



Agenda Abstract

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date:	Aug. 8, 2022
Department:	Public Space and Sustainability
Agenda Section:	Consent
Public hearing:	No
Date of public hearing:	N/A

PRESENTER/INFORMATION CONTACT

Stephanie Trueblood, Public Space Manager

ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED

Subject: Joint Letter to North Carolina Utilities Commission Concerning Duke Energy's Carolinas Carbon Plan

Attachments:

Draft Joint Letter

Summary:

Duke Energy has submitted the Carolinas Carbon Plan for the North Carolina Utilities Commission's (NCUC) review and approval by no later than Dec. 21, 2022. Similar to steps taken by the town in 2021 with regard to Duke Energy's 2020 Integrated Resource Plan, this review process is an opportunity for the town to join with other North Carolina communities to share our climate action goals and communicate how the Carolinas Carbon Plan can best support them. A joint letter is a collective effort to advance our local governments' renewable energy and greenhouse gas reduction targets.

The Carolinas Carbon Plan serves as Duke Energy's 2022 Integrated Resources Plan (IRP), which is a plan that is reviewed and approved by the NCUC every two years and one that communicates strategies for providing reliable electricity at the lowest cost over a 15-year period.

- By joining other North Carolina communities to comment on the Carolinas Carbon Plan, the town has an opportunity to advocate for bringing more renewable energy to the electricity grid and highlight the need for more support with local, affordable energy efficiency programming and expanded electric vehicle infrastructure.

With the board's permission, joint comments that are aligned with the town's renewable energy pledge will be submitted in August 2022. This timing aligns well with the NCUC's stakeholder input process.

Financial impacts:

There are no direct financial impacts associated with the recommendation above. Duke Energy's Carolinas Carbon Plan does, however, describe impacts to ratepayers across the four proposed portfolio options. The average annual retail bill impact will be limited over the next two years and ranges from 1.9% to 2.5% through 2035. The utility describes a balance of sustainability, affordability, and reliability as being central to their work in developing the options within the plan.

Staff recommendation and comments:

By adopting the resolution, the town board supports a joint letter with other North Carolina local governments to submit public comments to the North Carolina Utilities Commission concerning Duke Energy's Carolinas Carbon Plan.

Action requested:

Support a joint letter with other North Carolina local governments to submit public comments to the North Carolina Utilities Commission concerning Duke Energy's Carolinas Carbon Plan.