WITH KEY POLICY ACTIONS, VIRGINIA HOUSEHOLDS CAN **SAVE $712** PER YEAR ON ENERGY COSTS

Soaring data center power demand is starting to strain energy supplies and drive up costs for Virginia households and businesses. High utility profit margins and the Trump administration's repeal of clean energy tax credits for affordable, faster-to-build sources like wind, solar, and battery storage will only make things worse.

PJM Interconnection—which manages the nation's largest grid covering 67 million people across Virginia and 12 other states—has stalled around two thousand new, low-cost clean power projects in its clogged interconnection queue. These years-long delays, averaging five years per project, have forced Virginia to rely on costly, aging fossil plants and to fall behind on meeting increasing demand with clean energy.

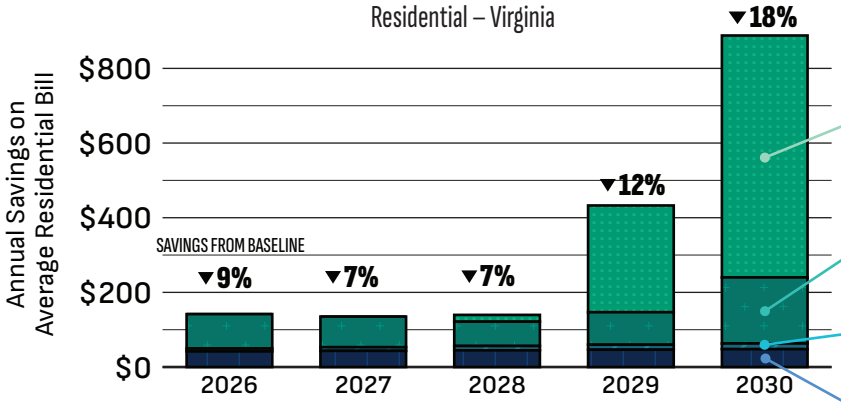
State policy actions could help save the average Virginia household **$712 per year** by 2030 (an 18 percent reduction), cutting total statewide energy costs by **$16.6 billion** by 2030 compared with the status quo, according to a new report from Synapse Energy Economics.

Read the full, detailed report at evrgn.co/VAreport

Meanwhile, Dominion Energy has asked state regulators to approve a roughly 15 percent bill increase—about $21 per month for the average household—much of which is driven by surging electricity demand from Virginia's rapidly expanding data center industry. Unchecked, this trend will only get worse.

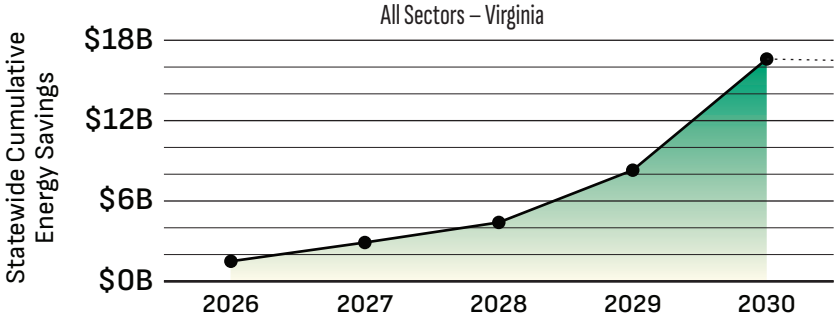
Savings on the Average Power Bill

Residential – Virginia



Cumulative Statewide Savings

All Sectors – Virginia



Getting clean energy projects connected to the grid
could save **$649**/household/year in 2030

Data centers supplying their own affordable, clean energy
could save **$177**/household/year in 2030

Adopting smart EV charging programs
could save **$15** /household/year in 2030

Reining in utility profit margins
could save **$48**/household/year in 2030

$16.6 billion saved
in statewide energy costs across all sectors by 2030

Note: The combined savings from all policy levers are lower than the sum of the individual levers, to account for overlapping impacts.

Data: "Policy Interventions to Address Rising Electricity Costs in Virginia." Synapse Energy Economics Inc., December 4, 2025

HOW VIRGINIA CAN UNLOCK **$16.6 BILLION IN SAVINGS**

In the wake of Governor-elect Spanberger's decisive victory amid Virginia's cost-of-living crisis, a new report outlines some policy levers that would enable her and other Virginia leaders to lower energy costs:

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Alleviate widespread denials of appropriately sited clean energy

- Remove siting and permitting barriers delaying clean energy projects and expand rapidly deployable demand-side resources like energy efficiency, demand response, and distributed solar + storage.

Press PJM for faster interconnection reforms

- Continue to push PJM to accelerate queue reform and clear the backlog of clean power that could power Virginia.

Require data centers to bring their own clean power

- Ensure that large data centers—responsible for more than doubling Virginia's projected demand growth in the next decade—build or contract their own clean generation and storage resources to match their enormous new demand on the grid.

Right-size utility returns

- Reevaluate the guaranteed profit earned by Dominion Energy to ensure it reflects actual investment risk.
- A Return on Equity (ROE) level set higher than actual risk incentivizes utilities to spend more than necessary to provide safe and reliable service—and costs customers billions.

Adopt managed EV charging and building electrification programs

- Require widespread smart-charging rates and electrification incentives that shift power use to off-peak hours—reducing system strain and lowering bills for all Virginians.

Set predictable investment signals to offset federal volatility

- Uphold and implement clean energy commitments under the Virginia Clean Economy Act, which would maintain consistent, cheap clean energy procurement schedules and long-term targets.

Expand complementary affordability measures

- Strengthen energy efficiency, distributed-generation, and low-income affordability programs to reduce peak demand and protect vulnerable households.
- Utilize revenues earned through Virginia's expedited re-entry into the multi-state Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).