



2021 - 2022 Legislative Priorities

North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association

Utility-Scale Solar

CPRE Expansion - HB589's Competitive Procurement of Renewable Energy (CPRE) bidding process allows public utilities to purchase energy from large producers at competitive rates, saving hundreds of millions of dollars for ratepayers. Expanding this program would create business opportunities and generate further customer savings.

Land Use - Maintain uniform policies for permitting, management, and decommissioning of utility-scale renewable energy projects to reduce inefficient variances among local ordinances and streamline development of essential energy infrastructure.

Rooftop Solar

Remove Rooftop Solar Leasing Cap - Remove the HB589-imposed cap on rooftop solar to encourage more solar companies to enter North Carolina's electricity market.

Rooftop Solar HOAs - Clarify policy around homeowner association covenants to protect property rights and allow homeowners to install rooftop solar energy systems on their homes, modeled after HB750 (2019-20 session).

Electric Vehicles

Allow Direct-to-Consumer Vehicle Sales - HB329 (2019-20 session) created new market opportunities by allowing the resale of electricity for EV charging. Build on HB329, and authorize new business models for selling vehicles, by expanding the availability of direct-to-consumer vehicle sales.

Energy Efficiency

HB330 (2019 - 2020 session) - Require reductions in state building energy and water consumption to save taxpayer dollars.

Building Code Council Reform - Add an energy seat to the Building Code Council.

Customer Access to Clean Energy

Green Source Advantage Reform - HB589's (2017 - 2018 session) Green Source Advantage (GSA) program allows large commercial customers to procure renewable energy. Reforming the financial aspects of the program would allow more of N.C.'s customers to participate in the program.

Community Solar - Repeal and replace the existing, failed HB589 community solar provision with a bigger, better program modeled after successful programs in states such as Florida or Virginia.

PACE Financing - Authorize the financing of certain improvements, such as energy efficiency, renewable energy, hurricane resilience, and COVID-19 protections, via a property owner's taxes.

Authorize Tariff On-Bill Financing - Allow customers greater access to energy efficiency upgrades and rooftop solar by allowing them to pay for investments via their electricity bills.

Systemic Changes to Generate Ratepayers Savings

Market Competition Study - Examine the costs and benefits of opening North Carolina's current monopoly electricity market to competition on various levels.

IRP Reform - Every two years the electric utility submits an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) detailing how it will meet energy needs for the next 15 years. Competitive procurement-based IRP reform would ensure that the utility is looking at all-source, lowest-cost options to meet consumer energy needs.

Performance-Based Regulation - Implement performance-based regulation (PBR) to motivate utilities to accomplish outcomes that benefit customers via performance incentive mechanisms (PIMs), multiyear rate plans (MYRPs), and decoupling utility revenues from electricity sales.

Clean Energy Standard - Adopt a North Carolina-specific policy to replace increasingly uneconomic generation with newer, cleaner resources that drive local economic development.

Coal Securitization - Provide the electric utility the option to securitize coal plant retirement and reap ratepayer savings.