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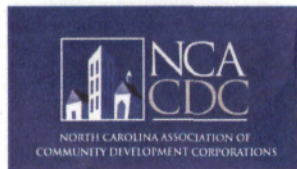
Attend the public hearing of the NC Utilities Commission **Wed., June 19th at 7p at the Forsyth County Courthouse** and tell the Utilities Commission how the proposed Duke Energy rate hike would affect you and your community.

If you would like:

- to learn more about the proposed rate hike and Duke Energy's future plans for our state
- to find out what happens at a public hearing
- to get some help preparing to speak at the hearing

Please attend our training on **Thursday, June 13th** from 6:30p-8:30p at the Experiment in Self-Reliance (1550 University Court, Winston-Salem 27101)

Together we can make a difference!



Strengthening Communities,
Increasing Opportunities

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Duke Rate Hike Hearing Toolkit

Fact Sheet

Duke Energy Rate Hikes:

Proposing 14% increase for residential consumers

If approved, residential rates will be 30% higher than in 2009.

Duke's proposal guarantees them a profit of 11.25% but we foot the bill

Duke/Progress Long Term Energy Plan:

Duke/Progress plans to raise consumers' rates to pay for unnecessary power plants.

- The business plan will raise rates annually to pay for new power plants even though long-term electricity demand is decreasing.
- Other states are developing energy-saving programs that reduce costs and generate thousands of jobs.
- Duke Energy **does** provide clean energy – in areas of the country where they don't have a monopoly and there is competition among other energy providers
- In NC, Duke Energy exercises its monopoly power through unnecessary rate hikes, increased nuclear power plant investment and a refusal to invest in clean energy.

The plan relies on expensive, dirty energy instead of cheaper, cleaner methods.

- The plan includes doubling capacity from natural gas (fracking) with no reduction in capacity from coal.
- The proposed plan includes only a fractional increase in clean energy capacity (solar and wind) in the next 20 years. (NC WARN)

North Carolina's Economic Reality:

Duke is out of touch with the economic reality of its residential consumers.

- NC has the **5th highest unemployment in the U.S.** (9.2% vs. 7.5% nat'l avg.)
- Over 50% of NC's counties have double-digit unemployment rates



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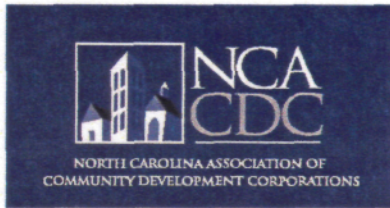
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*If you would like help crafting your testimony for the hearing or have any questions, please contact Erin Brown at NCACDC (919.831.9710 x108).



**Strengthening Communities,
Increasing Opportunities.**

June 5, 2013

MEMO

To: Friends & Allies

From: Susan Perry Cole, President & CEO

I am writing to you regarding the upcoming Duke Energy rate hike hearing which will be held in Winston-Salem on June 19th. Hazel Mack from Legal Aid was kind enough to pass along your contact information so we could share some important information with you and your congregation about the upcoming hearing.

The North Carolina Association of Community Development Corporations (NCACDC) is working in conjunction with other community based groups such as AARP, NAACP, and Consumers Against Rate Hikes to speak out against Duke Energy's proposed 14% rate hike. We believe this type of rate hike could be potentially devastating to working families still struggling to recover from the Great Recession. In an effort to prevent the 14% rate hike, this coalition is encouraging concerned residents to attend the public rate hike hearings being held throughout the state and voice their concerns directly to the NC Utilities Commission. In addition, NCACDC is conducting an information / training session on June 13th to review Duke's proposed rate hike and to help concerned residents prepare to speak at the public hearing.

We are asking for your help to raise awareness among your congregation and encourage their participation. Included in this packet you will find a one page flyer, a fact sheet, and a half page church bulletin insert. We appreciate your help in sharing this important message and helping ensure the voices of the people are heard on this critical issue.