



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — JUNE 25, 2026

Virginia Energy Seeks Input on Solar Interconnection Grant Program for Public Bodies

Request for Information responses due July 15, 2026

RICHMOND, VA — The Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy) has issued a [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) to gather input from organizations with experience interconnecting solar facilities located on property owned by public bodies in Virginia, as the agency develops a new Solar Interconnection Grant Program established by 2026 legislation. The program is intended to help offset costs associated with connecting solar facilities to the electric grid for eligible public bodies, such as school districts and local governments.

The Solar Interconnection Grant Program was created under HB683/SB659 and will be administered by Virginia Energy's Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, commonly known as the State Energy Office. Under the law, priority must be given to solar facilities located on previously developed project sites, and the program is scheduled to expire on July 1, 2027.

Virginia Energy is seeking feedback to help shape program design, eligibility criteria, project readiness standards, and priorities for awarding grants. Specific topics include which interconnection costs should be eligible, whether funding limits or matching requirements should apply, how project readiness should be evaluated, and how the program can support projects that might otherwise be delayed, downsized, or canceled because of high interconnection costs.

If funded, Virginia Energy anticipates a competitive grant opportunity that would support interconnection-related costs such as distribution upgrades, protection equipment, direct transfer trip requirements, and related engineering and study costs. The program's July 1, 2027, expiration means projects would need to move quickly, with funds allocated and deployed before

that date. Responses to the RFI will inform Virginia Energy's planning, program design, and any future grant solicitation, pending budget availability.

The RFI is for information and planning purposes only and does not constitute a solicitation, a commitment to issue a Request for Proposals, or an obligation to contract for services.

Responses must be submitted electronically via [eVA](#) no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on July 15, 2026.

Questions may be directed to Jennifer Dillemoth at jennifer.dillemoth@energy.virginia.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on July 6, 2026, with the subject line: "Solar Interconnection Question – [Organization Name]." Virginia Energy will post consolidated Q&A responses on the [eVA page](#) where the RFI is posted.

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