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Virginia Energy Announces Public Meeting of the Gold Study Workgroup

Dillwyn, Va. –The Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy) will hold a public meeting of the state agency component of the Gold Study Workgroup on September 26th. The meeting will be at the Buckingham Community Center from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The Buckingham Community Center is located at 16268 N James Madison Highway Dillwyn, Virginia 23936.

There will be a public comment period during the meeting. The workgroup will receive a presentation from the Virginia Association of Counties and review a portion of the draft report due to the General Assembly by December 1, 2022.

The General Assembly passed legislation in 2021 that formed the workgroup evaluating the impacts of gold mining after a Canadian prospecting company began exploring Buckingham County for mineable gold deposits. The workgroup consists of two parts: a committee evaluating the technical aspects of gold mining that is led by the [National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine \(NASEM\)](#). The other component includes representatives from Virginia Energy, the Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Department of Health, the Council on Environmental Justice, the Monacan Indian Nation and local citizen groups.

For those looking for more information, or interested in submitting comments or viewing past meetings visit the [Virginia Energy website](#).

Gold mining was most active in Virginia in the 1800's. Currently only one company is actively listed as mining gold in Virginia. It is removing gold and environmental contaminants from material left behind from the previous mining in Goochland County.