



DIVISIONS  
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GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES  
MINED LAND RECLAMATION  
MINERAL MINING  
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ADMINISTRATION

# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

## *Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy*

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 24, 2021

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## **Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy seeking Public Comment for Reenergize Southwest Virginia**

**Big Stone Gap, VA** – The Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) is holding a public listening session to receive comments from residents on ways to better diversify the economy of southwest Virginia. The agency is calling the initiative Reenergize Southwest Virginia.

### **What: Reenergize Southwest Virginia Listening Session**

**When: June 8, 2021 6:00 p.m.**

**Where: Goodloe Center, Mountain Empire Community College, Big Stone Gap**

### **Join Virtually:**

<https://covaconf.webex.com/covaconf/onstage/g.php?MTID=e81d7b6a6ad8bd25df7d3b0e3d0f54283>

DMME will receive comments through a variety of formats.

- Residents may speak at the in-person meetings
- Via the chat box through WebEx
- [reenergizeswva@dmme.virginia.gov](mailto:reenergizeswva@dmme.virginia.gov)
- [Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website](#)

- Comments can be mailed to:

ATTN: Reenergize SWVA  
Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy  
3405 Mountain Empire Road  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219.

Comments will be accepted through September 30, 2021. Two additional public listening sessions will be announced later.

In April 2021, Governor Northam signed legislation that repealed the Coal Employment and Production Incentive Tax Credit and the Coalfield Employment Enhancement Tax Credit. The legislation also directed DMME to lead a workgroup and provide a report to the General Assembly as to how the Commonwealth can provide economic transition support to the coalfield region. Public comment gathered from these meetings will be used in the final report.

Those needing additional information should please contact:

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