



# Simply, HB951 is a Bad Deal for NC Residents and the Planet

Duke Energy met behind closed doors for months with NC Republican leaders and a few other hand-picked stakeholders to create a bill that will determine our collective energy future in North Carolina. Now that it is public, we know just how bad it is for everyday North Carolinians and the planet.

It is outrageous to see the [energy legislation](#) that was put forward after months of closed-door meetings and passed the House in the wee hours of July 15.

This backroom bill doesn't even mention climate change. Moreover, it not only supports but **mandates** what Duke Energy has been pushing for: construction of new fracked gas-burning power plants. It also guts the authority of the NC Utilities Commission to make Duke prove it needs them.

Duke Energy has given over a half million dollars to NC legislative candidates this past election cycle, and this is what they are paying for: the opportunity to dictate legislation that will benefit their shareholders while disregarding their customers, the planet and those most harmed by their dirty tricks. Climate and economics make clear why Duke Energy's bill was negotiated behind closed doors.

HB 951 would:

- Lead to as much as a [50% increase](#) in power bills over the next decade by allowing Duke to increase rates for up to three years at a time with little public oversight or transparency.
- Restrict the NC Utilities Commission's oversight of Duke Energy at a time when it is needed more than ever if we are to transition to a renewable energy future.

- Force North Carolinians to waste billions of dollars for dirty and unnecessary fossil fuel plants and pipelines, preventing us from achieving Governor Cooper's goal of reducing carbon emissions 70% by 2030.
- Further entrench North Carolina's reliance on fossil fuels, particularly climate-wrecking methane (natural gas). As a recent United Nations [methane report](#) makes clear, gas has no place in this critical transition period where we need to invest in renewable energy infrastructure.
- Allow Duke to charge customers \$50 million to pursue an early site permit for a small modular nuclear reactor, a technology that is costly and unproven.
- Slow-walk renewables paired with storage, the approach that's winning the economics battle in non-monopoly states.

**HB951 must be stopped!**

[Click here to find contact information for your state senator and representative](#)

In Governor Roy Cooper's own words, "*It's clear they need to go back to the drawing board and negotiate with a broader spectrum of stakeholders in order to get a better plan.*"

Where is the sense of urgency? We need an energy plan that transitions us to a cheaper, just, sustainable and more equitable energy system that prioritizes the people of North Carolina...not Duke Energy.

Read what [NC Policy Watch](#) and [Energy and Policy Institute](#) have written about HB951.

Check out this great [ad](#) EJNC Coalition members NC WARN and Appalachian Voices placed in three papers. Beginning July 12 and running a month, a related ad will be included on a digital billboard in a visible location in Wake County so legislators will see it as they are driving to the Legislative Building.

[Learn more about  
Energy Justice North Carolina: End the Duke Monopoly](#)

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