



# VIRGINIA CLEAN ENERGY SUMMIT

**September 17, 2019 – The Greater Richmond Convention Center**

[www.vacleanenergysummit.org](http://www.vacleanenergysummit.org)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Governor Ralph Northam to Serve as Keynote Speaker at the Inaugural Virginia Clean Energy Summit**

**Richmond, VA** – On September 17<sup>th</sup> in Richmond, the inaugural Virginia Clean Energy Summit will focus on the transformation now occurring in Virginia’s energy system. Governor Ralph Northam, Natural Resources Secretary Matthew Strickler, members of the General Assembly, and dozens of energy experts will speak regarding clean energy technologies, policies, and business strategies. The event is designed to highlight business opportunities, encourage industry collaboration, and promote resilient solutions throughout the Commonwealth.

“At Virginia Advanced Energy Economy (VA-AEE), we represent a cross-section of this industry, from energy efficiency providers to solar developers to electric vehicle manufacturers,” said VA-AEE Executive Director Harry Godfrey, one of the Summit co-hosts. “A reliable, affordable, and clean advanced energy future depends upon all of these technologies, working together. We’re pleased to co-host this summit which is focused on such synergies and opportunities.”

The day’s schedule includes plenary panels about the changes coming to Virginia’s electricity grid and about Virginia clean energy policy. Fourteen breakout sessions will cover timely issues such as building energy codes, solar farms, electricity rate design, utility energy efficiency programs, electric vehicles, wind power in Virginia, innovative finance strategies, local government initiatives, and more. SunEdison cofounder and noted clean energy entrepreneur Claire Broido Johnson will provide the luncheon keynote.

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The Summit also will serve as the annual forum of the Mid-Atlantic PACE Alliance, with two afternoon breakout sessions detailing how Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) is a powerful financing tool for stimulating clean energy investments.

“A resilient society will necessarily be powered by clean energy sources,” stated co-host Annette Osso, Director of Resilient Virginia. “Renewable energy production plus storage are essential components of microgrids and disaster-ready buildings. Communities need smarter, distributed energy systems for increased energy security as they prepare for an uncertain future.”

Attendees will include representatives from businesses, utilities, state and local governments, academia, NGOs, and the public. Interested attendees can view the agenda and register on the Summit’s website: [www.vacleanenergysummit.org](http://www.vacleanenergysummit.org).

The conference is hosted by Maryland-DC-Delaware-Virginia Solar Energy Industries Association (MDV-SEIA), Resilient Virginia, Virginia Advanced Energy Economy (VA-AEE), the Virginia Energy Efficiency Council (VAEEC), and the Virginia Renewable Energy Alliance (VA-REA).

Additionally, James Madison University’s Office for the Advancement of Sustainable Energy, Richmond-based non-profit Viridiant, and the Division of Energy at Virginia’s Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (DMME) are involved in supporting roles.

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