

Stop Duke Energy's Cash Grab

Attend a public hearing or submit a public comment:

The NC Utilities Commission (NCUC) is holding a series of public hearings across the state on Duke Energy's plan to raise energy bills. The NCUC wants public feedback on this plan and is asking community members to give testimony through written comments and in-person hearings across the state. We encourage you to share how a rate increase would impact your life or budget, and how it could affect the lives of other community members. The talking points below can be used to help inform your comments; however, you do not need to be an expert to weigh in. We encourage you to make your comments your own. It's important that the NC Utilities Commission hears from North Carolina residents.

If you can't attend a public hearing, you can submit your own comments online at <https://www.ncuc.gov/contactus.html>, or you can mail your own comments to the Utilities Commission at 4325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4300 . If you need assistance with submitting comments please reach out and we would be happy to walk you through the process. Be sure to include the Docket number in your comments: E-2 SUB 1300 for Duke Energy Progress and Docket E-7 Sub 1276 for Duke Energy Carolinas.

Alternatively, you can also sign [this petition](#) which urges the NC Utilities Commission to reject Duke Energy's proposal.



Protect North Carolina Families From A Duke Energy Cash Grab

- Rate increases have an adverse impact on working families. If Duke Energy gets its way, a person making minimum wage in North Carolina would have to work an additional 25 hours over the next year and a half just to pay their electric bills.
- By 2026, the average annual residential electric bill would be \$306.60 higher than it is today.

Each year's average rate increase

- Oct. 1, 2023, a monthly increase of \$14.72 – from \$126.43 to \$141.15.
- Oct. 1, 2024, a monthly increase of \$5.62 – from \$141.15 to \$146.77.
- Oct. 1, 2025, a monthly increase of \$5.21 – from \$146.77 to \$151.98.
- Between fall 2023 and fall 2024, you will spend almost \$180 more on your energy bill than you did during the previous year.

Many North Carolina residents can't afford higher energy bills. Bill increases place an unfair burden on older residents on fixed incomes, community members who are already struggling to make ends meet, and small businesses.

Duke Energy is one of the largest public utility corporations in the United States. They have spent 23 years on the Fortune 500 list. They can afford to pay for their own bad business practices.

- Duke Energy wants big money and little transparency. Duke is asking the Utilities Commission for an increase in cash flow to fund unspecified projects, with assurances that the company will fill in the details later.
- Duke's grid investment plan ignores public input that any big investment should support clean energy, not more dirty fossil gas and coal.
- Under Duke Energy Progress' proposal, an average family can expect their energy bill to increase \$25 monthly by fall of 2025.
- Duke Energy Progress is asking to raise residential power bills by more than \$100 a year (on average) while North Carolinians are already struggling to afford the rising costs of food and everyday items.
- One reason for such high rates is Duke's request for a greater Return on Equity (ROE). In other words, the company wants even more guaranteed profits – pulled out of your family's budget and going straight into the pockets of company executives and shareholders.

No Guaranteed Profit Without Guaranteed Power.

- Duke Energy wants to be rewarded with more revenue, profit and generous restructuring – but the company has done nothing to demonstrate wise investment or management of North Carolina’s energy grid.
- Last winter’s blackouts demonstrate a need for the Utilities Commission to take a stronger approach to overseeing how Duke is performing its duties.
- Poor preparation and communication from Duke Energy led families to experience unexpected and long power outages on a cold and windy Christmas Eve.
- Duke Energy’s mismanagement threatened the grid not just for NC, but also regionally.
- Duke Energy is heavily reliant on coal, natural gas, and nuclear power. Cleaner energy sources and more preparation would provide more dependability for customers.
- Duke plans to spend billions (\$2bn) on distribution infrastructure projects that amount to gold plating/lipstick on a pig rather than real, modern improvements.

No Reward for New Gas. Don’t force ratepayers to pay more for dirty energy.

- The cheapest energy solution is switching from coal to renewables, not coal to fossil gas.
- Rather than paying for dirty fossil fuels like coal and gas, Duke Energy should be investing in a clean energy future.
- Duke Energy wants to increase customers’ energy bills to pay for new investments in fossil fuels like gas.
- New gas infrastructure is bad for community health and worsens the climate crisis. , And unlike clean energy sources that have been getting cheaper each year, gas generation is getting more expensive and won’t be more affordable in the future.



Hearing Information

CITY	DATE	LOCATION
Waynesville	Monday, March 6 7:00 p.m.	Haywood County Courthouse 285 N. Main Street Courtroom 2-A Waynesville, North Carolina 28786
Raleigh	Tuesday, March 14 7:00 p.m.	North Carolina Utilities Commission 430 N. Salisbury Street Commission Hearing Room 2115 Raleigh, North Carolina 27603
Roxboro	Monday, March 13 7:00 p.m.	Person County Courthouse 105 N. Main Street Superior Courtroom Roxboro, North Carolina 27573
Snow Hill	Monday, March 20 7:00 p.m.	Greene County Courthouse 301 N. Green Street Courtroom 1 Snow Hill, North Carolina 28580
Lumberton	Tuesday, March 21 7:00 p.m.	Robeson County Courthouse 510 N. Elm Street Courtroom B Lumberton, North Carolina 28359