

May 12, 2023

North Carolina Utilities Commission  
ATTN: Ms. A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk  
4325 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-4300

RE: Docket No. E-2 Sub 1311: Proposed 9.5 MW Solar Facility in Buncombe County

Dear Ms. Dunston,

The Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce is the leading voice for businesses in Buncombe County and the Western North Carolina region, with over 1,700 members. The Chamber is fully supportive Duke Energy's proposal to build the Asheville Solar Facility at the site of Duke Energy's Asheville Power Plant. This new 9.5 MW facility would be the largest solar facility in the region and be a major step towards regional and statewide carbon reduction goals.

The Chamber is supportive of this project because of the carbon reduction, grid modernization and creative land use in this project. As the County's economic development organization, in a land tight region, the use of the current facility for this additional project ensures that other properties will remain open for the recruitment and expansion of employers offering high paying jobs for the workforce of our region.

Thank you for allowing the public and organizations representing our community to weigh in on this beneficial project.

Sincerely,

Zach Wallace

Vice President of Public Policy  
Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce  
36 Montford Ave.  
Asheville, NC 28801