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To: Statements
Subject: Statement of Position Submitted by Don Ahrens

Statement of Position Submitted

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Docket

E-7 sub 1285

Message

The intent of North Carolina House Bill 951 is to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Duke and Dominion (soon to be Enbridge) are entering into a plan to increase the use of methane significantly. Enbridge will supply Duke with the NG and Duke will supply Enbridge with the massive amounts of electricity needed to convert NG to LNG. This is a great opportunity for them. One would think the communities rates would go down and yet they are increasing substantially. Enbridge has also been consistently allowed to take short cuts in the process for the approval of their LNG plant. To list a few: there was no scoping, which would have been part of the process if they were under federal regulation, there was no environmental impact assessment, which would have been part of the process if they were under federal oversight, they claim that they do not have to have a risk management plan because they are not a petroleum storage facility (LNG is MORE flammable than gasoline and is a greater health hazard, they claim, per a vague EPA letter, that LNG plants are not fuel conversion plants. The process will not work unless the hydrogen sulfide, mercury, water and carbon dioxide are removed. After this REFINING, the gas is cooled to -260 F and compressed to 1/600 of its original volume. I passed college physics and that sounds like conversion to me. This is just another work around to avoid further regulation. Currently, Enbridge is grading their proposed site. They do not have an air permit. There is a public hearing regarding the air permit. I am pretty sure grading the site without an air permit is in violation of the FEDERAL Clean Air Act. Allowing these things to continue without questioning Enbridge is a disservice to the community. LNG is an extremely dangerous compound that needs to be closely regulated. Yes, there have not been many major accidents, but to ignore the risk is folly. Overlooking these issues is a disservice to the surrounding community and the state of North Carolina.