



NC SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY ASSOCIATION

Clean Energy in North Carolina

North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association's 2022
Continuing Legal Education Program

June 23, 2022 | 8:45 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. | Raleigh Convention Center

Course Goal:

This course will explore energy matters currently at issue in North Carolina and adjacent topics in the Southeast. This all-day continuing legal education program (CLE) will provide its attendees with legal and regulatory education on the ongoing transition to a cleaner energy mix and the related legal elements.

Attendees will receive the following credits:

North Carolina: **6.00 General CLE Hours**

Includes **2.00** Ethics/Professional Responsibility

Course Objectives:

- Provide attendees with an update on regulatory and legislative developments impacting clean energy in North Carolina and nationally
- Provide attendees current information that will be useful in the year ahead for clean energy issues

Bios and photos of the speakers as well as the Power Point Slides will be made available through the NCSEA website with a special password we will provide to all attendees.

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8:00 – 8:45 A.M. **Networking & Conversation Over Breakfast**

8:45 – 9:00 A.M. **Welcome & Course Introduction**

- Goals of the course
- Agenda Overview

Ward Lenz, Executive Director, North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association
Taylor Jones, Regulatory Counsel, North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association

9:00 – 10:00 A.M. **Gender Equity Issues in Energy Law**

While women account for 47% of the nation’s workforce, women only account for 25% of the energy workforce¹ and 37% of the nation’s attorneys.² This panel will explore the entrenched biases that exist in energy law, at the intersection of these two majority-male workforces, as well as ongoing obstacles for women in energy law that have emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent return to in-office work.

Christina Cress, Partner, Bailey & Dixon

Kendrick Fentress, Associate General Counsel, Duke Energy

Nadia Luhr, Staff Attorney, Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission

Gudrun Thompson, Senior Attorney, Southern Environmental Law Center

Monica Webb-Shackelford, Attorney, Legal Division – North Carolina Utilities Commission

10:00 – 10:15 A.M. **Break**

10:15 – 11:15 A.M. **View from the Bench**

The View from the Bench panel consists of Utility Commissioners providing their perspectives about the changing energy landscape in the southeast and best practices for litigating in front of the Commissions in a Q-and-A style discussion.

Gray Styers, Partner, Fox Rothschild LLP

Commissioner Floyd McKissick, North Carolina Utilities Commission

Commissioner Kim Duffley, North Carolina Utilities Commission

Commissioner Jeff Hughes, North Carolina Utilities Commission

¹ Figure 1,

<https://www.naseo.org/data/sites/1/documents/publications/Workforce%20Diversity%20Data%20Findings%20MASTER%20Final42.pdf>.

² Page 12, <https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/news/2021/0721/polp.pdf>

11:15 – 12:15 P.M. **The Sun is Rising on Solar+**

Duke Energy and various stakeholders, including NCSEA, recently negotiated a net metering settlement comprised of a rebate program for smart thermostat customers, along with time of use rates. This panel will explore whether this agreement helps to pave the way for solar paired with other technologies, including solar+storage and solar+EVs. What role can these solar+ pairings play in shaping load and reducing peak? What is necessary to allow solar+ technologies to provide grid services? How would aggregation of solar+ services work in a vertically-integrated utility market?

Ben Smith, Counsel, Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP

Lauren Bowen, Senior Attorney, Southern Environmental Law Center

Brad Harris, Manager, Rates and Regulatory Solutions at Duke Energy

Taylor Speer, Counsel, Fox Rothschild

Jason Keyes, Partner, Keyes & Fox LLP

12:15 – 1:30 P.M. **Lunch**

1:30 – 2:30 P.M. **Carbon in Energy**

2021's House Bill 951 directed the NC Utilities Commission to adopt a Carbon Plan aimed at reducing North Carolina's electric emissions by 70% by 2030 while targeting net zero by 2050. This panel will explore how the Carbon Plan differs from North Carolina's traditional integrated resource planning process, as well as interactions with federal and South Carolina laws.

Ajulo Othow, Founder & CEO, EnerWealth & General Counsel, Carolina Solar Services

Luis Martinez, Director, Southeast Energy, Climate & Clean Energy Program, Natural Resources Defense Council

Ben Snowden, Partner, Fox Rothschild LLP

Nick Jimenez, Staff Attorney, Southern Environmental Law Center

Rebecca Dulin, Director, Stakeholder Engagement, Duke Energy



2:30 – 3:30 P.M.

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In recent years, additional legal challenges have arisen creating jurisdictional questions about the boundaries of state and federal jurisdiction. Are issues pertaining to North Carolina's carbon plan, multi-state transmission and generation planning, interconnection of independent power producers, and large solar facilities governed by the North Carolina Utilities Commission or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission?

Peter Ledford, General Counsel and Director of Policy, North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association

Jeff Dennis, General Counsel and Managing Director, Advanced Energy Economy

Jennie Chen, World Resources Institute

Nick Guidi, Nick Guidi, Southern Environmental Law Center

3:30 – 3:45 P.M.

Break

3:45 – 4:45 P.M.

#EthicsHour

If you're attending this CLE, you may be familiar with #energytwitter, which has become increasingly prominent in the sharing of regulatory and policy information across the country and beyond. How does an attorney appropriately balance participation in public-facing social media with their professional responsibilities? There are clear benefits in engaging publicly, such as on Twitter, about policy issues related to the energy transition, but what pitfalls do attorneys need to avoid in order to protect their client's interests while doing so?

Tom Allen, Global Lead, International Disputes, Kilpatrick Townsend

Jan Jacobowitz, Legal Ethics Advisor

Carmen Bannon, Deputy Counsel, NC State Bar Association

4:45 – 5:00 P.M.

Wrap Up and Conclusion

Peter Ledford, General Counsel and Director of Policy, North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association