



Cape Fear Economic Development Council (CFEDC)  
Wilmington, North Carolina

*Board Members*

Hillary Meinheit (Chair)  
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The Honorable Phil Berger  
President Pro Tempore  
North Carolina Senate  
16 W. Jones Street, Room 207  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808

The Honorable Tim Moore  
Speaker of the House  
North Carolina House of Representatives  
16 W. Jones Street, Room 2304  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808

**RE: NC H332, Energy Policy Amendments, House Budget with 2 year Renewable Energy Tax Credit Extension**

Dear President Pro Tempore Berger and Speaker Moore:

The potential for additional solar development provides additional local property tax revenues and job opportunities for the Cape Fear region including Brunswick, Columbus, Pender and New Hanover Counties.

For this reason, we ask that you NOT support NC H332. H332 would freeze the state renewable energy requirements at 6% rather than letting it grow to 12.5% by 2021. Furthermore, H332 would limit opportunities for rural counties to have independent power producers develop and build solar power plants by reducing the size of contracts from 5 megawatts to 100 kilowatts, a 98% reduction.

The Cape Fear Economic Development Council was excited to welcome a combined \$74 million of investment in Columbus and New Hanover counties alone.

The 2 year extension of the renewable energy investment tax credit currently in the House budget will help drive further investment and job creation in the greater Cape Fear region. Please vote to keep the Renewable Energy investment tax credits from the House budget in the approved Senate budget.

Provisions in H332 which would reduce the size of standard contracts and freeze the state renewable energy requirement would stifle investment from the solar industry in the greater Cape Fear region. Please do not support the provisions in the Energy Policy amendment of H3332, which are the same as the Energy Regulation amendment of H760.

The solar industry currently employs 5,600 workers in North Carolina. Renewable energy as a whole has created over 22,000 jobs for our state. Your support is not only needed to preserve these jobs, but to continue job growth in the state and the greater Cape Fear region.

Sincerely,

Scott Johnson  
CFEDC Board Member