

## NC WARN

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### DESCRIPTION

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NC WARN, the foremost environmental justice organization in North Carolina, is waging an effective battle by combining scientific research, education, and practical action. Recently NC WARN published a comprehensive [North Carolina Clean Path 2025](#), a 113 page document replete with both technical and practical information. An [Executive Summary](#) of 7 pages is also available. Coupled with the publication is an [action plan](#) specifying practical steps for each of three types of localities. The North Carolina Clean Path 2025 offers a way to combat climate change by replacing greenhouse emissions with renewable solar power and enhanced batteries. The recommended distribution system would create more jobs, be less vulnerable to storms, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and cost North Carolinians far less than the expensive system of large power plants and long transmission lines proposed by Duke Energy.

Duke's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP): In 2020, Duke filed an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) a plan required every two years. Duke's plan would belatedly phase out coal plants in 2049. Although Duke's radio ads emphasize solar, Duke now gets only [5% of its electricity from renewables](#) and projects by 2035 to be at only 14%, while the current national average is [19.8%](#).

Emergency Methane Action 2021: With the NAACP and other organizations, NC WARN is championing [Emergency Methane Action](#) to stop the construction of new gas plants and the spewing of methane.

Testimony before NC Utilities Commission 2021: As part of an environmental coalition, NC WARN elicited oral and written testimony against the Duke Energy plan to delay until 2049 retirement of its expensive and polluting coal plants. A member of Chapel Hill Friends testified against Duke Energy's plan.

Stopped Atlantic Coast Pipeline 2020: NC WARN also waged a successful campaign with other environmental groups and in 2020 stopped the proposed 600 mile [Atlantic Coast Pipeline](#) from bringing fracked gas from West Virginia and Pennsylvania to eastern North Carolina.

Duke Energy proposed rate increase 2018: NC WARN, in alliance with other environmental groups, successfully turned back a request by Duke Energy to the NC Utilities Commission for a 12 percent rate increase to pay for the cancellation of Duke's half-billion dollar investment in the Lee Nuclear Plant in northern South Carolina.

The Solarize Campaigns 2013-2016: The NC WARN Solarize Campaigns helped hundreds of homeowners install solar panels. NC WARN enlisted homeowners to join

in collaborative installation contracts to save thousands of dollars. With allied organizations, NC WARN waged solarize campaigns in more than a dozen locations including Asheville, Boone, Buncombe County, Cabarrus, Carrboro, Charlotte, Chatham County, Durham, Orange County, Raleigh, the Research Triangle Park, the Sandhills, and Wake County. Overall 498 solar installation contracts totaled 2.7 megawatts of power and avoided the burning of 1,453 tons of coal. ·

In sum, NC WARN has an outstanding record of effective environmental action in North Carolina.

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## FINANCES

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Fiscal Year	Contributions from individuals, organizations, and foundations	Full-time Equivalent Employees*
2019	\$1,449,721	9*
2020	\$1,406,875	10*

\*Also a contract attorney and an engineer

Jim Warren states, “A substantial portion of our budget goes toward paid-advertising in order to compensate for the ongoing, 8-year Duke Energy suppression of the news media. Tragically, although dozens of reporters have tried to cover these issues, with very few exceptions, news decision-makers in NC continue their failure to allow them to report on the climate-methane-utility connection and the fact that renewables-plus-storage is a cheaper energy approach that could allow the rapid phase-out of coal and natural gas power in NC.”

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## MEETING INVOLVEMENT

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- *In coordination with NC WARN, two CHFM members have testified before the NC Utilities Commission a total five times for cleaner energy and against the continuing use of coal. Our most recent testimony was in April 2021.*
- *As an NC WARN employee, CHFM member Madeline Parker worked as Youth Climate Justice Organizer over the last two years.*
- *CHFM members have regularly participated in NC WARN's outside forums and annual meetings. For example, five CHFM members -- Wendy Michener, Hart Pillow, Ruth Zalph, Nancy Elkins, and Hank Elkins – participated in the November 3, 2017 forum at the Friday Center, where Bill Powers talked on the subject of the North Carolina Clean Path 2025.*

- *For NC WARN Orange County NC Clean Path 2025, Hank Elkins participated in the meeting on November 17, 2017 in Hillsborough.. Orange County has surveyed all county buildings for solar installation. The first installation will be on the gymnasium adjacent to the Whitted Building.*
- *NC WARN welcomes additional volunteers for research, presenters/speakers on NC Clean Path 2025 and other topics, artists, mappers, people to meet with public officials, and volunteers to staff tables at public events.*