

**Worley, Lindsey**

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**From:** Anja Collette  
<anja.collette0919@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2020  
11:19 AM  
**To:** Statements  
**Subject:** Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Hello,

I'm writing about the recent decision by the NC Utilities Commission to focus solar projects in eastern North Carolina instead of utilizing the existing open space provided by the retired Woodfin landfill. Not only is it wrong to reverse course on something that was already agreed upon by all parties involved, it is also wrong to deny a local source of clean energy to a community that badly needs it. We should be using every bit of open space provided by rooftops, landfills, and parking areas for solar panels in order to generate clean energy rather than cutting down forests or destroying other habitats to build large solar farms. Not only is this large scale generation more inefficient than sourcing solar energy locally, it flies in the face of climate science. We need to be saving every bit of forest we can and producing every bit of energy locally that we can. And why not use this space? It can't be used for anything else. The strides were already taken to make the project happen. I urge you to move forward with the original plan and install solar on the old Buncombe landfill. This would benefit the local community and the state as a whole.

Thank you,  
Anja Collette

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**From:** Mayo Taylor  
<mayotaylor.sc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 12, 2020  
9:00 PM  
**To:** Statements  
**Subject:** Docket E-2 Sub 1257

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the application by Duke Energy Progress to receive a CPCN to proceed with construction of a solar generating plant at the retired Buncombe County landfill in the town of Woodfin. This project is part of the negotiated plan for future energy production in our region that was undertaken as part of the decision to switch the Lake Julian generating station from coal to natural gas, with only two units constructed. Duke committed to constructing 15 MW of solar capacity IN OUR COMMUNITY and the Utilities Commission acknowledged this understanding when it approved Duke's Western Carolinas Modernization Project.

I understand the interest of the Commission staff in promoting cost-effective solar installations across North Carolina but it does not appear that the proposed project, while more expensive than some other installations in the state, is unreasonably expensive. Given that Duke won a competitive bid process to construct solar capacity in a specific community at a specific location, the conditions of that process should be honored.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mayo Taylor  
87 Old Haw Creek Rd.  
Asheville, NC 28805

## **Worley, Lindsey**

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**From:** emily@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Emily Zucchini  
<emily@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2020 9:22 AM  
**To:** Statements  
**Subject:** Docket E-2 Sub 1257: Please Approve the Woodfin Solar Facility

Dear NC Utilities Commission Members,

I am writing to urge you to approve the 5 MW solar facility proposed by Duke Energy Progress at 2720 Riverside Drive in Woodfin, NC. This project is a critical component of Duke's 2015 commitment to build 15 new MW of solar energy as part of its Western Carolinas Modernization Project. The NC Utilities Commission has supported and urged timely implementation of Duke's solar commitment, and now your approval is key to moving this commitment forward.

When the NC Utilities Commission expressed support for 15 MW of solar in Duke's Western Carolinas Modernization Project, your body acknowledged and supported that if all 15 MW of solar could not fit at the former coal plant, "[Duke] will supplement the on-site solar facility with a combination of rooftop, community, or other utility-scale solar facilities at other locations in the Asheville area." Now that Duke has identified a cost-effective site in our community for this additional 5 MW of solar, I urge you to approve it so the solar installation can be built in a timely fashion.

As North Carolina embraces more solar energy, the benefits of this industry should be available to communities here in our western region – not just in parts of the state that have large parcels of flat land. Approving this solar landfill site would bring the benefits of new solar energy directly to our community: solar industry jobs, reducing local carbon emissions, and making real progress on our local renewable energy goals. In this case, the 5 MW solar facility in Woodfin will help Buncombe County meet our adopted resolution to reach 100% renewable energy by 2042.

Building solar energy on low-value land like this landfill also meets the unique needs of our community by preserving other land for new affordable housing, tree canopy, public spaces, and other highly valued uses in our region. Further, relocating this 5 MW of solar to a different site in the Asheville area would cost far more than installing the system at the relatively flat, more affordable retired landfill site. If this project is not approved, we question whether Duke will be allowed to fulfill its promise to our community.

Please allow Duke to make good on its commitment for 15 MW of solar energy in our region. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,  
Emily Zucchini  
80 Debra Ln Asheville, NC 28806-1904  
emily@dogwoodalliance.org