

In a letter published by *The News & Observer* on April 15, Duke's chief communications officer made several false claims in criticizing NC WARN and our earlier letter.

Among the most egregious was that NC WARN "fought [Duke's] plans to retire a coal plant in Asheville ...".

In fact, below are several of the numerous demands NC WARN made to close the coal plant – and a pending complaint calling for Attorney General Cooper to phase out all Duke Energy's coal units.

February 29, 2016, News Release:

Duke Energy can and should close the Asheville coal units now. Our position has been strengthened during this case: Duke's huge natural gas power plant is not needed, would be high-risk economically, and would accelerate the global climate crisis at the worst possible time.

<http://www.ncwarn.org/2016/02/10249/>

February 26, 2016, News Release:

Duke Energy can and should close those Asheville coal units now. Even with the coal plants closing, nothing learned in this case to date changes our strong argument that the regulators must deny Duke's application to build a huge natural gas power plant that is not needed, would be high-risk economically, and would accelerate the global climate crisis at the worst possible time.

<http://www.ncwarn.org/2016/02/duke-energy-misled-regulators-at-meeting-over-new-gas-plant-news-release-from-nc-warn/>

February 4, 2016, Letter to Lynn Good:

All parties agree that you must close the small coal units that are being used less than half the time. If you honestly think new gas-fired units are necessary to serve the public, you should waive the 45-day limit in favor of an open and careful review.

<http://www.ncwarn.org/2016/02/openly-justify-the-fracking-gas-plant-in-asheville-or-withdraw-the-application-letter-to-lyn-good-from-nc-warn/>

January 15, 2016, News Release:

The coal-burning units must be closed. But the latest science shows the inevitability of huge price volatility with natural gas, and that gas for electricity is even worse than coal in driving the climate crisis due to large amounts of methane leakage throughout drilling and handling of gas.

<http://www.ncwarn.org/2016/01/duke-applies-to-build-gas-plant/>

January 13, 2016, News Release:

In two letters to CEO Lynn Good last fall, the two groups agreed that the coal-burning units must be closed. But we warned that the latest science shows great price volatility with natural gas, and that gas for electricity is even worse than coal in driving the climate crisis due to large amounts of methane leakage throughout drilling and handling of gas.

<http://www.ncwarn.org/2016/01/duke-presses-fast-track-approval-of-gas-plant/>

February 12, 2016, Legal Position and Comments:

The focus of review on the proposed Asheville project should be determining the best strategy to allow prompt closure of the Asheville coal plants without construction of new generating plants.

DEP must proceed with closure of the existing coal units but DEP's apparent commitment to a natural gas future is costly and risky, and would have a disastrous impact on climate change at the worst possible time.

<http://www.ncwarn.org/wp-content/uploads/NC-WARN-The-Climate-Times-Position-and-Comments-and-Exhibits-A-C.pdf>

October 7, 2016, Emergency Complaint to Attorney General Roy Cooper:

We are therefore calling on the Attorney General to exercise his constitutional authority and duty to investigate our complaint, to enforce the corporate charter and to amend it in the following ways:

1. Duke Energy shall phase out all of its 20 coal-fired generating units at its seven plant sites in North Carolina by 2020 without building additional natural gas plants.

<http://www.ncwarn.org/wp-content/uploads/Complaint-FINAL-Merged-PDF.pdf>