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Virginia Launches Website Showcasing Clean Energy Virginia Progress

Dashboard Available to the Public on the DMME Website

Richmond, Va. – The Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) launched a new information center today tracking the progress towards a Clean Energy Virginia. The <u>dashboard</u> will detail, in various categories, transparent progress toward meeting the goals of the Virginia Clean Economy Act.

"The results of efforts by the agency and its partners will be available to our citizens and we are proud to showcase the contribution of renewable energy and other clean energy strategies in making progress toward a carbon free economy," said DMME Director John Warren.

The agency collaborated with the University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service. The Center, along with a team of interns, designed and gathered data to build <u>the site</u>. They will continue to monitor and update the information as work progresses.

"I think of it as a Fitbit for Virginia's energy system," said **Arthur Small, Senior Research Scientist at the Cooper Center's Center for Economic Policy Studies**. "We need to shed the carbon from our energy diet. The dashboard will help us track our progress and make sure we stay on track to meet our clean carbon goals." Small added, "Of course, Fitbit won't do your workout for you."

The dashboard is interactive and citizens can download data from the featured measurements such as renewable energy contributions to the grid, energy storage capacity and carbon-free generation. Information regarding energy efficiency progress and carbon dioxide emissions are also available via the dashboard.

About the Virginia Clean Economy Act

The Virginia Clean Economy Act establishes a mandatory renewable portfolio standard to achieve 30 percent renewable energy by 2030, an energy efficiency resource standard and the path to a carbon-free electric grid by 2050. The bill also declares that 16,100 megawatts of solar and onshore wind, 5,200 megawatts of offshore wind, and 2,700 megawatts of energy storage are in the public interest.

About the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service

The University of Virginia's <u>Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service</u> serves communities across the Commonwealth of Virginia and beyond by combining decades of knowledge about government, communities, and the people of Virginia with contemporary and advanced research, analytical expertise, and focused training for high performance.

Take a look at the work behind the scenes in building this dashboard in this video.