

**From:** [Robert James](#)  
**To:** [Statements](#)  
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I oppose the rate hike that Duke Energy has requested for two reasons. The first is that the rate increase does not involve the investment in clean renewable energy. Climate change is not a hoax and I would support investing energy that addresses the problem.

Second, who should pay for Duke Energy's mistakes for its inadequate disposal of waste from its coal-fired power plants? Ratepayers or investors? Unless the government steps it will be one of those two. It seems much fairer for this to be an obligation of the company and its investors. For decades they have reaped windfall profits because they didn't invest in proper waste disposal. Sure that might have meant smaller bonuses and dividends but, if done in a timely manner, it would have cost much less than the problems that they are trying to shift to their customers.

Robert James

Sent from my iPhone