OPPOSE SB1125/HB2130

Topic: Renewable energy portfolio standard requirements; State Corporation Commission authority; report.
Bill Patron: Senator Hackworth, Delegate Wilt

Overview:

These bills represent a clear attempt to entrench fossil fuel resources based on spurious claims about potential threats to grid reliability as a result of the energy transition. The language further empowers utilities to petition for relief from fossil fuel generator retirement requirements and forces utilities to submit annual reports about the impact of retirements on grid reliability. This creates perennial uncertainty about the makeup of the generation mix, making it impossible for regulators and utilities to anticipate future energy needs. These bills compromise our clean energy goals.

Reasons to oppose:

- Strengthens utilities’ ability to employ fossil fuel generators beyond anticipated retirement dates.
- Forces constant re-litigation about whether given generators should remain online, frustrating essential energy planning processes.
- Advances false narrative about unreliability of clean energy resources.

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This position was taken by Virginia Conservation Network (VCN)’s Legislative Committee and Board of Directors and is supported by Virginia’s conservation community. For a complete list of VCN positions, visit www.vcnva.org/bill-tracker. VCN is committed to building a powerful, diverse, and highly-coordinated conservation movement focused on protecting our Commonwealth’s natural resources today and for tomorrow.