



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

1100 Bank Street (8th Floor), Richmond, VA 23219
Office: (804) 692-3200 | TDD: (800) 828-1120

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – JANUARY 5, 2026

Virginia Department of Energy Announces Creation of Virginia Fusion Innovation Exchange

RICHMOND, VA – The Virginia Department of Energy announced today the launch of the Virginia Fusion Innovation Exchange (VFIE), a new industry-led collaboration with higher education partners, to accelerate fusion energy development across the Commonwealth. This initiative positions Virginia as a leader in fusion technology by uniting private industry, academia, research institutions, and state partners to build a competitive fusion ecosystem.

“The Virginia Fusion Innovation Exchange represents a bold step toward clean, limitless energy innovation, aligning state resources with industry leadership to drive economic growth and technological leadership,” said **Glenn Davis, Director of the Virginia Department of Energy**.

The VFIE will coordinate efforts in technical and commercialization exchanges, supply chain development, workforce training, and public education and engagement. Key goals include expanding the fusion-ready workforce, identifying new suppliers, and fostering research partnerships to support fusion power deployment.

A board will guide the VFIE, featuring rotating representatives from industry and academia alongside permanent seats for the Virginia Department of Energy, the Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority, and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP). Commonwealth Fusion Systems will lead initial industry participation, with Virginia universities and community colleges contributing expertise in research and curriculum development.

“Commonwealth Fusion Systems is thrilled to partner with Virginia on the Fusion Innovation Exchange, which will unlock supply chain opportunities, research and

development capabilities, and talent essential for commercializing fusion energy right here in the Commonwealth," said **Jennifer Ganten, Chief Global Affairs Officer, Commonwealth Fusion Systems.**

"Meeting the energy demands of our economy will require new technologies, new talent, and new partnerships," said **VEDP President and CEO Jason El Koubi.** "The Virginia Fusion Innovation Exchange positions the Commonwealth to translate fusion innovation into sustained economic opportunity and long-term competitiveness by increasing power capacity while reducing costs."

The Exchange will begin with a formal working group meeting quarterly to set goals and metrics, eventually evolving into a formal organizational structure.

Media Contact:

Fred Baker, Public Relations Manager
Virginia Department of Energy
press@energy.virginia.gov

###