

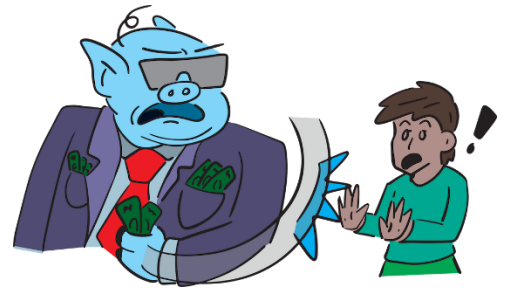
DUKE ENERGY CAROLINA RATE CASE

The [Energy Justice NC: End the Duke Monopoly coalition](#) is a collaboration of [14 local, state and national nonprofit organizations](#) working to bring the people of North Carolina a choice of energy providers. We seek to change how the system of electricity generation and sales in our state is structured by ending the monopoly.

This coalition represents a diverse range of organizations representing social justice, youth, the environment and faith, as well as local community groups and businesses, who recognize the problems of monopoly control, serial rate hikes, and the threat of worsening storms and flooding which will threaten the current grid system.

Major concerns with Duke Energy's 2019 utility rate proposal:

- Duke wants to use this rate case to increase profits for investors.
- Duke is increasing rates on households by **NEARLY 10% for most residents!**¹
- Duke is using this rate case to recover costs associated with problems they created from investing in dirty energy, like coal ash clean up and storm recovery.
- Duke Energy wants to raise rates while failing to provide customers clean energy alternatives that residents and communities are demanding to address the climate crisis and local health impacts.
- Duke wants to charge ratepayers for its lobbying, and payments to trade groups that engage in political activities, including anti-environmental activities.
- Duke is pushing to recover costs for actions related to its so-called Grid Improvement Plan, which includes billions in questionable expenses that don't directly advance clean energy investments.



¹ Duke is claiming that the average *gross* residential rate increase would be 10.3%, but that is accounting for a mandated tax refund that Duke proposes to apply via a new Rider over the next five years, the actual rate increase will be 6.7% for the first year, with the impact for years 2-5 to be determined annually. However, the true rate increase that is reflected in Duke's proposed rate schedules ranges from 11.7% to 13.6%. Accounting for the tax refund, the net rate increase would be either 7.6% or 9.6%, depending on which rate individual customers pay.

HOW TO TAKE ACTION!

We recommend that the public urge the Commission to reject Duke's rate proposal, and direct Duke to submit a new proposal which includes:

- No rate increases while Duke Energy relies on dirty fossil fuel energy. Duke is still only projecting to have 8% renewable energy by 2034.
- No cost recovery for expenses that Duke could and should have avoided like coal ash clean-up.
- An entirely new Grid Improvement Plan focusing on with a robust community stakeholder process.
- Eliminating any cost recovery for lobbying or expenses to third party groups that engage in lobbying and other political activities.
- No increase in return rates for investors, but that any extra funds be invested in the communities who have already been harmed by Duke's dirty actions.



Public Hearing Dates:

- Wednesday, **January 15, 2020, at 7 pm:** Macon County Courthouse, 5 West Main Street, **Franklin** Contact: Michelle Myers: mmyers@biologicaldiversity.org
- Thursday, **January 16, 2020, at 7 pm:** Burke County Courthouse, 201 South Green Street, **Morganton** Contact: Matt Wasson: matt@appvoices.org
- Wednesday, **January 29, 2020, at 7 pm:** Alamance County Historic Courthouse, 1 SE Court Square, **Graham** Contact: Amy Adams: amy@appvoices.org
- Thursday, **January 30, 2020, at 7 pm:** Mecklenburg County Courthouse, 832 East 4th Street Courtroom 5350, **Charlotte** Contact: Josh McClenny: josh@appvoices.org

Can't make it to a hearing? The public can also submit written comments to statements statements@ncuc.net by March 23rd. Please include the Docket number: E-7 Sub 1214 in the subject line of your email.