



# State and Federal Energy Policy Within a Regulatory Environment

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Monday, February 22, 2021  
Live Webcast

North Carolina: 3.00 MCLE Hours

Planned by the NCBA CLE Department

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Monday, February 22, 2021 | 12:55 – 4:20 PM

**12:55 Welcome and Introductions**

**1:00 North Carolina Clean Energy Policy and Regulatory Implementation After House Bill 589  
Cummings and Smith**

House Bill 589 was major comprehensive state energy legislation passed in 2017. In this session, we discuss the transition to a request for proposals (RFP) process to procure utility-scale solar in North Carolina under the Competitive Procurement of Renewable Energy Program, as well as options for large customers to procure renewable energy pursuant to the Green Source Advantage Program, community solar, solar leasing for customers and a rebate program to incentivize solar adoption across the state. Also learn what issues and challenges remain in the implementation of the legislation as renewable energy grows in the state.

**2:00 Break**

**2:10 Federal Energy and Environmental Law Developments  
Dennis**

The Biden administration is expected to bring dramatic and sweeping changes to the nation's energy and environmental laws and policies. Biden's campaign platform included major commitments to fully decarbonize the electricity grid by 2035, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector, and make major federal investments in advanced energy and transportation technologies. The new administration's efforts to follow through on these commitments will involve not just proposals for new legislation in Congress, but also new regulations and new approaches to implementing existing laws like the Federal Power Act and the Clean Air Act, as well as litigation to defend these regulatory efforts and reverse the Trump administration's environmental rollbacks. This session provides an update on energy and environmental law developments in the first month of the new administration, and looks ahead, with a focus on the regulatory initiatives that key agencies like the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are expected to pursue.

### **3:10 Break**

### **3:20 Making Access to Essential Public Utility Service Truly Universal: A Practical Look at Energy Equity and Justice**

#### **Neal**

Public utilities have the obligation to serve all customers within their exclusive service territory. But what happens when a family cannot afford the power bill? Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the imposition of late fees and disconnections for nonpayment were routine. Families living at or near the poverty line face daunting challenges affording utilities along with other essentials like rent, food and transportation. The number of households with unsustainable energy burdens far outstrip available resources for bill-payment assistance or bill-saving energy efficiency upgrades. In this session, we consider options for making electric utility service affordable to all under the existing North Carolina regulatory framework.

### **4:20 Adjourn**

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### **Speakers**

- Layla Cummings, North Carolina Utilities Commission – Public Staff, Raleigh
- Jeffery S. “Jeff” Dennis, Advanced Energy Economy, Washington, DC
- David L. Neal, Southern Environmental Law Center, Chapel Hill
- Benjamin W. “Ben” Smith, North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association, Raleigh

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