

## How to Write a Letter/Email to your Legislator:

1. **Find out who your legislator is, and their contact information.**
  - a. Search your address on this website. <https://whosmy.viriniageneralassembly.gov/>
2. **General Rules for Letters to Legislators**
  - a. Be short and concise. Anything longer than three paragraphs will likely not be read.
  - b. Bullet points are GREAT.
  - c. Make it personal. How does the Green New Deal VA affect their district?
  - d. Be clear about your ask. Directly ask “Will you support the GNDVA?”

## TALKING POINTS:

- **Job Creation:**
  - The GND will create thousands of jobs in the clean energy sector in Virginia. The Advanced Energy Economy reports there are already 97k+ jobs in Virginia, and the expansion of clean energy will only create tens of thousands more.
- **Just Transition:**
  - The GND is about more than creating 100% renewables. It's about transitioning our Commonwealth while ensuring no communities get left behind. During this transition, we will have an opportunity to ensure we implement policies that require strong enforcement of labor, workplace safety, wage standards, and the right to unionize.
- **New Sense of Urgency Issued by Trump Admin:**
  - In 2018, the Trump Admin. released a report stating, we must act now to prevent the impending economic and environmental crisis due to climate change. Virginia must lead the way forward, and present a bold vision for the future that benefits all. We can shape what the future of clean energy looks like, while also guiding other states making the move to clean energy.
- **Eastern Shore:**
  - The Center for Climate Integrity report estimated that rising sea levels due to climate change will cost Virginia 31 billion dollars if we do not act now. It's not just coastal cities like Virginia Beach and Hampton. Virginia's Eastern Shore and Northern Neck of the Chesapeake Bay are listed among the top ten counties that will incur billions of dollars to safeguard businesses, homes and roads.
- **Farming/Rural:**
  - A very negative picture is being concocted, intended to ensure that farmers and other rural people oppose a GND. In fact, if the GND is properly conceived and designed – as a ‘bottom up’ economic development and ecological restoration strategy – it will strengthen farmers, forest and other land-based businesses and create a range of new and better economic opportunities in rural communities. Specifically, it would Invest in local food and sustainable farming infrastructure, Expand research and technical support for sustainable land management, Invest in and support of clean energy generation on farms and other rural lands, and so much more.
- **Social Justice:**
  - Marginalized communities will be disproportionately affected by the catastrophes brought on by the consequences of climate change. The climate crisis doesn't discriminate, but our resources and culture do.
  - A phaseout of fossil fuels is outlined in the Green New Deal. The goals of the Green New Deal are to not only have a steady transition to renewable energy, but to ensure the right to clean air and water for every American, and it makes certain that no community will be exploited or left behind. If Green New Deal legislation is passed in Virginia, then it would bring in tens of thousands of jobs to the commonwealth. These new jobs, which will reach every corner of the state, will create a diverse and even playing field. In addition to its promise of job training, a diversified workforce, and clean air and water for every Virginian, a statewide Green New Deal offers not only a solution to climate change, but a social revolution.