



NC ENERGY POLICY TASK FORCE

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 | 12:30 – 2:30 PM

WebEx

Co-Chairs: NC Representative Kyle Hall & DEQ Secretary Reid Wilson

Executive Summary

This virtual Task Force meeting was called to order by Co-Chairs Hall and Wilson. The roll was called. The Members immediately began discussing the interim report.

First, the key findings (section 4) were reviewed. The major changes include compromise language on load forecasting, including a corporate commitments finding, data center numbers in the state, and a new load flexibility finding. Members noted wanting a fact check and a citation for the data center numbers. Staff will follow up on this. Members also noted wanting more specificity and fact-checking on load growth and load forecasting. There was discussion of whether to add modeling findings; the Members seemed mostly in favor of not adding a finding. Members also asked what the modeling will be used for; the Governor's office clarified that it will not be used to intervene in NCUC proceedings.

The Members also reviewed the recommendations (section 5).

For recommendation 1 on large load tariffs, Members again debated the need to explore or develop a proposal for this policy mechanism. While some Members supported the Task Force developing a large load tariff proposal to share with NCUC, other Members opposed this recommendation on the grounds of not yet knowing what the proposal should contain. There was also concern about the usefulness of the Task Force's work here. NCUC may be considering a large load tariff in response to Duke Energy's IRP and the large load technical conference in October 2025; if this is the case, would the Task Force's work come too late to be useful? This is something the Members will consider as they continue to debate this recommendation.

For recommendation 2 on "bring your own capacity," Members noted support, but also noted concern for time and workload management if the Task Force continues to take on additional proposal development recommendations.

For recommendation 3 on load flexibility, some Members voiced support while others voiced workload concerns. It was also noted that load flexibility makes no major impact on resource mix, because load flexibility programs were not made mandatory.

For Recommendation 4 on interconnection reform, a Member asked to clarify how interconnection reform improves grid management. Members also wanted to clarify who should take responsibility for this recommendation; they noted concern over sending this to anyone without more detail, though additional partners like NCUC and Advanced Energy were considered. Members expressed interest in forming a new subcommittee on this topic.

For Recommendation 5 on tax incentives, the Members wanted to understand whether this issue pertains to energy policy or the wider issue of economic development. Members noted wanting to be mindful about discussing tax policy carelessly to avoid any jurisdictional issues. Members did note that tax exemptions in other states for certain large load customers cost those states millions or billions of dollars in revenue, while other Members were concerned that this was not in scope for the Task Force. Members want this more closely tied to energy policy, and agree that it impacts customers and ratepayers but don't want to risk scope creep. This will require more discussion, but perhaps this recommendation can be passed to another actor in the state.

For Recommendation 6, Members noted the need to evaluate FERC order 2023.

For Recommendation 7 on energy efficiency programs, Members wanted participation requirements included. Members also wanted to clarify who would be responsible for this recommendation, and decided it could be similar to earlier recommendations where the Task Force does additional work to develop a proposal.

For Recommendation 8 on independent load forecasting, some Members noted support. The question of ownership was raised, with Members suggesting DEQ and DoC; NCUC would not be appropriate to own this. Other Members suggested an outside organization due to funding and staffing constraints. Additionally, the Task Force could keep this recommendation to develop a more robust plan or proposal.

The meeting adjourned with reminders of the next two virtual meetings, and the next in-person meeting.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

12:00 PM – 12:05 PM

Representative Kyle Hall

Secretary Reid Wilson

Conflict of Interest Policy

Public Records Policy

Call to Order & Roll Call

- Sec. Wilson

- Rep. Hall
- Rep. Cheser
- Rep. Harrison
- Sen. Mayfield
- Matt Abele
- Chris Ayers
- Chris Chung
- Peter Ledford on behalf of Christina Cress
- Mark McIntire
- Kathy Moyer
- Jennifer Mundt
- Tim Profeta
- Dave Rogers
- Asher Spiller
- Winnie Wade
- Steve Wall
- Marshall Conrad on behalf of Markus
- Michael Youth
- Dana Magliola

Several reached out to note they will be late

DRAFT REPORT REVIEW

- Staff: We have modified the plan according to late meeting
 - Incorporated feedback and comments and last comments were to come in this Monday
 - Went over dates moving forward

Key Findings:

TFM: Are we able to see what was changed from the first draft?

Staff: Yes. In the key findings section:

- #5 compromise language on load forecasting
- #4 discussion on data centers coming to state and public interest
- Meeting proposed load growth bullet - large load customers and clean energy targets
- Load flex incorporated into effective use of new resources and infrastructure

TFM: #4 - are these data centers of a certain size? I've seen a map that mentions 90 across the state. Do we want to put a qualifier in there for size? On the carbon neutral target bullet I would put that it is an additional challenge

- Staff: will find a citation for this statistic

TFM: #7 - is this supposed to be projected growth due to large loads? Worried about the accuracy or lack of specificity

Staff: On technical advisory subcommittee meeting we had comments on what could be a good finding

- TFM: The modeler said these are preliminary and thus we should not add findings because the process is not complete

- TFM: I understand where he's coming from but the modeling conclusively shows that if large load customers have significant commitments to clean energy it has the potential to affect the resource portfolio.
- TFM: How can a commitment get found in a least cost scenario?
- TFM: Answer to question is a large load tariff that allocates the cost to customers with a clean energy commitment - potential to save ratepayer costs
- TFM: Does #8 get at what you're trying to say?
- TFM: It is beginning to but doesn't get at clean energy commitments
- TFM: I thought the modeler said that they are going back to remodel and make sure it's accurate. We don't have enough valid information to put it.
- TFM: Didn't hear the conversation with the modeling team but if we are having technical modeling done to inform what we come up with this seems like a relevant take away with what we're investing in modeling. With other TFM points taken. Can we ask the modelers for language? See if they are comfortable with putting this
- TFM: I heard what other Members heard is that there is work to be done. Premature to assert findings.
- TFM: I agree but are we able to evaluate that now between here and when the report will go out
 - Staff: We can connect with them and get more information back however this is a new tool they are using
- TFM: What is this modeling going to be used for? Multiple times we are told it won't be used for the commission. However, it sounds that we will be sending this report to the utilities commission. Very interested to see the language but hesitant to see the findings included in that modeling.
 - Staff: Governor's Office will not be an intervenor in carbon plan proceedings. The task force is welcome to submit the report in proceedings but that was not the goal.
 - TFM: I understand the member's point. I don't recall that there was a similar point for the large load task force.

TFM: Not sure this is necessary for a "finding" but there are states that are doing this. In Kansas, for example, Evergy will model an optimized, least cost plan, and then replace the capacity/energy with carbon free resources and charge the large load customer for the cost delta. but this is less about a planning scenario and more for delivering for a specific customer who has agreed to pay for it.

TFM Apologies for being late - joined at about 12:45



Cleo Carter

Me • Unverified



Autumn Proudlove

Unverified



Caitlin Flanagan

Cohost, presenter • Unverified



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HR Hassan, Rania

Host



AC Allison Carr

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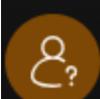
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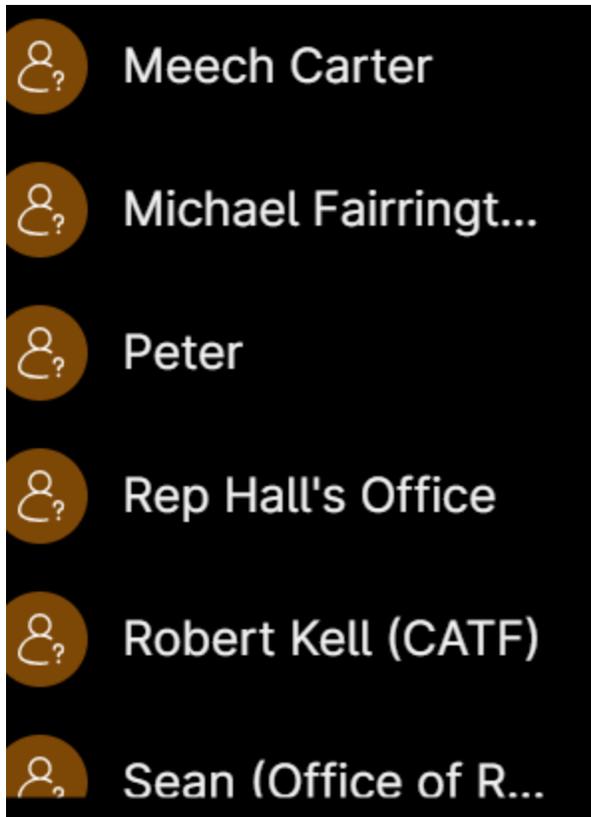
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Lu Ann Coe



Matthew Mayers,...



Recommendation Section:

Overview of changes since last draft

Recommendation #1

- TFM: I'll reiterate that Dominion does have a large load tariff for Nucor Steel: <https://cdn-dominionenergy-prd-001.azureedge.net/-/media/content/rates-and-tariffs/pdfs/north-carolina/large-business/schedule-ns.pdf?rev=ab05605cbc87493696cac83d85576041&hash=01C336CDC190DE51DEDF7A1457B11715>
- TFM (A): **Advocates for “develop a proposal for”** it came out of a conversation with another task force member. We have definitely explored it, we don't want to adopt it yet, we want to do more than just have conversations on it. We want to develop a proposal for it to be sent on to the next body.
 - TFM: I like that
 - TFM: I would second the TFM (A) recommendation.
 - TFM (B): I don't know enough to know if we support this recommendation. Begins to name several different scenarios
 - TFM: EDF would support TFM (A) 's recommendation
 - TFM (A): We are not asking today for people to support what we come up with. Would you support recommendation to create one?

- TFM (A) to TFM (B): With the changes we've talked about with this language are you any more comfortable?
 - TFM (B): I don't think this is ever something that the membership will be able to support. Which is why I think this it is important to have language surrounding "
- TFM: no interventions or recommendations from NCUC proceedings have been made public
- TFM: We don't need to reinvent the wheel. Most states in the country have or are developing laws and regs to protect ratepayers and to manage dramatic increases in demand. This was discussed extensively during the NCUC Oct. 14-15 large load technical conference. Dominion VA's presentation was thorough.
- Staff: Want to remind everyone that there is language surrounding "not all task force members were in unanimity and some members did not agree"
 - TFM: We would like for that disclaimer to be in the executive summary as well

Recommendation #2

Overview of changes

- TFM: This has the same language of "develop a proposal for" trying to be more directive than explore and less directive than adopt
 - TFM: seconds the recommendation
 - TFM: not a proposal that anyone has to support but something we can move forward working on, supports
 - TFM: support for developing a BYOC
 - TFM: We are a membership organization and this is a new language so I can't confirm nor deny. This is a lot of work to develop proposals and I think we should be mindful of that.
 - TFM: Important that we put some goals out there besides exploration while fully acknowledging it has the full recommendations in the end with full support from the group.
 - TFM: also supports a BYOC proposal
 - TFM: I think the language for Recommendation 2 is moving in the right direction and I would support the Task Force adopting this recommendation.

Recommendation #3

Overview of changes

- TFM: Supports develop a plan for
- TFM: agrees
- TFM: continued comments of workload concerns
- TFM: Support and to think member's point is valid but we have to dig deep and this process is important with the stakeholders we're convening
- TFM: We support that language
- TFM: Observation and not suggesting but mentions that what we heard in modeling update. Load flexibility does not change resource mix.
 - TFM: When will we see these takeaways?

- Staff will connect modelers to TFM's interested in this takeaway.
- TFM: Explains the modelers found 0 impact because they made the assumption that enforceable flexibility commitments could not be made and forceful for resource planning. Not sure this is a correct representation of policy and law but proponents of load flex show that this can reduce demand.

Recommendation #4

Overview of changes

- TFM: How does interconnection reform improve grid management? A reformed interconnection process in my view does not improve grid management
 - TFM: does not agree
- TFM: Clarify the who
 - TFM: Can we talk about including the NCUC in the who?
 - TFM: the task force should be eliminated from the who, drop FERC
 - TFM: Advanced Energy as a possible Who
 - TFM: Worried about sending this out without more meat on its bones. Maybe suggesting that we keep it and develop a proposal for. Don't have a sense of how much work we're keeping to ourselves. If we send this out and say we're handing it over to the commission nothing may happen.
 - TFM: Shares this concern and doesn't know if utilities commission has the bandwidth
 - TFM: Who would join this subcommittee? First recs are higher priority than this
 - TFM: really would like a subcommittee this is a high priority

Recommendation #5

Overview of changes

- TFM: Trying to understand whether we are addressing this issue as it relates to energy policy or the wider issue of economic development
 - TFM: Agrees and we should be mindful. If we start talking about more exemptions it would potentially be seen as a shot across the bow and I'm not sure if the Governors office is ready for that
 - Staff gives context on why the rec is in the form that it is
 - TFM: Current law gives this industry a tax break with no conditions. We are exploring this exact industry in this current context and i think its totally appropriate for this to be looked at as a vehicle to meet EO
 - TFM: This tax exemption for VA is costing a billion dollars a year and theirs is more lenient than ours
 - TFM: Thinks its an important issue but not sure its right within the root concern of energy growth.
 - TFM: One of the examples in the what at the top on why were looking at this is that ratepayers get an equitable solution which is surely important to elected officials but

not relevant to the task force. I am not opposed to including but need to put link to benefits to desired energy policy

- TFM: Agrees it's not part of the objective to taskforce but the link is
- TFM: I agree, link more closely to energy
- TFM: Add energy to the first line
- TFM: We don't know how this breaks out and think that this is a benefit and want to explore how to use the whole tax incentive package. This is not one that we're keeping. We won't be making the recommendation

Recommendation #6

Overview of changes

- TFM: We have to evaluate per FERCs order 2023. I would presume that it is transparent. Getting answers on this order

Recommendation #7

Overview of changes

- TFM: Under considerations it is important to include that it requires participation. Just because you create a program doesn't mean it will create the benefits
- Staff: Who is the who?
- TFM: Follow similar language that we're coalescing around for 1-4. Develop a proposal for
 - TFM: Agrees and change the timeline to a year
- TFM: For consistency we now have residential for recommendation but have who as large customers.
 - Staff: Coming from large customers to fund these programs
 - TFM: This is a special program. This is helping them manage load?
 - Staff: creating further capacity
 - TFM: can be a further
 - This is covered in the Google testimony - Oct. 14 2025 - NCUC tech conference on large load

Recommendation #8

- TFM: Supports
- TFM: Who owns it? The utilities commission and public staff do our own analysis of forecasts but we're not the one owning the forecasts. We investigate forecasts
- TFM: What executive agencies did we find?
 - Staff: DEQ & DoC + more because it
 - TFM: Is this in DEQ purview?
 - TFM: We do not have the capacity. If we have the funding and people available yes. We don't have the expertise.
 - TFM: It will most likely have to be an outside source because of the technical
- TFM: the Who seems to be jumping to the entity who will be forecasting rather than who is responsible for directing the forecasting to have happened

- TFM: Feels like we're conflating the two
- TFM: I would prefer not to ignore a need even if we cannot assign it
- TFM: Do we want to similarly assign the Who to the Energy Policy Task Force to come up with recommendations for the third party?
- TFM: We can chew on it and keep it.