

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Department of Energy to identify the volume and number of waste coal piles.*

3 [H 657]

4 Approved

5 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

6 **1.** § 1. *The Department of Energy (the Department), in cooperation with the public institutions of higher*
7 *education serving the coalfield region of the Commonwealth, shall identify the approximate volume and*
8 *number of waste coal piles present in the coalfield region of the Commonwealth and options for*
9 *cleaning up such waste coal piles, including the use of waste coal in generation of electricity. The*
10 *Department shall also collaborate with other states in which waste coal piles are located that are*
11 *members of the Appalachian Regional Commission to identify best practices for cleaning up waste coal*
12 *piles. The Department shall report its findings and any recommendations to the Chairmen of the Senate*
13 *Committee on Commerce and Labor, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural*
14 *Resources, the House Committee on Commerce and Energy, and the House Committee on Agriculture,*
15 *Chesapeake and Natural Resources by December 1, 2022. For purposes of this act, "waste coal" means*
16 *usable material that is a by-product of previous coal processing operations.*

17 § 2. *The Department of Environmental Quality shall convene a working group, including, as*
18 *appropriate, representatives from the Department of Energy, the Virginia Department of Transportation's*
19 *Transportation Research Council, and other stakeholders, to evaluate the opportunities for the*
20 *development of public infrastructure projects at current or proposed sites for the storage of coal ash in*
21 *the Commonwealth. The working group shall report its findings and any recommendations to the*
22 *Chairmen of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor, the Senate Committee on Agriculture,*
23 *Conservation and Natural Resources, the Senate Committee on Transportation, the House Committee on*
24 *Commerce and Energy, the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources, and*
25 *the House Committee on Transportation by December 1, 2022.*

ENROLLED

HB657ER