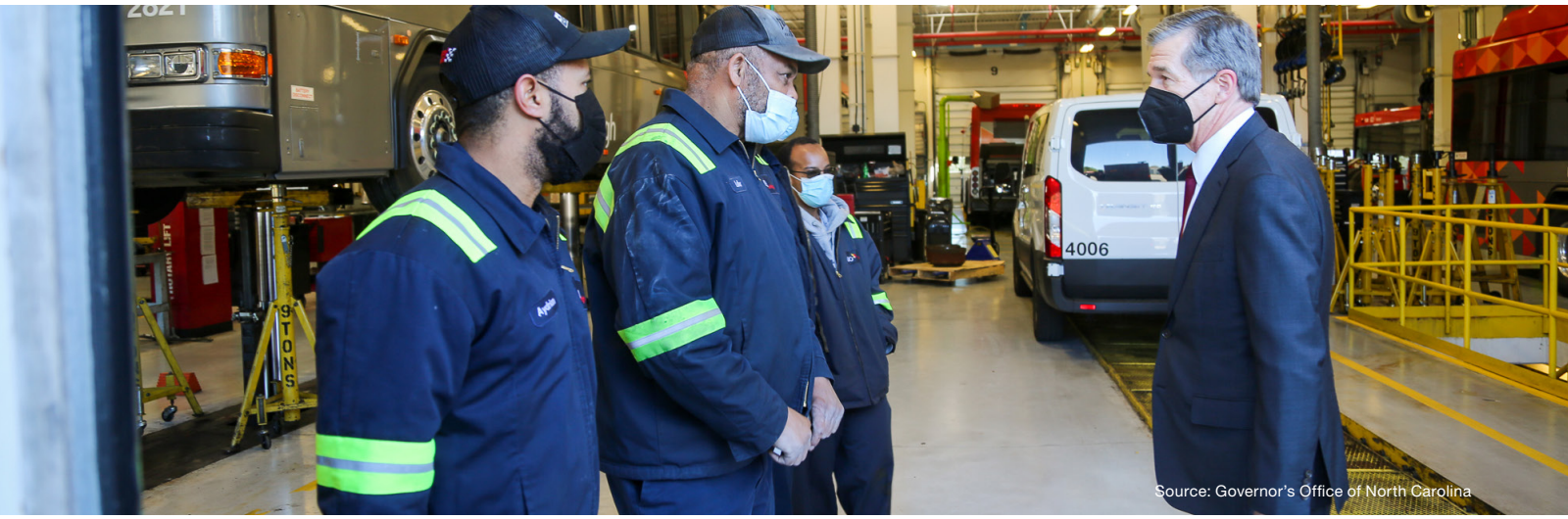
MEMBER SINCE 2017

NORTH CAROLINA

CLIMATE SUCCESS STORY North Carolina is expanding efforts to cultivate an equitable, net-zero clean energy economy through executive action.



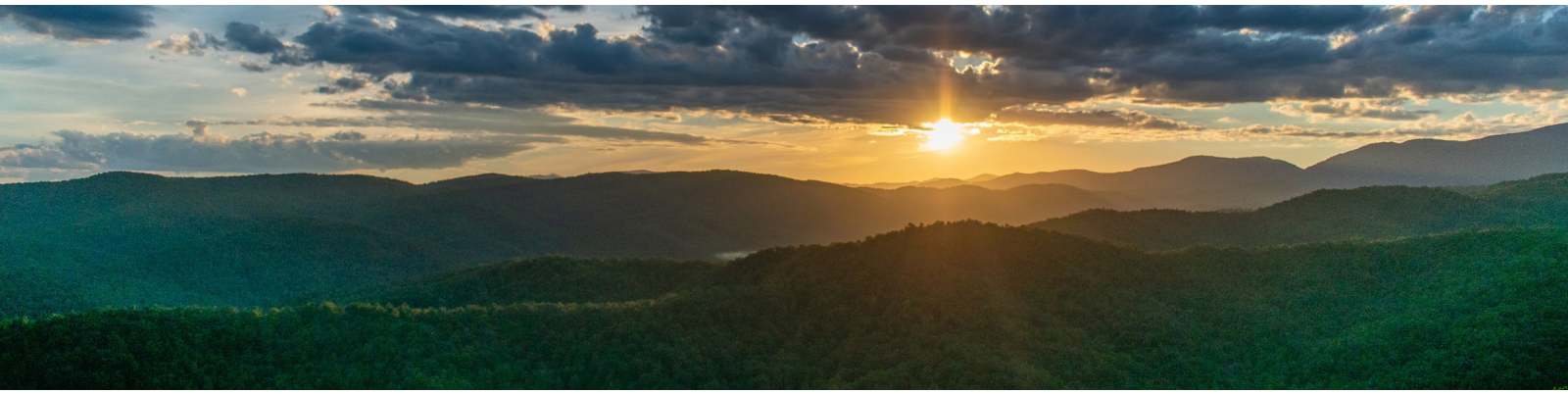
Source: Governor's Office of North Carolina

North Carolina's comprehensive climate approach reduces emissions, creates jobs, and centers environmental justice

In January 2022, North Carolina affirmed its commitment to bold climate action and environmental justice. Governor Roy Cooper signed Executive Order No. 246, which establishes science-based goals of a 50 percent reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050. The order directs numerous actions to achieve those goals in a manner that centers environmental justice and maximizes public health and economic benefits for North Carolinians.

Executive Order No. 246 takes important steps to reduce GHG emissions from the transportation sector, the state's top-emitting source, by establishing targets of 1.25 million zero-emissions vehicles (ZEVs) registered and 50 percent of in-state new light-duty vehicle sales by 2030. In addition, it directs development of the *North Carolina Clean Transportation Plan* to guide the state's transition to a clean transportation future. The order also charges agencies to take steps to elevate the consideration of environmental justice, including by identifying an agency point person for environmental justice efforts. Each agency also has developed a public participation plan to ensure the public—especially underserved communities—is meaningfully engaged in government decision-making. The order calls for actions to increase workforce diversity in industries that are critical to addressing climate change as well as expand youth apprenticeship programs that prepare graduates for good-paying careers in the clean energy economy. Finally, the order promotes accountability and long-term strategic planning by directing the regular updates to the statewide GHG inventory, an analysis of pathways for achieving net-zero GHG emissions by 2050, and consideration of the social cost of GHG emissions in agency decision-making.

The impacts of climate change are already being felt in North Carolina. At the same time, the state has experienced significant job growth and economic benefits by leading the transition to renewable energy, electric vehicle manufacturing, and more. Executive Order No. 246 will bolster and complement leadership across North Carolina's public and private sectors to confront the climate crisis while cultivating an economy that serves all residents for generations to come.



CLIMATE ACTION-AT-A-GLANCE

The following list includes both **statutory** and **executive** policies and actions that have been adopted or are in the process of being adopted.

ECONOMY-WIDE GHG TARGETS & CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

- 40% GHG emission reduction by 2025, 50% by 2030, net-zero by 2050
- NC Climate Change Interagency Council
- NC Deep Decarbonization Pathways Analysis
- GHG inventory
- H951, EO 80, EO 218, EO 246, EO 266

ECONOMY/WORKFORCE

- NC Clean Energy and Clean Transportation Workforce Assessment
- Clean Energy Youth Apprenticeship Program
- Climate Council Workforce Diversity Workgroup
- NC Taskforce for Offshore Wind Economic Resource Strategies

ELECTRICITY

- NC Clean Energy Plan
- 70% reduction by 2030, carbon neutral by 2050
- 2.8 GW offshore wind by 2030, 8.0 GW by 2040

JUST TRANSITION/EQUITY

- Andrea Harris Taskforce
- DEQ EJ and Equity Board
- NC Community Mapping System
- Agency EJ Leads, Public Participation Plans

TRANSPORTATION

- 80k ZEVs by 2025, 1.25M by 2030
- MHD ZEV MOU
- NC ZEV Plan
- NC Clean Transportation Plan

BUILDINGS/EFFICIENCY

- 40% improvement in state building efficiency by 2025

RESILIENCE

- NC Office of Recovery and Resiliency
- Chief Resilience Officer
- NC Risk Assessment and Resilience Plan
- Updated State Floodplain Management Plan for state buildings
- Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan
- NC Resilient Communities Program

NATURAL & WORKING LANDS

- NWL Action Plan
- Resilience and NWLToolkit

CARBON MARKETS & VALUING CLIMATE DAMAGES

- Social Cost of GHG Emissions

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