



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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Virginia Announces Industry Partnership to Increase Natural Gas Power Generation to Meet Unprecedented Growth

Consortium will identify potential natural gas infrastructure sites between Roanoke and Bristol to support advanced manufacturing and economic development

RICHMOND, VA—The Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy) has announced a partnership with Red Post Energy, Williams, and Enbridge Inc. to conduct a comprehensive study identifying opportunities to expand natural gas power generation. The initiative responds to unprecedented energy demand driven by Virginia's historic economic growth, including the expansion of advanced manufacturing facilities and diverse economic development opportunities.

"Without new capacity, the Commonwealth risks energy constraints that could compromise national security priorities, drive up costs for residents, and lead to missed economic opportunities," said **Virginia Energy Director Glenn Davis**. "Meeting this challenge requires both urgency and pragmatism. This study positions us to act decisively—identifying where we can responsibly add generation capacity while maximizing reliability and economic benefit."

Energy demand in Virginia is growing faster than at any point since WWII. The Commonwealth's economic momentum—driven by record job creation, population growth, advanced manufacturing, EV adoption, and more—has created an urgent need for additional baseload power generation. Without new capacity, Virginia risks constraints that could increase costs for families, limit economic opportunities, and threaten the grid reliability that businesses depend upon.

The study will identify locations between Roanoke and Bristol where new natural gas pipeline infrastructure can support new power generation facilities. The study will evaluate site suitability, environmental considerations, interconnection requirements, and economic benefits including job creation, tax revenue, and regional development opportunities.

"Southwest Virginia is ready to drive both Virginia's energy future and its economic growth," said **Virginia House Minority Leader Terry Kilgore**. "By developing new natural gas infrastructure, our region can deliver the reliable power that advanced industries require while creating good jobs, expanding tax revenue, and strengthening communities that have long powered this Commonwealth."

This initiative exemplifies Virginia's all-of-the-above energy strategy—simultaneously advancing nuclear power, expanding renewable generation, modernizing the grid, and ensuring adequate

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baseload capacity through responsible natural gas development. The partnership brings together state government leadership with industry expertise: Red Post Energy's power plant development capabilities, Williams' extensive midstream infrastructure operations, and Enbridge's regional pipeline network, including the East Tennessee Natural Gas system serving Virginia.

Virginia remains committed to building an energy future that delivers reliability, affordability, and innovation while supporting the economic growth that has made the Commonwealth a national leader.

Quotes:

"The collaboration is a significant step toward securing Virginia's energy future," said **Red Post Energy CEO Lance Medlin**. "Working with experienced leadership of Virginia's Department of Energy, we aim to unlock new economic growth and development opportunities across the Commonwealth while ensuring energy reliability and affordability."

"Williams is proud to invest in Virginia's energy future. By leveraging our expertise in natural gas infrastructure, we are committed to unlocking new opportunities for economic development and supporting the region's growing energy needs," said **Williams COO Larry Larsen**. "This collaborative study reflects our dedication to delivering reliable, affordable energy solutions that help drive growth and prosperity for communities across the Commonwealth."

"Enbridge is ideally positioned to meet growing natural gas demand being driven by data center growth. Our extensive natural gas pipeline network spans key regions throughout the U.S. where these facilities are rapidly emerging," said **Enbridge Vice President of U.S. Marketing Richard Paglia**. "In Virginia, we operate the East Tennessee Natural Gas pipeline, and we're looking forward to evaluating how this pipeline could potentially be used to help meet existing and future energy demand throughout the state."

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