

Conyers, Tamika

From: durkspam@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mike Durkin
<durkspam@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2020 7:20 PM
To: Statements
Subject: On Docket No. E-7, SUB 1214 – Enough is enough. No more rate hikes for dirty energy.

Dear NC Utilities Commission Members,

I'm writing today to oppose Duke Energy Carolina's recent proposal to increase customer rates. It's wrong for a company making record profits to keep piling rate increases for dirty energy onto working families every few years, and it's time for the North Carolina Utilities Commission to put an end to this behavior.

Duke's proposal lacks any direct investment in renewable energy and would raise our rates to burn more gas, create a "deferral" account of up to \$2.5 billion for Duke to access in a future rate hike, and call for customers to foot the bill to clean up coal ash – even though Duke knew this coal ash was toxic as far back as the 1980s, and never acted to dispose of it properly. The rate increase would also come only two years after Duke's last rate hike, and would be the company's fifth rate hike in ten years.

It's also clear that Duke has the money to take responsibility for their mistakes without forcing the bill onto customers who have no choice to choose another electricity provider. Since 2013, Duke has paid out at least \$16.7 billion in dividends to shareholders, and in 2018 alone Duke made \$3.03 billion in net income and paid \$0 in federal taxes.

I urge you to stand up for residents all across North Carolina and deny Duke's proposal to use money from captive customers to pay for its energy mistakes.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Sincerely,
Mike Durkin
25 Blalock Ave Asheville, NC 28803-1309 durkspam@gmail.com**

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Feb 13 2020