

Action Alert

Energy Generation Bill

August 5, 2021

FCNCL Policy Statement: “Led by the Quaker testimonies of Stewardship and Equality, we urge greater attention to environmental protection measures.”

FCNCL urges its members to tell their Senators immediately that they oppose House Bill 951, the **Modernize Energy Generation** bill that was passed by the NC House on July 15th. It currently sits before the Senate Agriculture, Energy, and Environment Committee, and it may move toward a vote by the full Senate soon and with little warning.

We join with other concerned organizations (among others, the North Carolina Chapter of the Sierra Club, Audubon NC, NC Warn, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the NC Council of Churches) in urging you to **contact your state senator** (<https://ncleg.gov/FindYourLegislators>) and **express your concern about this bill for the following reasons:**

- It decreases consumer protection from rapidly rising utility rates which could result in a 50% increase in power bills over the next decade.
- It marries our state to fossil fuel power generation into the future. While federal energy plans call for closing natural gas plants by the end of the 2030's, this bill would have new gas plants coming online around that time.
- It will not enable our state to meet the 70% carbon reduction by the year 2030 that is necessary to avoid catastrophic climate change.
- It weakens the authority of the NC Utilities Commission.
- It weakens the ability of our governor to lead North Carolina toward a clean energy future by banning North Carolina's admission to the East Coast Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

FCNCL asks whether any bill affecting our state's people, environment, and energy future should be written in secret. The late hour amendment barring Governor Cooper from cooperating with surrounding states to reduce carbon emissions is particularly concerning.

For more information, please see the resources below:

http://www.ncpolicywatch.com/2021/06/18/once-on-the-fast-track-super-secret-energy-bill-derailed-over-costs-nukes-and-unproven-claims/?utm_source=Energy+News+Network+daily+email+digests&utm_campaign=2887169ece-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_05_11_11_39_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_724b1f01f5-2887169ece-89283431

<https://www.newsobserver.com/opinion/article253140908.html?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=cc8f2b47-1237-4662-aeb0-d262df37e119>

<https://addup.sierraclub.org/campaigns/ncenergybill>

<https://www.energyandpolicy.org/duke-energy-windfall-hb-951/>

<https://www.nrdc.org/media/2021/210617-1>