

Senator Barbara Favola and Delegate David Reid React to Governor's 2022 Energy Plan

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On October 3rd, Governor Glenn Youngkin released his 2022 Virginia Energy Plan. Senator Barbara Favola and Delegate David Reid offer this statement in response. Senator Favola and Delegate Reid were patrons of [the legislation](#) that recently updated the Commonwealth Clean Energy Policies in the Code of Virginia.

We are proud of the work the Virginia General Assembly accomplished over the past two years to pass historic and comprehensive legislation that protects our communities from climate change while also creating good-paying, green jobs across the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth Clean Energy Policies, for example, require a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors of our economy in order to reach net zero emissions by 2045. “These policies encourage transitions to multiple renewable energy sources, including wind and solar, as opposed to Governor Youngkin’s plan that primarily relies on natural gas and nuclear energy,” said Senator Favola. “This approach is not enough to get Virginia to our 2045 net zero carbon emissions goal. Virginia also needs to advance emerging technologies as we transition to a clean electric grid, not retreat on a comprehensive approach.”

“Governor Youngkin is attempting to undermine the Virginia Clean Economy Act at the very time when climate-related flooding is affecting all parts of the Commonwealth. Newport News and Hampton recently declared a State of Emergency due to the unprecedented flooding associated with Hurricane Ian, Norfolk routinely has 'sunny-day' flooding, and Buchanan and Tazewell counties are dealing with major flooding issues,” commented Del. David Reid.

We encourage Governor Youngkin to recognize the progress that has been made in addressing climate change, depoliticize his rhetoric, demonstrate that he can be trusted, and work in a bipartisan manner to build upon the work and successes of the Governors and General Assemblies who preceded him.