

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YR ENACTED
Enacted	<p>Climate Action Plans</p> <p>North Carolina Deep Decarbonization Pathways Analysis</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Order 246 (2022) North Carolina Deep Decarbonization Pathways Analysis (2023) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2023
Not Enacted	<p>Climate Advisory Bodies</p> <p>Climate advisory bodies often write or advise on a state's climate plan, and make non-binding recommendations on climate policy design and implementation. The bodies can consist of all non-government members, or be a mix of government and non-government members.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	
Enacted	<p>Climate Bureaucracy</p> <p>NC Climate Change Interagency Council</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Order 80 (2018) NC Climate Change Interagency Council 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2018
Enacted	<p>Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets</p> <p>40% by 2025 50% by 2030 net-zero by 2050</p> <p>Relative to 2005 levels</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Order 80 (2018) Executive Order 246 (2022) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2022

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YR ENACTED
Enacted	<p>State Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory</p> <p>The 1990-2020 Greenhouse Gas Inventory was published in January 2024.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Order 246 (2022) 1990-2020 Greenhouse Gas Inventory (2024) 	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2024
Not Enacted	<p>Cumulative Impact Assessment</p> <p>Cumulative impact assessments determine the health and environmental impacts of renewing or granting a permit for certain pollution-generating facilities in environmental justice communities. Increased pollution burdens in communities may result in the permit application being denied.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Advisory Bodies</p> <p>Environmental Justice Advisory Council</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Order 292 (2023) Environmental Justice Advisory Council 	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2023
Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Bureaucracy</p> <p>Cabinet Agencies Environmental Justice and Equity Leads</p> <p>NCDEQ – Environmental Justice Coordinator</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Order 246 (2022) Cabinet Agencies Environmental Justice and Equity Leads NCDEQ – Environmental Justice Coordinator 	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2022

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YR ENACTED
Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Community Definitions</p> <p>"Underserved populations" are census block groups where (1) at least 50% of residents are non-White or which have a non-White population 10% higher than the county or state share; and (2) where 20% of the population is experiencing poverty and the share of households in poverty is at least 5% higher than the county or state share.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Justice and Equity Advisory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Charter (2022) ■ 	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2022
Not Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Community Investment Requirements</p> <p>Environmental justice (EJ) community investment requirements help ensure communities most impacted by environmental burdens are benefitting equitably from public programs by requiring a certain percentage of funds and/or benefits from other policies are allocated to EJ communities.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
Enacted	<p>Environmental Justice Mapping Tools</p> <p>N.C. Environmental Justice Hub</p> <p>DEQ North Carolina Community Mapping System</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DEQ North Carolina Community Mapping System (2020) ■ Executive Order 292 (2023) ■ N.C. Environmental Justice Hub (2024) ■ 	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	2024
Not Enacted	<p>Just Transition Advisory Bodies</p> <p>Just transition advisory bodies write or advise on a state's just transition plan or report, and make recommendations on ways to support affected workers, communities, and industries. The bodies can consist of all non-government members, or be a mix of government and non-government members.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Not Enacted	<p>Just Transition Funds</p> <p>Just transition funds support initiatives and investments aimed at facilitating the equitable transition of workers and communities affected by shifts in industries or policies that transition from fossil fuels.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	

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Not Enacted	<p>Just Transition Offices and Staff</p> <p>Just transition offices and staff assist workers and communities transitioning away from fossil fuel extraction and use, typically through retraining programs and support with relocation and economic diversification. Offices and staff also coordinate with other state agencies to effectively design policy to achieve a just transition.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Not Enacted	<p>Just Transition Plans</p> <p>Just transition plans are documents that outline policies and recommendations aimed at supporting communities, workers, and industries affected by the transition away from fossil fuels. The plans often focus on workforce development and retraining, job creation, and economic diversification.</p>	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Enacted	<p>Green Banks</p> <p>North Carolina Clean Energy Fund</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Carolina Clean Energy Fund 	Cross-Sector	Climate Finance	2020
Not Enacted	<p>Carbon Pollution Pricing</p> <p>Carbon pollution pricing establishes a pollution fee or cap-and-trade program on the greenhouse gas emissions associated with each sector/source of emissions within the state. Programs typically cover the electricity, buildings, transportation, and/or industrial sectors.</p>	Cross-Sector	Carbon Valuation	
Enacted	<p>Social Cost of Carbon</p> <p>State agencies are encouraged to incorporate the social cost of carbon into agency decision-making processes that impact greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Order 246 (2022) 	Cross-Sector	Carbon Valuation	2022

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Enacted	<p>Clean Energy and Renewable Portfolio Standards</p> <p>10% renewable energy by 2018 for munis and coops 12.5% renewable energy by 2021 for investor-owned utilities (IOUs)</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N.C. Gen. Stat. §62-133.8 (2007) 	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	2007
Enacted	<p>Clean Energy Plans</p> <p>North Carolina Clean Energy Plan</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Order No. 80 (2018) • North Carolina Clean Energy Plan (2019) 	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	2019
Enacted	<p>Electricity Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets</p> <p>70% reduction by 2030, relative to 2005 levels, and carbon-neutral emissions by 2050</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB 951 (2021) 	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	2021
Not Enacted	<p>Community Choice Aggregation</p> <p>Community choice aggregation allows local governments to procure power on behalf of their residents, businesses, and municipal accounts from an alternative supplier while still receiving transmission and distribution service from their existing utility provider.</p>	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	




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Partially Enacted	<p>Distributed Generation/Solar Carve-out</p> <p>The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <p>SPOT - Distributed Generation/Solar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carve-out in North Carolina ■ <p>Policy Components</p> <p>1/5</p>	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	
Partially Enacted	<p>Net Metering</p> <p>The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <p>SPOT - Net Metering in North Carolina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ SPOT - Aggregate Net Metering in North Carolina ■ <p>Policy Components</p> <p>3/11</p>	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	
Partially Enacted	<p>Shared Renewables</p> <p>The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <p>SPOT - Shared Renewables in North Carolina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carolina ■ <p>Policy Components</p> <p>3/6</p>	Electricity	Clean Energy Generation	
Not Enacted	<p>Energy Storage Targets</p> <p>Energy storage targets establish procurement targets for energy storage systems by a certain date, often with interim targets. Targets can vary from broad megawatt (MW) requirements to more specific mandates that focus on the adoption of certain storage technologies.</p>	Electricity	Transmission, Distribution, and Energy Storage	


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Enacted	<p>Interconnection Standards</p> <p>North Carolina received a C grade from Freeing the Grid.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <p>Freeing the Grid North Carolina Grade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (2023) ■ 	Electricity	Transmission, Distribution, and Energy Storage	2023
Not Enacted	<p>Coal Phaseouts</p> <p>Coal phaseouts establish a target year by which states must end coal-fired power generation.</p>	Electricity	Coal Retirement	
Enacted	<p>Coal Plant Securitization</p> <p>Requires the securitization of 50% of the remaining value of all subcritical coal-fired generating facilities, with the remaining costs to be recovered through energy rates</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <p>HB 951 (2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 	Electricity	Coal Retirement	2021
Enacted	<p>Commercial Energy Codes</p> <p>The statewide energy code for commercial building construction is 2015 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2013 with amendments.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <p>North Carolina State Energy Code (2018)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2018
Enacted	<p>Residential Energy Codes</p> <p>The statewide energy code for residential construction is 2015 IECC.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <p>North Carolina State Energy Code (2018)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2018
Not Enacted	<p>Stretch Building Energy Codes</p> <p>Stretch building energy codes are an optional, more stringent building code established by the state that local jurisdictions can adopt to require that newly constructed buildings are more efficient than the baseline state codes.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	

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Not Enacted	<p>Appliance Standards</p> <p>Appliance standards set minimum energy and water conservation requirements for appliances and equipment.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	
Not Enacted	<p>Building Performance Standards</p> <p>Building performance standards establish energy and/or greenhouse gas performance targets for existing buildings in a state. These targets increase in stringency over time, leading to efficiency improvements in buildings to conserve energy and reduce emissions.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	
Not Enacted	<p>Clean Heat Standards</p> <p>Clean heat standards establish a performance standard requiring heat providers to deliver a gradually-increasing percentage of low-emission heating services to customers.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	
Enacted	<p>Energy Efficiency Resource Standards (EERS)</p> <p>Public electric utilities in the state must obtain renewable energy power and energy efficiency savings of 12.5% of 2020 retail sales in 2021 and thereafter. 40% of this requirement can be met with energy efficiency measures annually.</p> <p>Gas utilities are not subject to an EERS.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB 3 (2007) 	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	2007
Not Enacted	<p>Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)</p> <p>Property assessed clean energy (PACE) allows residential and/or commercial property owners to finance efficiency upgrades with loans tied to the property.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	

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Partially Enacted	<p>Weatherization Funding</p> <p>The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into “components”, which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SPOT - Weatherization Funding in North Carolina <p>Policy Components</p> <p>1/4</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	
Not Enacted	<p>All-Electric Buildings</p> <p>All-electric buildings policies require new buildings to be constructed with all-electric heating, cooling, and cooking systems to transition away from fossil-fuel use in buildings.</p>	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Electrification	
Not Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle Rebates</p> <p>Electric vehicle rebates offer rebates to make light-duty electric vehicles more affordable to increase their adoption in a state.</p>	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	
Not Enacted	<p>Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) Standards</p> <p>Under Section 177 of the Clean Air Act, California has the unique authority to establish vehicle emission standards more stringent than federal standards, and other states may adopt California’s standards. These Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) standards control tailpipe emissions of criteria pollutants and greenhouse gasses from light-duty vehicles.</p>	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	
Not Enacted	<p>Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandates</p> <p>Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) mandates, also known as “clean car standards,” require automakers to produce and sell a certain percentage of zero-emission light-duty vehicles each model year based on total new vehicle sales. The most stringent ZEV mandates require 100% of new vehicle sales to be electric by 2035 and are known as “Advanced Clean Cars II”.</p>	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	

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Not Enacted	<p>Low NOx Omnibus Rules</p> <p>Low NOx Omnibus Rules establish stringent tailpipe emission standards for heavy duty vehicles, updated testing procedures, and technology-neutral compliance mechanisms to reduce nitrous oxide (NOx) pollution. The regulation must be adopted first by California, and other states may adopt the regulation under the federal Clean Air Act.</p>	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	
Not Enacted	<p>Medium- and Heavy-Duty (MHD) Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandates</p> <p>In 2022, Governor Cooper signed EO 271 directing the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality to propose that the Environmental Management Commission adopt an Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) program by May 15, 2023. However, the 2023 budget included language that prohibits ACT's regulatory process from proceeding further.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Order 271 (2022) • HB 259 (2023) 	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	
Not Enacted	<p>Medium- and Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicle (EV) Rebates</p> <p>Medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) electric vehicle rebates consist of programs and policies that offer rebates to make MHD electric vehicles more affordable to increase their adoption in a state.</p>	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	
Not Enacted	<p>Electric Bus Procurement Targets</p> <p>Electric bus procurement targets require that a certain percentage or number of school buses and/or transit buses purchased or leased by the state, transit authorities, and/or school districts must be electric or zero-emissions.</p>	Transportation	Lead by Example	

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Enacted	<p>Public Fleet Electric Vehicle (EV) Procurement Targets</p> <p>Agencies must prioritize ZEVs when purchasing new passenger vehicles</p> <p>Agencies must prioritize medium- and heavy-duty ZEVs when purchasing new MHD vehicles</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Order 80 (2018) • Executive Order 271 (2022) 	Transportation	Lead by Example	2018
Not Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Rebates</p> <p>Electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure rebates offer rebates to make the purchase and/or installation costs of EV charging infrastructure more affordable.</p>	Transportation	EV Charging Infrastructure	
Not Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Requirements</p> <p>Electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure requirements establish mandates for the installation of EV charging infrastructure in new construction or developments, such as residential or commercial buildings, and public parking lots.</p>	Transportation	EV Charging Infrastructure	
Enacted	<p>Electric Vehicle (EV) and EV Charging Infrastructure Plans</p> <p>N.C. Clean Transportation Plan</p> <p>North Carolina Zero Emission Vehicle Plan 2022 Progress Update</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Carolina Zero Emission Vehicle Plan 2022 Progress Update (2022)  • Executive Order 246 (2022) •  • N.C. Clean Transportation Plan (2023) •  	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	2023
Not Enacted	<p>Low Carbon Fuel Standards</p> <p>A low carbon fuel standard (LCFS) is a market-based mechanism to reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels and account for the fuel's life cycle greenhouse gas emissions.</p>	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	

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Not Enacted	<p>Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets</p> <p>Transportation greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are set by a state to limit emissions in the transportation sector. These targets aim to reduce emissions by specific amounts over time, often expressed as a percentage reduction from a baseline year.</p>	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	
Partially Enacted	<p>Bicycle Friendly States</p> <p>North Carolina is ranked 18th out of 50 in the 2022 Bicycle Friendly State rankings by the League of American Bicyclists.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <p>North Carolina Bicycle Friendly State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scorecard  <p>Policy Components</p> <p>4/5</p>	Transportation	Public and Active Transportation	
Not Enacted	<p>Buy Clean Requirements</p> <p>Buy clean requirements mandate or incentivize the use of low-carbon construction materials, such as concrete and steel, in public projects to address embodied carbon.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Industrial Decarbonization	
Not Enacted	<p>Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) Regulations</p> <p>Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) regulations include phasedown commitments, rulemakings, disclosure requirements, bans, or other measures that reduce HFC usage and emissions.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	F-gas Regulations	
Not Enacted	<p>Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6) Regulations</p> <p>Sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) regulations include phasedown commitments, reporting requirements, bans, or other measures that reduce SF6 usage and emissions.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	F-gas Regulations	
Not Enacted	<p>Fracking Bans</p> <p>Fracking bans prohibit the practice of hydraulic fracturing for the production of oil and/or natural gas by a certain year. Legislation often requires an environmental agency or department to promulgate regulations.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Oil and Gas Regulations	

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Not Enacted	<p>Oil and Gas Methane Regulations</p> <p>Oil and gas methane regulations include phasedown commitments, reporting requirements, leak detection and repair, or other measures that reduce methane emissions from oil and gas production.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Oil and Gas Regulations	
Not Enacted	<p>Food Waste Bans and Targets</p> <p>Food waste bans and targets include policies that prohibit certain entities that generate specified amounts of food waste (typically commercial businesses and larger institutions) from sending this waste to landfills. Targets aim to reduce total food waste by a certain percentage each target year.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Waste Management	
Not Enacted	<p>Landfill Methane Regulations</p> <p>Landfill methane regulations include rulemakings, emissions monitoring, emissions control, or other measures that reduce methane emissions from decaying organic waste in landfills.</p>	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Waste Management	
Enacted	<p>Agriculture Financial Incentives</p> <p>The Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) provides financial assistance to help address nonpoint source pollution, including soil health measures.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Statute 106-850 (1984) • Agriculture Cost Share Program 	Natural and Working Lands	Agriculture	1984
Enacted	<p>Agriculture Technical Assistance Programs</p> <p>The Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) provides technical assistance to help address nonpoint source pollution, including soil health measures.</p> <p>Establishing Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Statute 106-850 (1984) • Agriculture Cost Share Program 	Natural and Working Lands	Agriculture	1984