

**BEFORE THE TOWN COUNCIL
FOR THE TOWN OF CARRBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**

**Resolution Authorizing the Filing and Litigation of a Civil Action for Damages Caused by
Climate Change.**

The Town Council for the Town of Carrboro Finds as Follows:

WHEREAS, the scientific consensus is clear that the extraction, distribution, use and emission of fossil fuels, including both coal and natural gas, are primarily responsible for the warming that is accelerating global climate change.

WHEREAS, the scientific community has declared that because of rising greenhouse gas emissions, planet Earth is facing an unprecedented and accelerating climate emergency.

WHEREAS, the scientific consensus is clear that climate change is primarily the result of human activity, especially with respect to the use of fossil fuels.

WHEREAS, the scientific community has declared that anthropogenic climate change has resulted in recurring extreme weather events, including but not limited to extreme temperatures, riverine and urban flooding, hurricanes, extreme precipitation with respect to both frequency and intensity, and other extreme recurring weather events.

WHEREAS, the above-described consensuses have been well understood in the energy and utility company industries for many decades.

WHEREAS, recent evidence has shown that Duke Energy Corporation has been well aware of the above-described facts about the causes and consequences of climate change for many decades.

WHEREAS, despite being fully aware for many decades of the causes and consequences of climate change, including the serious dangers to life and property posed by anthropogenic climate change, Duke Energy Corporation has perpetuated a decades-long deception campaign designed to convince the public, including the Town of Carrboro, that certain established facts concerning climate science were purportedly not true.

WHEREAS, Duke Energy Corporation, both directly and through its trade organizations, attempted to convince the public variously that the climate was not warming, that humans were not responsible for climate change, that fossil fuels were not responsible for climate change, that a warming climate was actually a helpful phenomenon, that climate change would not be harmful, that fossil fuel-based business models could be compatible with reduced emissions, and other falsehoods.

WHEREAS, as a result of Duke Energy Corporation's campaign of deception, the transition away from fossil fuels and toward renewable energy has been substantially delayed and the climate crisis has therefore been materially exacerbated.

WHEREAS, the results of climate change, some of which were described above, have caused the Town of Carrboro to incur, and will cause the Town to incur in the future, substantial expenses, including increased expenses for roadway repairs, stormwater measures, utility expenses, and numerous other damages.

WHEREAS, these damages incurred by the Town of Carrboro are the substantial result of Duke Energy Corporation's campaign of deception.

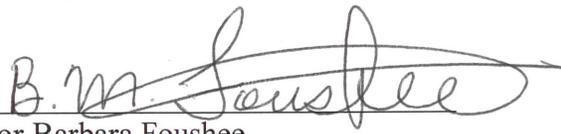
WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro recently launched an investigation of the causes and consequences of climate change and Duke Energy Corporation's campaign of deception, and as part of that investigation, the Town of Carrboro worked with outside lawyer Matthew D. Quinn of Lewis & Roberts, PLLC.

WHEREAS, principles of justice, fairness, law, and financial prudence all demand that the Town of Carrboro pursue legal claims against Duke Energy Corporation for its climate deception campaign and the resulting substantial damages incurred by the Town.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Carrboro hereby adopts this Resolution approving the filing and litigation of a civil action against Duke Energy Corporation for its climate deception campaign, and the Town Council further approves the retainer of attorney Matthew D. Quinn to pursue these legal claims on behalf of the Town.

This the 3rd day of December in the year 2024.

TOWN OF CARRBORO

By: 
Mayor Barbara Foushee