildings in a state. These targets increase in stringency over time, leading to efficiency improvements in buildings to conserve energy and reduce emissions.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	




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Clean Heat Standards				
 Not Enacted	Clean heat standards establish a performance standard requiring heat providers to deliver a gradually-increasing percentage of low-emission heating services to customers.	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	
Energy Efficiency Resource Standards (EERS)				
 Enacted	<p>Phase 1 electric utilities are required to achieve 2% energy savings by 2025 and Phase 2 utilities are required to achieve 5% savings by 2025, relative to 2019 sales. The State Corporation Commission will establish efficiency savings targets for 2026–2028.</p> <p>Gas utilities are not subject to an EERS.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 933 (2007)• HB 1526 (2020)• SB 565 (2024)	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	2024
Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)				
 Enacted	<p>Virginia has enacted commercial PACE-enabling legislation and has active programs.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Va. Code - 15.2-958.3 (2009)	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	2009


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 Partially Enacted	Weatherization Funding The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPOT - Weatherization Funding in Virginia Policy Components  2/4	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	
 Not Enacted	All-Electric Buildings All-electric buildings policies require new buildings to be constructed with all-electric heating, cooling, and cooking systems to transition away from fossil-fuel use in buildings.	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Electrification	
 Enacted	Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) Standards Virginia Clean Vehicles Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 1965 (2021) • Virginia Clean Vehicles (2024) 	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	2024

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Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV)				
Mandates				
 Enacted	<p>Model Year (MY) 2026: 35% of new passenger vehicle sales are ZEVs MY 2030: 68% of new sales are ZEVs MY 2035: 100% of new sales are ZEVs, with up to 20% being hybrid or hydrogen-powered vehicles.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 1965 (2021) • Virginia Clean Vehicles (2024) 	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	2024
Electric Vehicle Rebates				
 Not Enacted	<p>Electric vehicle rebates offer rebates to make light-duty electric vehicles more affordable to increase their adoption in a state.</p>	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	
Low NOx Omnibus Rules				
 Not Enacted	<p>Low NOx Omnibus Rules establish stringent tailpipe emission standards for heavy duty vehicles, updated testing procedures, and technology-neutral compliance mechanisms to reduce nitrous oxide (NOx) pollution. The regulation must be adopted first by California, and other states may adopt the regulation under the federal Clean Air Act.</p>	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	





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 Not Enacted	Medium- and Heavy-Duty (MHD) Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandates Medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) zero-emission vehicle mandates, also known as "Advanced Clean Trucks", require automakers to produce and sell a certain number of zero-emission MHD vehicles to fulfill a quota based on a percentage of total sales in states.	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	
	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicle (EV) Rebates Medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) electric vehicle rebates consist of programs and policies that offer rebates to make MHD electric vehicles more affordable to increase their adoption in a state.			
	Public Fleet Electric Vehicle (EV) Procurement Targets Public fleet electric vehicle (EV) procurement targets require that a certain percentage or number of vehicles purchased or leased by the state are zero-emission or electric vehicles. This can apply to passenger cars, light-duty vehicles, and/or medium- and heavy-duty vehicles in a state's public fleet.			







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 Not Enacted	Electric Bus Procurement Targets Electric bus procurement targets require that a certain percentage or number of school buses and/or transit buses purchased or leased by the state, transit authorities, and/or school districts must be electric or zero-emissions.	Transportation	Lead by Example	
	Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Requirements New county, city, town, or school buildings larger than 5,000 square feet include sufficient electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure, such as EV chargers, EV-ready electrical capacity, or other fueling infrastructure. Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SB 245 (2024)• HB 151 (2024)	Transportation	EV Charging Infrastructure	2024
	Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Rebates Electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure rebates offer rebates to make the purchase and/or installation costs of EV charging infrastructure more affordable.	Transportation	EV Charging Infrastructure	

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 Not Enacted	Electric Vehicle (EV) and EV Charging Infrastructure Plans Electric vehicle (EV) and EV charging infrastructure plans are documents that provide a framework to guide the development, coordination, and adoption of EVs and EV charging infrastructure.	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	
	Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets Transportation greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are set by a state to limit emissions in the transportation sector. These targets aim to reduce emissions by specific amounts over time, often expressed as a percentage reduction from a baseline year.	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	
	Low Carbon Fuel Standards A low carbon fuel standard (LCFS) is a market-based mechanism to reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels and account for the fuel's life cycle greenhouse gas emissions.	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	



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 Partially Enacted	Bicycle Friendly States			
	Virginia is ranked 12th out of 50 in the 2024 Bicycle Friendly State rankings by the League of American Bicyclists.			
	Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virginia Bicycle Friendly State Scorecard Policy Components  4/5	Transportation	Public and Active Transportation	
 Not Enacted	Buy Clean Requirements			
	Buy clean requirements mandate or incentivize the use of low-carbon construction materials, such as concrete and steel, in public projects to address embodied carbon.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Industrial Decarbonization	
 Enacted	Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) Regulations			
	The state prohibits certain HFCs in specific stationary refrigeration and air-conditioning end-uses.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	F-gas Regulations	2020
	Establishing Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chapter 1289 (2020)• HFCs Virginia DEQ			



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 Not Enacted	Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6) Regulations Sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) regulations include phasedown commitments, reporting requirements, bans, or other measures that reduce SF6 usage and emissions.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	F-gas Regulations	
 Not Enacted	Oil and Gas Methane Regulations Oil and gas methane regulations include phasedown commitments, reporting requirements, leak detection and repair, or other measures that reduce methane emissions from oil and gas production.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Oil and Gas Regulations	
 Not Enacted	Fracking Bans Fracking bans prohibit the practice of hydraulic fracking for the production of oil and/or natural gas by a certain year. Legislation often requires an environmental agency or department to promulgate regulations.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Oil and Gas Regulations	
 Not Enacted	Landfill Methane Regulations Landfill methane regulations include rulemakings, emissions monitoring, emissions control, or other measures that reduce methane emissions from decaying organic waste in landfills.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Waste Management	

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 Not Enacted	Food Waste Bans and Targets Food waste bans and targets include policies that prohibit certain entities that generate specified amounts of food waste (typically commercial businesses and larger institutions) from sending this waste to landfills. Targets aim to reduce total food waste by a certain percentage each target year.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Waste Management	
	Agriculture Financial Incentives Agriculture financial incentives support healthy soils and regenerative agriculture. Incentives may include reduced crop insurance premiums, property tax exemptions, grants, or cost-share programs.	Natural and Working Lands	Agriculture	
	Agriculture Technical Assistance Programs Agriculture technical assistance programs provide state-driven technical assistance, apprenticeship and mentorship programs, and support securing additional funding for farmers to increase uptake of soil health practices.	Natural and Working Lands	Agriculture	