



# CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

*By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution of Virginia in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:*

## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY**

**WHEREAS**, energy efficiency is the practice of getting the same or better performance using less energy – while cutting utility bills for residential, business, and industrial customers; and

**WHEREAS**, reliable, affordable energy is vital to our economic prosperity and energy efficiency and is the most productive and cost-effective way to meet our energy needs; and

**WHEREAS**, smarter energy use and energy conservation reduces the amount of electricity we need to power our lives, and helps avoid power plant emissions that can harm our health, pollute the air, and warm our climate; and

**WHEREAS**, the Energy Efficiency and Performance Contracting Support program was established at the Virginia Department of Energy in 2001 and the first projects completed in 2002; and

**WHEREAS**, this program has assisted 166 public bodies, 50 state agencies, and 55 higher education systems to improve energy efficiency at their facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia Energy worked with Energy Service Companies and public facilities to achieve an average project value of \$3.7 million in energy offsets; and

**WHEREAS**, in June 2021, Virginia reached a cumulative total of \$1,011,581,170 in energy savings through the Energy Savings Performance Contracting program at Virginia Energy; and

**WHEREAS**, Virginia became only the second state in the nation to achieve that level of offset energy costs; and

**WHEREAS**, cutting energy waste saves U.S. consumers billions of dollars on their utility bills annually, which amounts to upwards of \$500 per household from appliance efficiency standards alone; and

**WHEREAS**, implementing energy efficiency and other clean energy policies and programs helps boost economic opportunities and job creation while continuing to move toward a sustainable future; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 2.2 million Americans work in the energy efficiency sector in local, good-paying, clean energy jobs that cannot be outsourced and increasing efficiency will create more jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, for localities and states tackling harmful pollution, energy efficiency can help them meet their climate goals; and

**WHEREAS**, residents of Virginia can continue to contribute towards energy efficiency efforts by learning about and participating in Virginia's clean energy programs, such as the Commonwealth Energy Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, together, the Commonwealth of Virginia can continue to contribute our clean energy future by learning more about energy efficiency and practicing smarter energy use in our daily lives;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ralph S. Northam, do hereby recognize October 6, 2021, as **ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY** in the **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all citizens.



  
Governor

  
Secretary of the Commonwealth