From:	Beth Pape
To:	Statements
Subject:	Regarding Docket Number E-2 Sub 1219
Date:	Sunday, June 28, 2020 8:58:36 AM

Dear Commissioners,

A recent cover of Fortune Magazine and articles in other business magazines have discussed the folly of investing in coal, natural gas and oil. And yet, the so-called business people of Duke Energy continue to do just that. It is one thing to squeeze as much as possible from an old investment that is causing harm, but idiotic management to build a new one.

Climate change is no longer the prediction of some whacky environmentalists: the temperature last week was over 100 degrees above the Arctic Circle. And forest fires are burning, not just in California every year, but across Siberia and all over the Amazon. Dust from the Sahara is clogging the air over North Carolina as I write this. We are in trouble and you hold part of the answer in your hands.

Duke needs to be dis-incentivized from investing in more natural gas plants and begin a healthy migration to renewable energy.

It is long-past time to shut down all coal-powered plants. They have served their purpose, but coal will never be as clean as renewables, nor as safe for the people who provide the power or live near the plants. Duke needs to close its coal-powered plants down.

And, in no way should someone who is punished for bad behavior expect their victims to pay for the clean up. Duke does not deserve a rate hike to cover its costs for cleaning up its coal ash mess due to a court order. In defiance of the scientists and other experts who warned for years of the dangers of coal ash, Duke Energy continued disposing of its toxic coal ash in reckless ways just to make shareholders a few more dollars in profit. The customers would not have benefited from any gain; they should not have to pay for their loss.

Duke management took a risk. The gambit failed. In no way should the ratepayer bear their failure.

This is your opportunity to affect the future of North Carolina at a time when the economy is dissolving rapidly. To ask the ratepayers for a 17% increase when other companies are extending concessions like "no interest" or "no payments until 2021," is just cruel. To sign off on this as a commissioner, when the power company has been found guilty of criminal behavior, extends beyond irresponsible and into immoral.

Thank you for your attention.

Elizabeth C Pape

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Put one foot in front of the other and walk on!