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Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell signs 8 clean energy bills

Washington Business Journal - by Jeff Clabaugh

Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2011, 1:41pm EDT

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Virginia Gov. **Bob McDonnell** signed a total of eight bills designed to promote clean and renewable energy into law Wednesday.

At the signing ceremony at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Business, McDonnell said the commonwealth should become the energy capital of the east coast.

"To achieve this goal, Virginia must take an "all of the above" approach to developing wind, solar, nuclear, oil, natural gas, coal and biomass energy sources that can create new jobs in the commonwealth while moving Virginia and the nation closer to energy independence," he said.

"These pieces of legislation will foster and support expansion of our domestic power generation, conservation, efficiency and resources."

Bills signed include one that directs the State Corporation Commission to consider approval of solar generation facilities built and operated by utilities and special pricing for the power they generate, to increase the amount of energy a home or business can generate with its own alternative power systems, and to provide financial incentives to companies that manufacture or assemble renewable or nuclear energy products.

Other bills add renewable energy projects to those which the Virginia Resources Authority may finance, and extend the Clean Fuel Vehicle Job Creation Tax Credit to 2014.

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