

Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium Authority Board Meeting

Monday, September 15, 2014 | 10:00 a.m.

VCU East Engineering Hall | Room E2219 | Richmond, VA

Virginia Energy Plan - Nuclear Recommendations

Support nuclear energy generation, research, education and workforce development and recognize nuclear energy's important role in the Commonwealth's diverse electricity generation portfolio.

- Regulatory certainty is important given the long-lead decisions required for the continued safe and efficient operation of existing nuclear assets and the substantial capital commitments associated with constructing new nuclear units. Virginia's energy policy should view nuclear assets in light of their capacity to deliver reliability, availability and source diversity for a general portfolio that achieves emission reductions required by pending federal regulations.
- Recognize and support the Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium Authority efforts to make the Commonwealth a national and global leader in nuclear energy and serving as an interdisciplinary study, research, and information resource for the Commonwealth on nuclear energy issues.
- Leverage Virginia international corporate outreach and intergovernmental efforts to support the Virginia-based nuclear design, repair, and installation industries. Virginia is home to global leaders in the nuclear energy sector, such as AREVA, Babcock and Wilcox, Bechtel and Newport News Shipbuilding. In addition, dozens of other companies, located all across Virginia, provide services, supplies and support to nuclear facilities inside the Commonwealth and globally. The nuclear energy sector drives Virginia's economy in every region, creating high skilled jobs, supporting research and generating revenues at the state and local level.
- Virginia is home to two of only 31 nuclear engineering programs in the U.S. (VCU and Virginia Tech.) The Commonwealth should strengthen Virginia's existing nuclear science, engineering and research programs to provide the pipeline of highly-educated and highly-skilled workers necessary to continue creating high-paying jobs for Virginians and to sustain our nuclear industry in the long term.