

# SHARING SOLAR: A SWEEPING CLIMATE PROPOSAL

## A Quick, Cheap, Equitable Way to Phase Out Fossil Fuels

NC WARN proposes a sweeping shift in the profit-driven monopoly mindset that increasingly harms communities, drives up power bills and makes the climate crisis worse. All Duke Energy's residential, commercial and nonprofit customers can share in the costs and benefits of clean energy much like we currently pay for polluting power plants – through the electric rate system.

**Many experts agree that local solar-plus-storage is the best tool we have to address the climate crisis:**

“The cheapest, most reliable power can be produced renewably at/or near the customers — that is, ‘distributed [generation.]’”

— Nation's leading clean energy expert Amory Lovins, Rocky Mountain Institute

*Sharing Solar would benefit all customers, and no one pays up front.*



*Proven programs in other states show that NC can rapidly install clean energy resources and create jobs in all communities, allowing solar companies to flourish and avoiding constant rate hikes.*

### HOW SHARING SOLAR WORKS:

- There would be no up-front cost for customers to add solar plus battery storage. It's funded through the rate system – just as we now all pay for dirty power.
- Local solar-plus-storage (SPS) can expand across NC quickly, inexpensively and equitably – with a priority on disadvantaged communities.
- All homes, businesses, nonprofits benefit in many ways – even if they don't have solar themselves. Those with solar can gain a monthly fee from Duke Energy.
- Ramping up SPS, starting with emergency facilities and shelters, would increase resiliency during storms and reduces reliance on vulnerable transmission lines.
- Solar companies grow and create thousands of jobs in small towns and cities.
- It avoids the year-after-year rate hikes in Duke Energy's high-risk, multi-billion dollar plan to build dozens of gas-fired and experimental nuclear units.



*North Carolina has twice the practical space on rooftops, parking areas, contaminated brownfields and vacant land close to towns and cities to meet our climate goals.*

The NC Utilities Commission already approved Duke Energy's controversial plans to expand solar power many years from now. Duke assumes this would be larger-than-ever solar farms near rural communities, preceded by billions of dollars in new transmission projects that would drive up the cost of the solar.

NC WARN argues that most of it should be local solar-plus-storage, where the benefits of generating and storing power where it's used could begin right away, expand quickly and be shared statewide.

Sharing Solar and all renewable energy programs should be paired with efforts to use energy more wisely. Saving energy, combined with local SPS, can allow the rapid phase-out of all gas- and coal-fired power plants in North Carolina.

## **North Carolina desperately needs an open debate about our energy-climate future – not continuing deference to Duke Energy's leaders.**

**SIGN ON: Join the 128 frontline groups, faith groups, solar companies, national organizations and others endorsing our Sharing Solar resolution, and share it widely!**



Sign on and learn more at  
[www.sharingsolarnc.org](http://www.sharingsolarnc.org)

**Help promote Sharing Solar statewide. Contact us:**



**BUILDING PEOPLE POWER FOR  
ENERGY & CLIMATE JUSTICE**

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