



March 6, 2025

Honorable Josh Stein
Governor of North Carolina
cc: Attorney General Jeff Jackson

SUBJECT: Concern Regarding Duke Energy's Decades-Long Climate Deception and Urgent Need for Solutions

Dear Governor Stein,

We, the undersigned, are writing to share our concerns about Duke Energy Corporation's decades-long deception campaign as exposed in the Town of Carrboro's recent [lawsuit](#). The lawsuit alleges that the leaders of North Carolina-based Duke Energy, one of the largest climate-polluting corporations in the world, have helped lead a nationwide campaign to deceive the public and decision-makers about the dangers of fossil fuels, delaying the transition off coal and gas. Alarming, this pattern continues today.

Just like the Town of Carrboro, millions of North Carolinians are shouldering the costs of the climate emergency. Hurricane Helene and last year's deadly heat put on full display the devastating impacts of inaction to curb climate-warming fossil fuels. Families have lost loved ones, homes and businesses, and this will surely worsen as utilities like Duke Energy keep expanding fossil fuels. This corporation must be held accountable for its decades of climate deception.

We trust that the North Carolina judicial system will ensure proper resolution of Duke Energy's disturbing actions as detailed in the lawsuit. Requiring corporations (like Duke Energy) who lead climate-based deception campaigns to pay for the damages of their climate-exacerbating actions is a principle of justice that is being pursued increasingly around the country.

Duke Energy operates at the will of the People of North Carolina through its corporate charter; therefore, you as Governor have many tools with which you can hold it accountable. In keeping with your track record of holding polluters accountable, we urge you to use your powerful position as the Governor to challenge Duke Energy's ongoing expansion of fossil fuels,

suppression of clean energy competition and warping of our society's understanding of the corporation's deceptive role in driving the climate crisis.

Furthermore, we urge you to demand that Duke Energy's leadership finally begin a genuine transition to renewable energy, particularly distributed solar installations paired with battery storage and full implementation of energy saving measures, as quickly as possible.

Local solar-plus-storage paired with energy efficiency is the fastest, cheapest and most equitable tool we have to speed the phase-out of fossil fuel-burning power plants, protect power bills, create good jobs and slow the climate crisis. We've also seen, in the wake of devastating Hurricane Helene, how local solar and battery installations kept the lights on when the grid failed.

As you know, planetary overheating is advancing even more quickly than projected by scientists. We hope you will agree that a major course change by one of the largest climate polluters is vitally important for North Carolina – and the rest of the world.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and action. We look forward to supporting your efforts at this critical time in human history.

Sincerely,

Center for Biological Diversity

NC WARN

Albany Central Federation of Labor

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy
Environments

American Friends Service Committee

Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc.

Beyond Extreme Energy

BLKHLTH Inc.

Box Turtle Bakery

Brandcentric

Brighter Green

Carolina Talent

Carolina Total Wellness

Center for Engagement, Environmental
Justice, and Health

Center for Progressive Reform

Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church

Chatham Climate Action Network

Church Women United in New York State

Clean Energy Action

Clean Water for North Carolina

Climate Action NC
Climate Generation
Climate Hawks Vote
Climate Justice Alliance
Climate Reality Project - Charlotte Metro
Color Brighton Green
Community Leadership Consulting LLC
Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety
Dallas Peace and Justice Center
Davie Environmental Awareness League
DC Environmental Network
Deep Roots Market
Democratic Socialists of America -
Knoxville, TN
Dogwood Alliance
Don't Waste Arizona
Down East Coal Ash Environmental and
Social Justice Coalition
Dream Tank
Earth Care
Earth Ethics, Inc.
Elders Climate Action
Electric Vehicles for Orange County
Empower Our Future
Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
- Earth Justice Action Group
The Enviro Show
Environmental Community Action
(ECO-Action)
E-Town Sunrise
FoCo Trash Mob
Fossil Free Dartmouth
Fox Valley Citizens for Peace & Justice
Friends of the Earth US
Good Stewards of Rockingham County
GreenFaith
Haw River Assembly
Hawaii Institute for Human Rights
Healing Strength Massage Therapy
Hickory Acres Decor LLC
Integral Counseling Services, PLLC
Interfaith Creation Care of the Triangle
Jewish Climate Action Network, MA
Joyoushout
Jungian Analytic Praxis, Inc.
Kathleen Ramich Sculptor
LaPlaca and Associates LLC
The Last Plastic Straw
Local Clean Energy Alliance
Long Beach Alliance for Clean Energy
Maloney Bookkeeping LLC
Marcoplos Construction
Matrix Design
Merge Records

Metro N.Y. Catholic Climate Movement
Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition
Mind Health Yoga
Mukwa
Nancy Holliman Therapy
Native Organizers Alliance
Native Organizers Alliance Action Fund
Natural Choices in Healing
NC Climate Justice Collective
NC Climate Solutions Coalition
Neighbors Against the Gas Plants
Network for a Sustainable Tomorrow
New Alpha Community Development Corporation
New Energy Economy
New York Progressive Action Network
North American Climate, Conservation and Environment (NACCE)
North Carolina Environmental Justice Network (NCEJN)
NTS Group
Nuclear Energy Information Service
Nuclear Information and Resource Service
Ocean Conservation Research
Oil and Gas Action Network
Oil Change International
Physicians for Social Responsibility Arizona
Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania
Plastic Pollution Coalition
Presente.org
Property Rights and Pipeline Center
Protect Our Water, Heritage, Rights
The Psycho Chicken Eco Farm
Rachel Carson Council
Resource Renewal Institute
SAFE Cities with Stand.earth
Seeds of HOPE
Sigma Capital
Silk Hope Catholic Worker
Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas - Justice Team
Slow Turn Studio
Snake River Alliance
Social Eco Education (SEE)
Solar United Neighbors
Solidarity Committee of the Capital District
South Lumberton Development Association
Sowing Justice
Student Workers Collective Dartmouth
Sunrise Movement (National)
Sunrise Movement Boulder Valley School District
Sunrise Movement Durham

Sunrise Movement Long Beach	350 Hawaii
Sunrise Movement UNC	350 Lake Norman
T.e.j.a.s.	350 Seattle
Therapists for Peace & Justice	350 Triangle
Third Act (National)	7 Directions of Service
Third Act North Carolina	828 Acupuncture and Apothecary
tUrn Climate Crisis Awareness & Action	
Turtle Island Restoration Network	
Twilight Honey	
Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community	
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)	
Unite North Metro Denver	
United For Clean Energy	
Urban Orchard Cider Co.	
Waterman's Brewing	
Waterspirit	
Well Fed Community Garden	
West End Revitalization Association	
Western Nebraska Resources Council	
198 methods	
3 Eagles Stewardship Alliance LLC	
350.org	
350 Network Council	
350 Bay Area Action	
350 Brooklyn	