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Mount, Gail

From: Holly Adkisson <hhadkisson@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 9:13 AM  
To: Statements  
Subject: NC Utilities Commission Docket SP-100 Sub 31

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Clerk's Office  
Utilities Commission

As a Duke Energy stockholder, I take exception to the lawsuit -- especially the request for high fines -- Duke has filed with NC Utilities Commission against NC WARN (Waste Awareness and Reduction Network).

Both NC WARN and the church to which it supplies electrical power are non-profits. Duke is wasting money that could increase my dividends to pursue a purely punitive lawsuit. I support both NC WARN and the concept of third-party sales from solar installations, as this makes the systems more affordable to more community users.

NC WARN has been aboveboard in its actions, publicly announcing the project and petitioning the NC Utilities Commission (NCUC) to allow the not-for-profit transaction.

Thank you for considering my comments.  
Holly Adkisson

## Mount, Gail

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**From:** Ruchir Vora <daddyvora@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 09, 2015 9:40 AM  
**To:** Statements  
**Subject:** NCUC Docket SP-100 Sub 31

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Clerk's Office  
NC Utilities Commission

For their temerity in providing cheap electricity to a low-income church, utility goliath Duke Energy wants a nonprofit citizen group hit with fines up to \$120,000.

The clean energy advocacy group NC WARN (Waste Awareness and Reduction Network) has created a "test case" for state law that bars one private party from selling electricity to another, without going through the regulated utility (Duke Energy) first. NC WARN installed a solar electric panels system on the roof of Faith Community Church in Greensboro. Instead of charging the church the large up-front cost of the system (which would have been perfectly legal), NC WARN retained ownership of the system and lets the church buy the electricity it produces. (Like many modest-income community institutions, the church could not have bought the system itself without hardship.)

NC WARN made no attempt to hide the transaction. It supports the concept of third-party sales from solar installations (as do a wide range of other groups and many legislators from both parties), on the grounds that it makes the systems more affordable to more community users. It publicly announced the project and petitioned the NC Utilities Commission (NCUC) to allow the not-for-profit transaction.

No one familiar with the economic politics of electric utilities expected Duke to support this approach. But it seemed only reasonable to most observers to let the Utilities Commission settle it in a straightforward manner. NC WARN said that if they lost their case they would simply give the system to the church and let them own and run it for themselves.

Therefore, it was high-profile news when Duke's response was not just to oppose the petition, but also to ask that the NCUC impose a fine of "up to \$1,000" per day against the nonprofit.

Duke's deputy general counsel, Lawrence B. Somers, wrote, "It is ironic that NC WARN, an anti-utility advocacy group, has asked the commission for exemption from any regulation when it has admitted acting unlawfully as an unauthorized and unregulated utility itself."

Duke's response strikes many as a case of abusive attempted intimidation against a group which has often criticized it on other policy matters. **NC WARN's Jim Warren responded**, "Duke Energy is entitled to disagree with us, but seeking to financially hammer this 27-year-old nonprofit is more proof that Goliath wants neither competition, criticism, nor scrutiny."

Multiple other parties – from other utilities to other clean energy groups – have filed formal comments in the case before the NCUC. The various filings can be reviewed [here](#).

Public comments can be filed until November 20. Comments should reference NCUC Docket SP-100 Sub 31, and should be directed to the specific issues and merits of this case. The NCUC email address for comments is [statements@ncuc.net](mailto:statements@ncuc.net).

We think NC WARN has the better of this debate, and hope that the NCUC will slap down Duke's bullying behavior. In fact: Hey Duke, why don't you pick on someone your own size? Oh, that's right: As the nation's largest electric utility, there isn't anyone else your size and you mean to keep it that way.

**Mount, Gail**

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**From:** Sarah Charles <sarahandk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 09, 2015 12:05 PM  
**To:** Statements  
**Subject:** NCUC Docket SP-100 Sub 31

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**Clerk's Office  
N.C. Utilities Commission**

I am appalled that the giant monopoly Duke Energy would seek fines against a nonprofit that is trying to help promote clean energy for low income citizens of NC. Everyone should be allowed to purchase their energy through alternative methods. Duke Energy is a monopoly and has broken it's promises to North Carolinians for years. No more monopoly!

Sarah Charles  
High Point, NC

Sent from my iPad