From: robertrwells@earthlink.net

Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 3:24 PM

To: Statements

Cc: robertrwells@earthlink.net; twells@tripleeaglepump.com; mciverwells@gmail.com;

jdurr@earthlink.net

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

An Agreement is an Agreement ... A Deal is a Deal ... A Commitment is a Commitment ... December 01, 2020

Do not change the commitments made in the past for transitioning to cleaner energy with Duke Energy.

If the public staff of the NC Utilities Commission wants an additional solar installation in the eastern part of the state, then do an additional project with new commitments.

The Sun has always provided the energy for the survival of our planet Earth. It is now up to us to capture the Sun's energy in the cleanest way possible. Solar energy with battery storage for households, communities, cities, counties, and states, will be the winner of renewal energy for this country... and ultimately save our planet Earth as the USA sets the example for the World with clean, renewable energy.

From: Maggie O'Neill <oneill.maggie9@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 2:21 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Hello,

I am writing as your constituent to ask you to hold Duke Energy to its commitment to build a 5 megawatt solar project in Woodfin.

The Buncombe County solar installation plan is essential for advancing our City/County goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2042.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter!

Best wishes, Maggie O'Neill

Maggie Moon O'Neill 503 Azalea Ave. Black Mountain, NC 28711

804-339-1712 oneill.maggie9@gmail.com

From: Julia Hartman < jhartman51@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 2:02 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

I live in Buncombe County and, until the pandemic, regularly drove past the old Buncombe County landfill; I have been eagerly anticipating seeing a solar installation there. I hope you will help this happen per your acknowledgement of the agreement in approving Duke's Carolinas Modernization Project. Duke's retiring of the Lake Julian coal power plant and agreement to build 15 megawatts of new solar energy in our community was a positive step toward clean energy.

In response to Duke's plan to build a solar project on the retired landfill, which is not suited to other development, in Woodfin, Buncombe County issued a request for proposals. This was won by Duke with a plan to build and maintain the solar installation on the landfill, and Buncombe County has waived the lease on the land for this project. However, the public staff of the NC Utilities Commission is now recommending that the solar installations be built in the eastern part of the state, where larger projects are more feasible.

We need solar here! The project will benefit our community with new solar jobs and reduced carbon emissions and is needed to advance our City/County goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2042.

Public commissions like yours should not ignore the commitments made to our community to reduce local generation with fossil fuels. When the Modernization Plan was approved, **all** parties - the Commission, Duke and our Community - understood that this local solar installation was essential. To reverse course five years later is a betrayal.

Respectfully, Julia Hartman

Julia Hartman

Follow my blog at <u>frenchbroadhollow.com</u>

From: Eileen Zilewicz <psletc@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 1:34 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Your job is to help the people of NC, not Duke! You must hold them to their commitment. They are responsible for the problem!

Eileen Zilewicz Biltmore Forest

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

From: Jane Yokoyama <janey2some@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 12:57 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

I am writing in support of the solar project that was agreed upon in 2015 by my community, Duke Power and the NC Utilities Commission. This project will reduce local generation of fossil fuels, create jobs, and help us reach the City of Asheville/Buncombe County's goal of 100% renewable energy by 2042.

The installation is slated to be built on a retired landfill in Woodfin. This landfill is not suited for other uses and Buncombe County has waived the lease on this land for the project.

Please honor your commitment to our community. It is a win-win situation for our area. Failure to do so would be an injustice to the area, especially when this project was already approved.

I try to reduce my carbon footprint (green built home, solar panels on the roof, hybrid car, and other small steps). As the Commission please do your part to help our community.

Sincerely, Jane Yokoyama

From: Grace Curry < graceanncurry 10@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 12:53 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub1257

Dear Commissioners,

I request that you approve the solar project at the Buncombe County retired landfill. This project is a significant component of my community's notable goal of reaching 100% renewable energy within the next 20 years.

Your Commission gave its approval five years ago to Duke's Western Carolina Modernization Project which included Duke's solar project in our community.

Please honor your commitment.

Best regards, Grace Curry 59 Edgemont Rd Asheville, NC 28801

From: Eric Campbell

Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 12:42 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Statement of Position Submitted by Eric Campbell

Statement of Position Submitted

Name

Eric Campbell

Email

campbelleric4141@gmail.com

Docket

Unknown

Message

To Whom It May Concern: Who can help me with information about telecommunications construction on my property? I don't know if it is ATT or Google, but for over a month an unfinished project on my property is getting troublesome. I have had not notice of the project and the project has exposed wires all over my property and adjoining properties. I have tripped on the wires on two occasions and my annual grass seeding in being delayed as a result of the project. I have called ATT and a contractor came to my door. He did a basic song and dance and told me that the project was all in the name of progress. ATT then called me back and told me they thought it was Google-not ATT. I have wires laying in my property and someone has spray-painted the grass with utility markings. Some wires are taped and some have dangerous un-taped areas. My address is 6332 Lakeland Drive, Raleigh, 27612. My cell is 919-423-3794. Thanks in advance for any help you can give me. Eric Campbell

From: beth searles <b_searles@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 11:46 AM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

NC Utilities commission :

My husband and I believe it is essential that the solar farm be built on old Woodfin landfill in WNC as originally agreed. It is unethical and irresponsible to dismiss the original agreement that will bring green jobs to our area and reduce carbon emissions. All of NC matters, not just the eastern or central part. And WNC voters and consumers pay attention.

Beth and Mark Searles

Sent from my iPhone

From: Sheila Dunn <sheilagdunn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 8:28 AM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257.

My hometown of Woodfin, NC, is counting on you to honor your commitment to install solar power here.'m a loyal customer and I urge you to do so. It will help us reach out renewable energy goal here.

Thanks for listening.

Sheila

Sheila Dunn sheilagdunn@gmail.com 828-776-3661

From: Meredith Hickson <mahm0802@yahoo.com> Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:31 PM

To: Statements

Docket E-2 Sub 1257 **Subject:**

Dear NC Utilities Commission:

Please hold Duke to its commitment to invest in WNC. The Buncombe County solar installation plan was essential for advancing our City/County goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2042. This part of North Carolina can lead the world in wise and exemplary energy development and use, but not if Duke is going to go back on its promise. Please don't let us down.

Thank you--Meredith Hickson, Henderson County

From: Robin Stiles <robincstiles@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:25 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Please, please, please - hold Duke to their commitment to build their solar facility in Woodfin, not in another part of the state.

Robin Stiles

Homeowner in Black Mountain with rooftop solar panels

From: Jane Carroll <jcarrollnc@charter.net>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:12 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E2 Sub 1257

Dear Commissioners,

Duke must be held to it's agreement made approximately 5 years ago to build a 5 megawatt solar project in Woodfin, NC. Reversing its agreement at this late date will cause substantial difficulty and financial hardship due to existing planning by the county.

I strongly urge you to not allow this change.

Sincerely,

Jane Carroll 743 Bee Tree Rd Swannanoa, NC 28778

Sent from my iPhone

From: Roberta Wall <robertaindiawall@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:00 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Hold Duke to its responsibility for installing solar panel energy in the Woodfin field.

Thank you, Roberta Wall, Asheville

Links to Roberta's blogs and website:

RobertaIndia.wordpress.com

Torahattheintersection.com

steps2peace.com

 $\label{thm:coming} \begin{tabular}{ll} Upcoming events: $https://mailchi.mp/6dfda7cb162a/nvc-at-the-intersection-explorations-of-nvc-with-judaism-buddhism-dialogue-and-social-activism-open-to-all $$ $$ $$ $$$

From: waterdeva <waterdeva@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 9:59 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

To whom it concerns,

In 2015, as part of the agreement that our community of Buncombe County struck with Duke Energy to close the Lake Julian power plant, Duke agreed to build 15 megawatts of solar energy in our community. This was an integral part of the overall plan to retire coal and begin transitioning to clean energy. The NC Utilities Commission acknowledged this agreement in approving Duke's Carolinas Modernization Project that included the new gas plant.

The first 5 megawatts of this plan was to be a solar project on the retired landfill in Woodfin. Buncombe County issued a request for proposals, which was won by Duke to build and maintain the solar installation on the landfill. However, the public staff of the NC Utilities Commission is now recommending that the solar installations be built in the eastern part of the state, despite local support for this project in our community.

Commitments were made to our community to reduce local generation with fossil fuels. Buncombe County has waived the lease on the land for this project. The project will benefit our community with solar jobs and reduced carbon emissions. It is a necessary project to advance our City/County goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2042.

Importantly, when the Modernization Plan was approved, all parties - the Commission, Duke and our Community - understood that this local solar installation was essential and was agreed upon.

Please work to move forward with this plan for a solar project on the retired landfill in Woodfin.

Thank you.

Darlene Kucken

From: Jo-An Vargo <joan.vargo@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:15 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Our local area is committed to generating electricity in a manner that supports the region and the environment. It is imperative that Duke Energy be held accountable for its previous commitment to build the 5-megawatt solar project in Woodfin. Nothing less is acceptable after the Utilities Commission agreed to this five years ago!

Respectfully, Jo-An Vargo 804 Cranbrook Drive Arden, NC 28704

Sent from my iPad

From: Richard Pigossi <rpigossi@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:35 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

The NCUC's intention to renege on the solar development agreement with our community is a betrayal of trust, trashing an integral component of WNC's transition to clean energy. The Commission is urged to reconsider and recognize that there is more to energy planning than simple, narrow arguments for economies of scale. By all means build solar — lots of it! — in the east, but not at the expense of the west.

Thank you.

From: Michael E Beech <mandjbeech@icloud.com>

Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 4:43 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Solar Farm in Buncombe County

The Duke Energy - Buncombe county site is an excellent siting for this project. It is interesting that a second site/s were found in the eastern part of NC. So why does this negate the Buncombe County plan? The Buncombe site represented only a portion of the total commitment., the balance is remaining and could be used in the east. It makes no sense to stop and change sites, especially when Duke is in business in all of the state.

This can really only mean that someone must be going to financially benefit from the site change, perhaps with a real estate sale or exchange deal. So I wonder who and at what level of cover meant or corporation that will occur.

Stick with the original plan.

Michael E Beech 111 Ashwood Lane Asheville, NC. 28803 828-316-1719

"Whenever you see injustice, speak up, take a stand, be in solidarity. You never know what may be the outcome." Clark Olsen

"Make some Good Trouble" John Lewis

From: Christina Strickland <chris2str@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 3:46 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Commissioners, Please hold Duke Energy to their committment to build a solar energy project in the Woodfin area of Buncombe County, NC

Thank you, Christina Strickland Registered Voter

From: Breccia Leigh
breccialeigh@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 3:35 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

To the NC Utilities Commissioners:

You NEED to hold Duke to its commitment.

After 5 years, the Utilities Commission CANNOT reverse course on its agreement to build a 5 megawatt solar project in Woodfin. The Buncombe County solar installation plan was essential for advancing our City/County goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2042.

I work in the solar industry for a non profit training organization. This industry is growing and IMPORTANT to our economy, our energy independence in this country, and to the health of our environment.

Thanks for listening. Breccia C Asheville NC

From: Susan Loftis <sbloftis@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 3:30 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Dear Members of the North Carolina Utilities Commission:

It is with great concern that I hear of your public staff's recent recommendation that would move the solar farm previously committed for Asheville to a site in the eastern part of the state.

Asheville's unprecedented growth, its commitment to clean energy, and Duke's earlier commitment to build a 5 megawatt solar project on the retired landfill in Woodfin all justify the Commission's support and Duke's honoring the terms of the agreement concerning the Lake Julian coal plant. closing.

When the Modernization Plan was approved, all parties, the Commission, Duke and our Community, agreed that this local solar installation was essential. To reverse course five years later is not acceptable. It is imperative that Duke proceed with the construction of the solar project at Woodfin.

thanks,

susan b loftis environmental design 170 montford avenue asheville nc 28801 404.545.4815

From: Eleanor Johnson < johnson@buncombe.main.nc.us>

Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 3:15 PM

To: Statements

Subject: docket E-2 Sub 1257

We urge the State Utilities Commission to honor its commitment from five years ago to the building of a solar facility in Woodfin, Buncombe County.

This is important to meet our goal of energy efficiency, and our local government has made an additional financial concession to encourage this action.

Thank you, David and Eleanor Johnson

Sent from my iPad

From: Mary Carol Koester <marycarol@azaleabindery.com>

Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:39 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Hey there, not so fast!

Every month I promise to make a payment to Duke Energy and I follow up on that promise.

Duke agreed to build a 5 megawatt solar project in Woodfin five years ago. We, as a community, need to retire coal, build a new gas plant, transition to clean energy and build 15 megawatts of solar energy in Buncombe County.

The retired landfill in Woodfin is affordable and ideal for solar. The solar facility will advance our City and County goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2042.

When the Modernization Plan was approved, EVERYONE – the Commission, Duke and our Community – understood that the solar facility was essential.

Now, after 5 years, the Utilities Commission has reversed course and is recommending that solar installations be built in the eastern part of the state, where larger projects are more feasible.

A promise is a promise. Be honorable. Stand by our mountain community as we stand by you.

Thank you,

Mary Carol Koester
Book Binder & Paper Marbler
Azalea Bindery, LLC
Member, Southern Highland Craft Guild
Member, Guild of Book Workers
One Brookgreen Pl.
Asheville, NC 28804
828.545.6219
marycarol@azaleabindery.com

www.azaleabinderv.com

From: Douglas Judy <dougbj@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:28 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Please hold Duke Energy to the commitment it made 5 years ago to build the solar capability at the Buncombe County landfill. This was part of a larger commitment of at least 15 MW of solar power to be built after building the gas plant here. It is also a vital small step to transitioning to all clean energy and will help contribute to the success of Buncombe County's commitment to transitioning to 100 percent clean power.

Regardless of Duke's plans elsewhere in the state, Duke must fulfill the commitments to the local community here made while negotiating the new gas plant!

Thank you.

Douglas Judy Arden, North Carolina

From: Judith Pigossi <jpigossi@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:21 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

I smell betrayal and politics and urge the Utilities Commission to hold Duke to its commitment.

This agreement was agreed to by all parties and is an integral part of WNC's plan to transition to renewable energy, clean energy.

The Utilities Commission should not change direction on this commitment, should show us here in Western North Carolina that we matter, that clean energy is the goal rather than "feasibility".

Judith Pigossi, Asheville, North Carolina

From: btlawrence@juno.com

Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:13 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Duke agreed to 15 megawatts of new solar energy in our area as part of its Carolina Modernization Project. The first part is to be a 5 megawatt solar installation on the site of Buncombe County's former landfill. The County has relied on this. Our commitment to clean energy is strong, but it needs cooperation. We need Duke to hold to its own commitment to bring solar energy to Buncombe. Thanks, Betty Lawrence, Asheville

From: Jan Beech <janbeech43@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 2:11 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

While it is good that you have discovered that there are big swaths of land in the eastern part of the state that would be good place for a large solar farm, that should not have anything to do with the agreement with Duke to build the one on the landfill here. The needs and benefits of building here have not changed, plus building it here would not mean you couldn't also build one in the eastern part of the state. Please stand up to the contract that everyone already approved!!!!!

Jan Beech 111 Ashwood Lane Asheville, NC 28803

Sent from my iPad

From: Mel Pajak <melodypajak0912@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 1:44 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

To: NC Utilities commission

We in Western NC are anticipating and already working toward a 5 megawatt solar project in Woodfin. We are doing our part in Asheville. Now it's time that you do what you promised. In fact, what's wrong with putting one in both Western and Eastern NC? More people will be served that way and, let's admit it, we'll all be going solar and wind energy anyway.

If we all work together, we'll all benefit.

Thanks for listening.

Best Regards, Melody Pajak 828-226-5242

From: Victoria Estes <victoria_estes@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 1:17 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Hello there,

In 2015, as part of the agreement that our community struck with Duke Energy to close the Lake Julian coal power plant, Duke agreed to build 15 megawatts of new solar energy in our community. This was an integral part of the overall plan to retire coal and begin transitioning to clean energy. The NC Utilities Commission acknowledged this agreement in approving Duke's Carolinas Modernization Project that included the new gas plant.

The first 5 megawatts in the plan Duke was to be a solar project on the retired landfill in Woodfin. Buncombe County issued a request for proposals, which was won by Duke to build and maintain the solar installation on the landfill. However, the public staff of the NC Utilities Commission is now recommending that the solar installations be built in the eastern part of the state, where larger projects are more feasible.

It's not good policy to ignore the commitments made to our community to reduce local generation with fossil fuels. The retired landfill in Woodfin is not suited to other development. Buncombe County has waived the lease on the land for this project. The project will benefit our community with new solar jobs and reduced carbon emissions. It is needed to advance our City/County goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2042.

Importantly, when the Modernization Plan was approved, all parties - the Commission, Duke and our Community - understood that this local solar installation was essential. To reverse course five years later is a betrayal. Please hold true on your commitments and help Buncombe County become an energy independent area that no longer pollutes our environment with dirty fossil fuels.

-V

"Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred." -Martin Luther King, Jr.

From: Asheville Kitchen Tops <aktops@att.net>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 1:03 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

to the NC Utilities Commission:

as a 14 year resident of Buncombe County, I am writing to express my strong support for the solar installation project on the retired landfill in Woodfin.

this was part of the Modernization Plan that was agreed upon by Duke and the residents of this area, and should move forward as planned. WNC needs access to solar and other renewable energy sources if we are going to have any chance at climate change mitigation and the protection of our environment.

I urge you to move forward with the full installation of the solar project. thank you for your attention.

Leslie Lambdin Asheville, NC



Virus-free. www.avast.com

From: Kristin Clark <jkristinclark@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 12:56 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

In 2015, as part of the agreement that our community struck with Duke Energy to close the Lake Julian coal power plant, Duke agreed to build 15 megawatts of new solar energy in our community. This was an integral part of the overall plan to retire coal and begin transitioning to clean energy. The NC Utilities Commission acknowledged this agreement in approving Duke's Carolinas Modernization Project that included the new gas plant.

The first 5 megawatts in the plan Duke was to be a solar project on the retired landfill in Woodfin. Buncombe County issued a request for proposals, which was won by Duke to build and maintain the solar installation on the landfill. However, the public staff of the NC Utilities Commission is now recommending that the solar installations be built in the eastern part of the state, where larger projects are more feasible.

It's not good policy to ignore the commitments made to our community to reduce local generation with fossil fuels. The retired landfill in Woodfin is not suited to other development. Buncombe County has waived the lease on the land for this project. The project will benefit our community with new solar jobs and reduced carbon emissions. It is needed to advance our City/County goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2042.

Importantly, when the Modernization Plan was approved, all parties - the Commission, Duke and our Community - understood that this local solar installation was essential. To reverse course five years later is a betrayal.

Therefore, I am asking the Commission to hold Duke to its commitment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Julia Clark

From: Mary Goodkind <mary@lindleyg.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 12:01 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Dear Commissioners,

Please hold Duke Energy to its commitment to build a 5 mega-watt solar facility in Woodfin, NC. As a resident in Buncombe County, I believe this solar installation plan is essential for advancing our City/County goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2042, something our citizens overwhelmingly support. Please don't renege on your promise to us.

Thank you for your service and for considering my views, Mary Goodkind 23 Ridgefield Pl Biltmore Forest, NC 28803

From: nanmoore1@juno.com

Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 11:14 AM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Please, you must not turn back from your original commitment for a solar facility in our region. This will protect our environment and bring us a safer more practical balanced facility. The old ways of treating our environment no longer work...no shortcuts please, No excuses.

Nancy Moore, Black Mt, NC

When the Modernization Plan was approved, everyone – the Commission, Duke and our Community – understood that the solar facility was essential.

Now, after 5 years, the Utilities Commission has reversed course and is recommending that solar installations be built in the eastern part of the state, where larger projects are more feasible.

<u>Mayor Esther Manheimer</u> sent a letter to the Commission asking Duke to honor its commitment. The <u>Buncombe County</u> <u>Board of Commissioners</u> also wrote to the Commission offering to "essentially waive the lease payments" on the landfill as an added incentive for Duke to honor its commitment.

The world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love. William Sloane Coffin Jr

There is nothing so joyful as a loving heart.

nancy moore 828-279-8977 https://www.artofnancymoore.com/ http://www.naturespiritweddings.com/ Certified InterPlay Leader ~ interplay.org

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- He Went Missing at Sea, Was Found 86 Miles Offshore

From: cheryltprice <cheryltprice@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 11:09 AM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Dear NC Utilities Commission,

Please don't back out on us now. I understand that the 5 megawatt solar project that was slated to be built in Woodfin is now being considered for the Eastern side of the state instead. Please we need this project in Western North Carolina. Hold Duke Power to its commitment.

Thank you.

Cheryl T. Price 111 Richmond Hill Road Asheville, NC. 28806 828-335-6098

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

From: Robbie Buzenberg <rbob909@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 11:06 AM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257 Comments

Hello NC Utility Commission,

I am writing in regards to Docket E-2 Sub 1257. In 2015, Duke Energy agreed to build a 5 megawatt solar project on a retired landfill in Woodfin. The NC Utilities Commission approved it as part of Duke Carolina's Modernization Plan to retire coal, build a new gas plant, transition to clean energy and build 15 megawatts of solar energy in Buncombe County. The retired landfill in Woodfin is affordable and ideal for solar. The solar facility will advance our City and County goal of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2042. When the Modernization Plan was approved, everyone – the Commission, Duke and our Community – understood that the solar facility was essential.

Now, after 5 years, the Utilities Commission has reversed course and is recommending that solar installations be built in the eastern part of the state, where larger projects are more feasible.

I understand that Duke Energy is now proposing to cancel the solar plant installation in Buncombe County. As a taxpayer and rate payer to Duke Energy, I find this deplorable to say the least. How can we let this monopoly continue to dictate our future regarding climate change? As a financial solar analyst, I can tell you first hand that solar power is not only cleaner for the environment, but also cheaper in the long run for taxpayers and ratepayers alike. I demand an explanation for why this decision is being made.

We the people of Asheville want solar and a clean future!

Sincerely,

--

Robbie Buzenberg (828)-400-2947

From: Sarah Murphy <sarahm321@live.com>
Sent: Monday, November 30, 2020 10:58 AM

To: Statements

Subject: DOCKEY E-2 SUB 1257

Please Hold Duke energy to its commitment to build and operate solar energy in Woodfin. Sincerely Sarah Murphy

Sent from my Metro By T-Mobile 4G LTE Android Device Get <u>Outlook for Android</u>

From: Amanda Herbert <amandaherbert5@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, November 29, 2020 10:36 PM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in regards to the agreement by Duke to build 15 megawatts of new solar energy in Buncombe County. The NC Utilities Commission acknowledged this agreement in approving Duke's Carolinas Modernization Project that included this new gas plant. I understand that now the public staff of the NC Utilities Commission is recommending that the solar installations be built in the eastern part of NC. It does not seem to me to be good policy to ignore the commitments made by our community to reduce fossil fuels. The retired landfill in Woodfin is affordable and is suited to this project and will benefit the community of Buncombe county with new solar jobs. It is needed to advance our goal of furthering renewable energy. It feels like a betrayal to now reverse course five years later after such an agreement and an understanding that this work was essential.

I look forward to your response and appreciate you reading my email, Yours faithfully, Amanda Herbert Asheville, NC 28803

From: Sharon Gmail <sharongodfrey25@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 7:43 PM

To: Statements **Subject:** Please...

Hold DUKE to its commitment. Sharon Godfrey Sierra Club Member

Sent from my iPad

From: findmeonthetrail@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alicia Donaldson

<findmeonthetrail@everyactioncustom.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 25, 2020 6:59 AM

To: Statements

Subject: Docket E-2 Sub 1257: Please Approve the Woodfin Solar Facility

Dear NC Utilities Commission Members,

I am writing to urge you to approve the 5 MW solar facility proposed by Duke Energy Progress at 2720 Riverside Drive in Woodfin, NC. This project is a critical component of Duke's 2015 commitment to build 15 new MW of solar energy as part of its Western Carolinas Modernization Project. The NC Utilities Commission has supported and urged timely implementation of Duke's solar commitment, and now your approval is key to moving this commitment forward.

When the NC Utilities Commission expressed support for 15 MW of solar in Duke's Western Carolinas Modernization Project, your body acknowledged and supported that if all 15 MW of solar could not fit at the former coal plant, "[Duke] will supplement the on-site solar facility with a combination of rooftop, community, or other utility-scale solar facilities at other locations in the Asheville area." Now that Duke has identified a cost-effective site in our community for this additional 5 MW of solar, I urge you to approve it so the solar installation can be built in a timely fashion.

As North Carolina embraces more solar energy, the benefits of this industry should be available to communities here in our western region — not just in parts of the state that have large parcels of flat land. Approving this solar landfill site would bring the benefits of new solar energy directly to our community: solar industry jobs, reducing local carbon emissions, and making real progress on our local renewable energy goals. In this case, the 5 MW solar facility in Woodfin will help Buncombe County meet our adopted resolution to reach 100% renewable energy by 2042.

Building solar energy on low-value land like this landfill also meets the unique needs of our community by preserving other land for new affordable housing, tree canopy, public spaces, and other highly valued uses in our region. Further, relocating this 5 MW of solar to a different site in the Asheville area would cost far more than installing the system at the relatively flat, more affordable retired landfill site. If this project is not approved, we question whether Duke will be allowed to fulfill its promise to our community.

Please allow Duke to make good on its commitment for 15 MW of solar energy in our region. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely, Alicia Donaldson 54 WESTGATE Asheville, NC 28806 findmeonthetrail@yahoo.com