



Commission on Electric Utility Regulation MEETING SUMMARY

December 4, 2025, 10:00 a.m. - 12:55 p.m.
General Assembly Building, Senate Room B

The Commission on Electric Utility Regulation (the Commission) met in Richmond with Senator Scott A. Surovell, Chair, presiding.¹ Materials presented at the meeting along with a full video recording are accessible through the [Commission's meetings webpage](#).

Appendix A provides a summary of all policy proposals and budget amendments which earned the recommendation of the Commission for the 2026 General Assembly.

Recommendations from Subcommittee 1 – Energy Affordability

Carrie Hearne, Executive Director, Commission on Electric Utility Regulation

Ms. Hearne provided a brief overview of draft legislation to increase the transparency on disconnections of electric utility residential customers. On a motion by Senator Deeds and seconded by Delegate Sullivan, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Ms. Hearne provided a brief overview of draft legislation to extend spending commitments by investor-owned utilities to fund customer assistance and energy efficiency programs. The Commission approved amendments adding language related to the strategic undergrounding of distribution lines and annual spending levels by the utilities. On a motion by Senator Deeds and seconded by Senator Lucas, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Recommendations from Subcommittee 2 – Advanced Energy Technologies

¹ **Members present in person:** Senator Scott A. Surovell (Commission Chair), Senator Mark D. Obenshain, Senator R. Creigh Deeds, Delegate Richard C. (Rip) Sullivan, Jr., Delegate Michael J. Webert, Cassidy Rasnick, Jesse Lynch, Meade Browder.

Members present virtually: Senator L. Louise Lucas, Delegate Candi Mundon King, Josephus Allmond.

Members absent: Speaker Don Scott, Delegate Terry G. Kilgore (Commission Vice Chair), Delegate Charniele L. Herring.

Carrie Hearne, Executive Director, Commission on Electric Utility Regulation

Ms. Hearne provided a brief overview of draft legislation to create a geothermal “carveout” within the renewable portfolio standard of Virginia. On a motion by Senator Deeds and seconded by Delegate Sullivan, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

The Commission also endorsed a budget request for advancing nuclear energy workforce and innovation (see supplemental materials from the Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium and Authority).

Recommendations from Subcommittee 3 – Solar and Storage Deployment

Carrie Hearne, Executive Director, Commission on Electric Utility Regulation

Ms. Hearne provided an overview of a bill relating to funding allocations for the Virginia Brownfield and Coal Mine Renewable Energy Grant Fund patroned by Delegate Webert in the 2025 General Assembly session (HB2635). On a motion by Delegate Webert and seconded by Delegate Sullivan, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation and the associated budget request for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Ms. Hearne gave a brief overview of a bill patroned by Delegate Herring in the 2025 General Assembly session (HB2113), relating to the establishment of a solar interconnection grant fund. On a motion by Delegate Sullivan and seconded by Senator Deeds, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation and the associated budget request for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Senator Surovell summarized draft legislation that would facilitate the use of small portable systems (“balcony solar”). The Commission approved amendments adding language related to the geographic placement of portable solar systems. On a motion by Senator Deeds and seconded by Delegate Sullivan, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Ms. Hearne provided a summary of the energy storage policy recommendation and related staff recommendations compared to HB2537 and SB1394, patroned by Delegate Sullivan and Senator Bagby, respectively, during the 2025 General Assembly. On a motion by Delegate Sullivan and seconded by Senator Deeds, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Ms. Hearne gave an overview of draft legislation to establish the Virginia Clean Energy Research Hub and Support Center within Virginia’s public higher education institutions. The Commission approved amendments adding language related to ensuring the transparency of funding sources. On a motion by Senator Deeds and seconded by Delegate Sullivan, the

Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Ms. Hearne gave a brief summary of draft legislation that would establish solar siting standards, based on legislation from the 2025 General Assembly. She also described additional provisions recommended for 2026. On a motion by Delegate Mundon King and seconded by Delegate Sullivan, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Recommendations from Subcommittee 4 – Carryover Policy Recommendations

Carrie Hearne, Executive Director, Commission on Electric Utility Regulation

Ms. Hearne provided a brief overview of draft legislation that would broaden the scope of the CEUR to include monitoring the State Corporation Commission’s (SCC) regulation of natural gas utilities and merging the CEUR with the Virginia Coal and Energy Commission. On a motion by Senator Deeds and seconded by Senator Lucas, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Ms. Hearne provided a brief overview of draft legislation that would create an SCC-led work group to design an effective regulatory framework for improving electric utility performance. On a motion by Delegate Sullivan and seconded by Senator Deeds, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Ms. Hearne gave an overview of draft legislation relating to the Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) process. On a motion by Senator Deeds and seconded by Senator Lucas, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Ms. Hearne summarized draft legislation that would allow electric utilities to delay interconnection service to large-load customers due to insufficient available generation capacity. On a motion by Senator Deeds and seconded by Delegate Webert, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Ms. Hearne gave an overview of draft legislation to establish an SCC-led workgroup on load flexibility for large-load users. On a motion by Senator Deeds and seconded by Delegate Sullivan, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

Continuation of Recommendations from Subcommittee 3 – Solar and Storage Deployment

Carrie Hearne, Executive Director, Commission on Electric Utility Regulation

Ms. Hearne provided an overview of the policy recommendation to expand the distributed generation “carveout” within the renewable portfolio standard. She discussed new recommendations relating to HB1883 and SB1040, as patroned by Delegate Callsen and Senator VanValkenburg, respectively, in the 2025 General Assembly session. On a motion by Senator Deeds and seconded by Delegate Sullivan, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

At the request of Delegate Sullivan, the Commission deferred action on draft legislation to expand the capacity of Dominion’s shared solar program.

Ms. Hearne summarized draft legislation related to the shared solar program in Appalachian Power Company’s service territory, which would establish a new net crediting functionality. On a motion by Delegate Sullivan and seconded by Senator Deeds, the Commission voted to recommend the legislation for consideration by the 2026 General Assembly.

CEUR Budget Request

Carrie Hearne, Executive Director, Commission on Electric Utility Regulation

On a motion by Delegate Sullivan and seconded by Senator Deeds, the Commission voted to endorse a budget request for the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation to expand its capacity.

Public Comment Period

The Commission received public comments from several individuals throughout the meeting. The Commission also received public comments via email.

For more information, see the [Commission's website](#) or contact Commission staff:

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Appendix A: 2025 – 2026 Policy Recommendations of the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation

CEUR Policy #	Bill Name	Bill Draft #	Edits to Capture in Legislative Draft per Commission Discussion
1	Utility Disconnections Dashboard	26101400D	no additional changes
2	Utility energy assistance - IOU Spending Commitments (and Strategic Undergrounding)	26101933D	<p>Line 11: Strike "X million" and replace with, "\$1 million and no greater than \$1.5 million"</p> <p>Line 12: Strike "Y" and replace with "\$13 million and no greater than \$17 million"</p> <p>Line 21: insert "2. That a Phase II Utility, as defined in subdivision A 1 of § 56-585.1 (https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/56-585.1/) of the Code of Virginia, may recover costs associated with any petition for cost recovery pursuant to clause (iv) of subdivision A 6 of § 56-585.1 (https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/56-585.1/) of the Code of Virginia that has been previously approved by or is pending with the State Corporation Commission as of December 31, 2038, notwithstanding any time limitation on such cost recovery contained in such subdivision."</p>
3	Geothermal Carveout in RPS (GREC)	Working off SB893 (Surovell)	no additional changes
4	Brownfields Fund	Working off HB2635 from 2025 (Webert)	no additional changes
5	Solar Interconnection Fund	Working off HB2113 from 2025 (Herring)	no additional changes
6	Balcony Solar	26102091D	Line 68: strike "property" and replace with "structure"

CEUR Policy #	Bill Name	Bill Draft #	Edits to Capture in Legislative Draft per Commission Discussion
7	Energy Storage	26101262D	no additional changes
8	Virginia Clean Energy Research Hub and Support Center	26102694D	Line 55: replace "B" with "C" (section sequencing) Line 66, add new section "D" (?) "The Center shall provide an annual report summarizing research activities and detailing each source and specific amounts of funding to the Commission on Electric Utility Regulation on or before November 1 of each year."
9	Siting Standards	26103211D	no additional changes
10	CEUR Scope & Name Change	26104323D	no additional changes
11	SCC PBR Workgroup	26101693D	captures version from CEUR staff 12-3-25, 5:09pm
12	IRP Reform	26103104D	no additional changes
13	Utility Interconnection Delays	26101936D	no additional changes
14	SCC Workgroup, Load Flexibility	26102101D	no additional changes
15	DG Carveout in RPS	26100687D	Strike lines 537 - 541 (enactment clause on strategic undergrounding pilot)
16	Shared Solar - APCo	26101388D	no additional changes

Budget Amendment Endorsements from 12/4/2025 Commission Meeting:

- (1) The Brownfields Fund, CEUR Policy Recommendation #4, has an affiliated budget request of \$20M (see 2025 budget amendment from Delegate Webert).
- (2) The Solar Interconnection Fund, CEUR Policy Recommendation #5, has an affiliated budget request of \$2M (see 2025 budget from Delegate Herring).
- (3) The University Consortium, Research and Support Center, CEUR Policy Recommendation #8, has an affiliated budget request of \$4M (see 2025 budget amendment from Senator Deeds).
- (4) The CEUR endorsed an \$8M budget request for advancing nuclear energy workforce and innovation (see supplemental materials from the Virginia Nuclear Energy Consortium and Authority).
- (5) The CEUR is seeking an annual appropriation of \$1.75M starting in FY27 (effective July 1, 2026).