



# VIRGINIA

## Businesses Know That Economic and Job Growth Starts with Policy

In lieu of federal energy policy, states are enacting policies that create jobs and attract private investment in the clean energy economy. State-level clean energy policies are as varied as the states themselves, but all have common goals—spurring economic and job growth while improving energy security and the environment. Federal policies that build upon the proven successes at the state and regional levels will help expand Virginia businesses and create opportunities in the clean energy economy across the United States.

**U.S.**   **Va.**



**RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY STANDARD (RES)**

An RES requires utilities to generate a certain percentage of power (based on electricity sales or generating capacity) from renewable sources such as wind, solar and geothermal.



**ENERGY EFFICIENCY RESOURCE STANDARD (EERS)**

An EERS reduces electricity and gas consumption by requiring utilities to achieve energy savings through supply- and/or demand-side efficiency measures. An EERS specifies reductions for energy use, peak demand or both.



**DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Direct loan programs provide low- or zero-interest financing for renewable energy.



**TAX CREDITS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Tax credits generally apply to commercial and industrial sectors, reducing the amount of annual taxes owed to the government. Generally, taxes are reduced by a specified percentage of a renewable energy project's value, based on investment or production.

Federal tax credits are not permanent and subject to regular reapproval by Congress



"In order to reduce America's dependence on foreign fossil fuels, we must reduce the permitting time for developers who build wind farms, solar farms and other forms of renewable energy generation sources from nature. America must invest heavily in upgrading our transmission infrastructure to become compatible with these intermittent sources of electricity. These energy sources would not need to be subsidized if we can eliminate the bureaucracy that makes them expensive. If we do not implement an energy plan for America, our future generation will have no future."

**Thomas H. Arrington III**  
Chief Operating Officer  
Atlantic Wind Energy  
Chesapeake, Va.



“It is time to focus on creating jobs that provide safe and efficient transportation to our citizens and power the U.S. with renewable energy and conservation technologies. Government should support existing local businesses and stimulate the growth of new U.S.-owned small businesses that will hire the unemployed in their area.”

**Dan Boyle**  
Senior Development Partner  
Central Virginia Wind Energy  
Gordonsville, Va.

“The necessity for legislation to reduce the impact on our climate is apparent; making it of utmost importance for our government leaders to step forward with powerful, progressive clean energy policies. We stand behind clean energy for a cleaner world and know first-hand of the public support backing these measures through the daily interactions with our customers.”

**Amelia Baker**  
Owner  
Green Alternatives  
Norfolk, Va.



"America was founded on freedom and independence. American energy independence starts on your own roof with solar hot water or solar electric and in your own backyard with a wind turbine."

**Richard Hahn**  
President  
SunRise Solar & Wind  
Norfolk, Va.



**PLEASE JOIN THESE VIRGINIANS AND THEIR BUSINESSES IN ASKING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ENACT A STRONG CLEAN ENERGY POLICY FRAMEWORK.**

[www.PewTrusts.org/CleanEnergy](http://www.PewTrusts.org/CleanEnergy)

- Enroll your business in our Clean Energy Business Network to receive updates on relevant policies and gain access to our list of resources designed to help you make the most of the growing clean energy economy.
- Join Pew’s advocates to receive occasional e-mails informing you of potential policies and how you can support them.



Repowering Jobs, Businesses and Investments Across America

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