STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Enacted	**Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets** Net-zero by 2045 Establishing Policies • Chapter 1192 - Virginia Energy Plan (2020)	Climate Governance and Equity	**Climate Governance**	2020
Not Enacted	**Climate Action Plans** 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.	Climate Governance and Equity	**Climate Governance**	
Enacted	**State Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory** The 2016-2020 Greenhouse Gas Inventory was published in November 2022. Establishing Policies • SB 1282 (2021) • 2016-2020 Greenhouse Gas Inventory (2022)	Climate Governance and Equity	**Climate Governance**	2022

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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**	
Not Enacted	**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**	
Not Enacted	**Environmental Rights Amendments** An Environmental Rights Amendment is an amendment to a state constitution guaranteeing the citizens of that state a right to a clean and healthy environment. The right to a clean and healthy environment can help to address climate change and provide a key tool to regulate greenhouse gases and achieve environmental justice goals.	Climate Governance and Equity	**Climate Governance**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Enacted	**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 • SB 406 (2020)	Climate Governance and Equity	**Environmental Justice and Equity**	2020
Enacted	**Environmental Justice Mapping Tools** VA EJScreen+ Establishing Policies • VA EJScreen+ (2022)	Climate Governance and Equity	**Environmental Justice and Equity**	2022
Not Enacted	**Environmental Justice Community Investment Requirements** 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.	Climate Governance and Equity	**Environmental Justice and Equity**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Enacted	**Environmental Justice Bureaucracy** DEQ – Office of Environmental Justice Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group Establishing Policies • SB 406 (2020) • Environmental Justice Interagency Working Group • DEQ – Office of Environmental Justice (2021)	Climate Governance and Equity	**Environmental Justice and Equity**	2021
Enacted	**Environmental Justice Advisory Bodies** Virginia Council on Environmental Justice Establishing Policies • Virginia Council on Environmental Justice (2019)	Climate Governance and Equity	**Environmental Justice and Equity**	2019
Not Enacted	**Cumulative Impact Assessment** 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.	Climate Governance and Equity	**Environmental Justice and Equity**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	**Just Transition Plans** 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.	Climate Governance and Equity	**Just Transition**	
Not Enacted	**Just Transition Offices and Staff** 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**	
Not Enacted	**Just Transition Advisory Bodies** 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**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	**Just Transition Funds** 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**	
Not Enacted	**Green Banks** 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**	
Not Enacted	**Divestment** State divestment means ending new investment in the fossil fuel industry and phasing out existing fossil fuel investments in public funds, such as state pensions, over time. States can also set greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets for their investment portfolios.	Cross-Sector	**Climate Finance**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
In-Progress	**Carbon Pollution Pricing** The Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act authorized Virginia to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initative, 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 • 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 • HB 1526 (2020)	Cross-Sector	**Carbon Valuation**	2020

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Enacted	**Clean Energy and Renewable Portfolio Standards** 100% renewable energy for Phase II Utilities by 2045 | 100% for Phase I Utilities by 2050 The state has a target to develop energy resources necessary to produce 30% of Virginia's electricity from renewable energy sources by 2030 and 100% of Virginia's electricity from carbon-free sources by 2040. Establishing Policies • HB 1526 (2020) • SB 851 (2020) • SB 1284 (2021)	Electricity	**Energy Plans and Targets**	2020
Not Enacted	**Electricity Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets** 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.	Electricity	**Energy Plans and Targets**	
Not Enacted	**Clean Energy Plans** 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.	Electricity	**Energy Plans and Targets**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	**Consolidated State Siting and Permitting Authority** States can establish some form of statewide, consolidated siting and permitting entity — typically a council or board — for renewables and/or transmission to streamline project review and prevent uncertainty in the face of local governments' restrictions or prohibitions of renewable generation or transmission.	Electricity	**Permitting and Grid Integration**	
Enacted	**Interconnection Standards** Virginia received a C grade from Freeing the Grid. Establishing Policies • Freeing the Grid Virginia Grade (2023)	Electricity	**Permitting and Grid Integration**	2023

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Enacted	**Enabling ATTs and GETs** Electric utilities must include an assessment of the potential application of grid-enhancing technologies (GETs) and advanced conductors in their integrated resource plans (IRPs), or a detailed explanation of why such technologies or conductors are not included in the IRP. The State Corporation Commission must consider the use of GETs (namely, advanced conductors) when evaluating applications for constructing transmission lines of 138 kilovolts or more, to improve the reliability and efficiency of the state's transmission network. Establishing Policies • HB 862 (2024) • HB 1822 (2025)	Electricity	**Permitting and Grid Integration**	2025
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 • SPOT - Net Metering in Virginia • SPOT - Aggregate Net Metering in Virginia Policy Components  6/11	Electricity	**Permitting and Grid Integration**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Partially Enacted	**Shared Renewables** 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 • SPOT - Shared Renewables in Virginia Policy Components  4/6	Electricity	**Incentivizing Clean Energy Resources**	
Enacted	**Community Choice Aggregation** Virginia has an active community choice aggregation program. Establishing Policies • SB 1269 (1999)	Electricity	**Incentivizing Clean Energy Resources**	1999

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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 • SPOT – Generation Carve-outs in Virginia Policy Components 0/5	Electricity	**Incentivizing Clean Energy Resources**	
Enacted	**Energy Storage Targets** 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. Establishing Policies • HB 1526 (2020)	Electricity	**Incentivizing Clean Energy Resources**	2020

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Enacted	**Coal Phaseouts** 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. Establishing Policies • HB 1526 (2020) • SB 851 (2020)	Electricity	**Coal Retirement**	2020
Not Enacted	**Coal Plant Securitization** 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.	Electricity	**Coal Retirement**	
Enacted	**Residential Energy Codes** The statewide energy code for residential construction is 2021 IECC with amendments. Establishing Policies • Virginia State Energy Code (2023)	Buildings and Efficiency	**Building Codes**	2023
Enacted	**Commercial Energy Codes** The statewide energy code for commercial building construction is 2021 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2019. Establishing Policies • Virginia State Energy Code (2023)	Buildings and Efficiency	**Building Codes**	2023

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	**Stretch Building Energy Codes** 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.	Buildings and Efficiency	**Building Codes**	
Not Enacted	**Appliance Standards** Appliance standards set minimum energy and water conservation requirements for appliances and equipment.	Buildings and Efficiency	**Building Standards**	
Not Enacted	**Building Performance Standards** 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.	Buildings and Efficiency	**Building Standards**	
Not Enacted	**Clean Heat Standards** 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**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Enacted	**Energy Efficiency Resource Standards (EERS)** 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. Gas utilities are not subject to an EERS. Establishing Policies • Va. Code § 56-596.2 (2018) • HB 1526 (2020) • SB 565 (2024)	Buildings and Efficiency	**Building Efficiency**	2024
Enacted	**Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)** Virginia has enacted commercial PACE-enabling legislation and has active programs. Establishing Policies • Va. Code - 15.2-958.3 (2009)	Buildings and Efficiency	**Building Efficiency**	2009

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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 • 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**	
Not Enacted	**Thermal Energy Networks** Thermal energy networks are neighborhood-scale energy projects that allow multiple buildings to be connected through a shared network of underground pipes to distribute heating and cooling, often using renewable energy sources like geothermal or waste heat. State policymakers can create an enabling regulatory structure, and may also commission pilots, allow cost recovery, or create mandates to help transition from natural gas.	Buildings and Efficiency	**Building Electrification**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Enacted	**Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) Standards** Virginia Clean Vehicles Establishing Policies • HB 1965 (2021) • Virginia Clean Vehicles (2024)	Transportation	**Light-Duty Vehicles**	2024
Enacted	**Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandates** 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. Establishing Policies • HB 1965 (2021) • Virginia Clean Vehicles (2024)	Transportation	**Light-Duty Vehicles**	2024
Not Enacted	**Electric Vehicle Rebates** Electric vehicle rebates offer rebates to make light-duty electric vehicles more affordable to increase their adoption in a state.	Transportation	**Light-Duty Vehicles**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	**Low NOx Omnibus Rules** 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.	Transportation	**Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles**	
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**	
Not Enacted	**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.	Transportation	**Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	**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.	Transportation	**Lead by Example**	
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**	
Enacted	**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 • SB 245 (2024) • HB 151 (2024)	Transportation	**EV Charging Infrastructure**	2024

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	**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**	
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**	
Not Enacted	**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**	
Not Enacted	**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**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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 • 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. Establishing Policies • Chapter 1289 (2020) • HFCs | Virginia DEQ	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	**F-gas Regulations**	2020

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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**	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
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**	
Not Enacted	**Healthy Soils 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**	
Not Enacted	**Healthy Soils 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**	