

# Resolution to Sign the Public Comment Letter on Duke Energy's CPIRP

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# Action Requested

- Adoption of a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a public comment letter, in collaboration with other North Carolina local governments, on Duke Energy's Carbon Plan/Integrated Resource Plan (CPIRP)

# Background

Some informative background & history on the CPIRP:

- In 2021, HB 951 required Duke Energy to develop a Carbon Plan to achieve 70% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2030, and carbon neutrality by 2050.
  - The 70% by 2030 interim carbon reduction target was removed in 2025 via SB 266.
- Additionally, every 2 years, Duke was required to submit an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) for delivering reliable, low-cost electricity.
- In 2023, the NCUC approved submitting the Carbon Plan and Integrated Resource Plan at one time, naming it the Carbon Plan Integrated Resource Plan (CPIRP).

# CPIRP Recommendations

Duke Energy's 2025 CPIRP proposes one pathway to meet load growth projections, which:

- Delays coal retirements
- Increases natural gas generation
- Reduces solar buildout
- Eliminates long-term planning for onshore or offshore wind
- Jeopardizes City's ability to meet GHG reduction & clean energy goals.

# Key Comment Letter Recommendations

The public comment letter provides key recommendations to the NCUC, including:

1. Greater transparency for load forecasting methodology
2. Plan for affordable & reliable energy system by optimizing the existing grid and investing in low-cost, least-risk generation resources
3. Create cost-effective clean energy procurement pathways for large customers
4. Fully value energy efficiency & demand-side resources to reduce peak demand
5. Protect ratepayers from cost burdens associated with new large load customers

# Alignment

- Participating in this CPIRP public comment process aligns with City of Wilmington priorities and goals, including:
  - Actions to address energy affordability challenges, housing stability, and economic well-being.
  - Recommendations from the Clean Energy Advisory Committee to support clean energy policy at the state & federal level
  - 2009 Resolution establishing a municipal operations greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goal of 58% by 2050
  - 2021 Resolution adopting 2035 and 2050 clean energy goals

# Importance of Engagement

Engaging in the Public Comment Letter process is a significant opportunity to:

- Have a shared local government voice from across NC
- Advocate for affordable, reliable, and clean energy for our citizens and all North Carolinians
- Ensure Wilmington can meet GHG reduction and Clean Energy goals

# Thank You

