

RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARD

Virginia

Policy type

Renewable Portfolio Standard

Form of the standard

Energy-based

% of renewable energy required

Targets

- **Interim:** Phase I Utilities (Appalachian Power): 14% by 2025, 30% by 2030, 65% by 2040; Phase II Utilities (Dominion Energy): 26% by 2025, 41% by 2030; coal phase-out by 12-31-24 for most coal units
- **Final:** Phase I Utilities: 100% renewable by 2050; Phase II Utilities: 100% by 2045; All Utilities: Retire all carbon emitting EGUs (except those fired with biomass) by December 31, 2045

Economy-wide requirement: N/A

Point of regulation: Retail sales (defined as total electric energy sold to retail customers in the Commonwealth service territory of a Phase I or Phase II Utility)

Regulated entities: Investor-owned utilities (Dominion Energy and Appalachian Power Company)

Percent of retail sales covered by RPS: 72%

Implementing agency: Virginia State Corporation Commission

Enforcement mechanisms: Deficiency payments of \$45 or \$75 for MWh shortfall (payment amount depends on resource type), increasing by 1% annually after 2021

Compliance flexibility and cost containment: If the cost of RECs to comply with the RPS exceeds \$45/MWh, then the deficiency payment of \$45 or \$75/MWh applies (payment amount depends on resource type). Utilities may petition the Commission for relief from retirement requirements for carbon emitting resources if the requirement would threaten the reliability or security of electric service to customers.

Carve-outs and incentives: Increases the limit from 5,000 MW to 16,100 MW on solar and onshore wind generation facilities that are declared to be in the public interest. Increases the limit from 16 MW to 3,000 MW of offshore wind generation facilities that are declared to be in the public interest.

Compliance tracking: [PJM-GATS](#)

Notable features: The RPS is mostly met by solar and wind resources; contributions from biogas, geothermal, hydropower, and biomass are more restricted. Nuclear power is not considered, by definition, a renewable resource under the RPS; however, the important role of existing nuclear in providing zero-emissions electricity is acknowledged because the renewable energy percentage targets are only applied to the non-nuclear load. Designates future wind, solar, and battery projects (up to a certain megawatt total) as being in the public interest, which reduces the utility's burden under the State Corporation Commission's review process.

Links to agency website and statutes/rules: [Va. Code § 56-585.5](#); [State Corporation Commission](#); [Retail Electricity Sales](#); [EPA's REC Tracking Systems](#)

Last updated December 2025

Eligible sources

Biogas

Distributed
Generation

Energy
Efficiency

Existing biomass

Geothermal

Hydropower

Solar

Waste-to-
Energy

Wind

Zero-emitting
technology
constructed
after July 1,
2030

See [Va. Code Ann. § 56-585.1\(C\)](#) for energy efficiency; [§ 56-585.5\(C\)](#) for distributed generation; [§ 56-585.5\(C\)-\(C\)\(1\)](#) and [§ 56-576](#) for solar and wind; and [§ 56-585.5\(C\)](#) and [§ 56-585.5\(A\)](#) for other eligible resources. Certain limits may apply.