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Virginia to Expand Energy Grid Reliability and Innovation through New U.S. Department of Energy GRIP Award

Richmond –With a new competitive award from the U.S. Department of Energy's *Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships* (GRIP) program, Virginia is strengthening its leadership in energy innovation. The award will be for over \$85 million and include a private cost share investment of \$105 million.

Funds from the grant will add to the commonwealth's momentum in enhancing energy reliability, lower costs and support a cleaner, more resilient grid, positioning Virginia as a national model for sustainable energy advancements.

"When it comes to data-driven energy solutions, Virginia is leading the way," **said Virginia Energy Director Glenn Davis**. "Governor Youngkin's commitment to an all-of-the-above approach through aggressive innovation and grid enhancements is a winning path forward for the Commonwealth and is an example on how Virginia is addressing unprecedented energy growth to remain the top state in the nation for business."

Virginia Energy applied for the funding as the lead of a multi-state coalition to develop replicable, innovative energy solutions at data centers and industrial complexes with large energy demands. The funding will support the deployment of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at the Iron Mountain Data Center in Prince William County, improving resilience for the center and helping to offset local demand. Additionally, Virginia will oversee the deployment of a microgrid that includes a wind turbine, solar panels and BESS technologies at the Grace Complex in South Carolina.

"This is the latest example of Virginia continuing to lead in energy innovation and grid resilience, while strengthening our economic engine and national security leadership," **commented Virginia Secretary of Commerce and Trade Caren Merrick**. "Leading this coalition will provide the Commonwealth with the experience to replicate this technology throughout Virginia."

For more information about Virginia's energy future, explore the [Virginia Energy Plan](#).



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