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Mount, Gail

From: Zane Wyatt <nila.kapoor@busygrey.com>
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Subject: Renewables is considered

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Clerk's Office
N.C. Utilities Commission

SP-100 SUB 31

Hello,

Switching from fossil fuels to renewables is considered a challenge to the existing electric grid, which was not built to handle solar and wind power. Renewable energy flows intermittently onto the grid only when the sun is shining and the wind is blowing. Batteries are seen as one solution to that problem because they may be able to store electricity when it's sunny or windy, and then release that power onto the grid at night or when the weather is calm.

The NOAA team's study shows that batteries may not be necessary to fully harness wind and solar power. The key is putting renewables in the best places to harness wind and solar at all times of day.

The team used a complex computer model to simulate the ideal system to produce a steady stream of renewable energy. The result is an entirely new system of transcontinental high-voltage transmission lines.

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