

PROGRAMS
ADMINISTRATION
GAS AND OIL
GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES
MINED LAND REPURPOSING
MINERAL MINING
COAL MINE SAFETY
OFFSHORE WIND
STATE ENERGY OFFICE

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Virginia Department of Energy

Washington Building / 8th Floor 1100 Bank Street Richmond, Virginia 23219-3638 (804) 692-3200 FAX (804) 692-3237 www.energy.virginia.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 22, 2024 Tarah Kesterson (276) 356-3405

E-mail: tarah.kesterson@energy.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Energy Awarded \$156 Million for Solar for All Program

Richmond, VA- Sunny days will be a little brighter in Virginia. The Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy) will receive over \$156 million in federal funding under the federal Solar for All grant. Around 50% of Virginia households are eligible to benefit from the program.

"Adding more residential solar is essential to our all of the above approach for clean and affordable energy in Virginia." **said Virginia Energy Director Glenn Davis.** "Virginia also recognizes the significant economic development and job growth opportunities across the Commonwealth that will accompany this growth in residential solar and welcomes new investment by the solar industry."

The funding will be available to Virginia for the next five years. Residential rooftop solar and shared solar developments qualify for the grant dollars. Developers may also submit larger projects, such as solar for community housing. The funding is focused mostly on low-income residents or people that live in communities that are designated as underserved. Projects must be designed to result in a minimum of 20% savings on their energy bills.

"This funding is expected to bring a lifetime economic impact to Virginia communities that need it most," **said Virginia Energy State Energy Office Director Vince Maiden.** "Our solar industry will see growth and create over 1,000 jobs as a result of Solar for All."

The Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy) will administer the program. Solar for All is funded through the U.S. Environment Protection Agency.

The first year of the program will be set aside for planning the distribution of funds and those details will be available via the <u>Virginia Energy website</u> as they are developed. Funding will become available in 2025 for those interested in residential rooftop or shared solar programs.