

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

CLEAN ENERGY WEEK

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Governor Roy Cooper's Executive Order 80 encourages the use of clean energy resources, including energy efficiency, solar, wind, energy storage, hydropower, and other technologies, to facilitate a modern and resilient electric grid; and

WHEREAS, clean energy lowers the rate of greenhouse gas emissions, which is essential to combat climate change and mitigate its current and future impacts on our communities and economy; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Clean Energy Plan, developed as directed by E.O. 80 with stakeholder input, includes specific recommendations to advance clean energy resources in our state; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is a global leader in the field of clean energy because of its higher education system, skilled workforce, technology industry, and research and development sectors; our state is second in the United States for both installed solar capacity and electricity generation, as well as energy efficiency, smart grid technology, and data analytics; and

WHEREAS, more than 300,000 North Carolina workers are employed in clean economy industries, according to a workforce assessment by the NC Department of Commerce; North Carolina leads the southeast United States in the creation of clean energy jobs, a sector of the economy that continues to grow and now accounts for over 50 percent of the state's entire energy sector workforce; and

WHEREAS, clean energy benefits all 100 counties of North Carolina, employing almost 113,000 people creating jobs for scientists, engineers, pipefitters, roofers, mechanics, electricians, construction workers, and in the agricultural, banking, legal, and manufacturing industries; over 25 percent of our state's clean energy workers are based in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, clean energy is driving both our state's energy and economic future by lowering the cost of energy at home and in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, clean energy improves public health by reducing air pollution and other environmental impacts that result from fossil fuel use and often disproportionately impact overburdened communities and communities of color; and

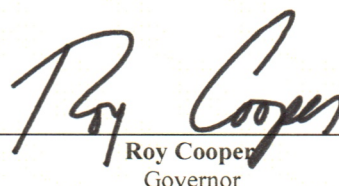
WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has concluded that many minority, low-income, tribal, and indigenous people in the United States have experienced higher levels of environmental pollution and other social and economic burdens that have led to poorer health outcomes, as well as fewer financial or advocacy opportunities; and

WHEREAS, all North Carolinians have a right to clean air, clean water, clean soil, and a stable climate, and they deserve an opportunity to participate fully and meaningfully in decisions that affect their living environment; and

WHEREAS, Clean Energy Week is an opportunity to highlight the creativity and innovation of North Carolinians in creating a clean energy economy, and champion the jobs being created in our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 21 – 25, 2020, as "CLEAN ENERGY WEEK" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.




Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this sixteenth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.