



**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 — March 9, 2026

# Virginia Energy Announces Funding Opportunity for \$79.5 Million Coal Mine Methane Capture & Utilization Program

*Request for Grant Applications – Due April 10, 2026*

**RICHMOND, VA** — Virginia Energy, in partnership with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, has issued a funding opportunity for projects focused on methane detection, capture, and reuse as part of its new [Coal Mine Methane Capture & Utilization Program](#).

Virginia Energy will award \$79.5 million in competitive grants for projects that capture and reuse methane from active or abandoned coal mines—reducing emissions, revitalizing legacy mine lands, and creating new economic opportunities in historically coal-dependent communities.

Prioritizing projects in Southwest Virginia, the initiative aims to cut methane emissions by up to 1 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent annually, while improving air quality and enhancing Virginia’s energy reliability and security.

Supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program, the initiative will run through September 2029 and serve as a national model for how states can advance both emission reductions and economic revitalization.

Grant applications will be accepted through April 10, 2026. Application forms and requirements along with additional information are available on the [Virginia Energy website](#).

**Media Contact:**

Fred Baker

*Virginia Energy, Public Relations Manager*

[press@energy.virginia.gov](mailto:press@energy.virginia.gov)

###



**Richmond**

1100 Bank St., 8th Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219  
(804) 692-3200

**Big Stone Gap**

3405 Mountain Empire Rd.  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219  
(276) 523-8100

**Charlottesville**

900 Natural Resources Dr.  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
(434) 951-6340