

OUR STAKEHOLDERS AND WHAT MATTERS MOST

Our Stakeholders

Engagement and collaboration with our stakeholders underpins Duke Energy's business strategy.

The company has a rich history of engaging with a diverse range of stakeholders, many of whom have differing views from us. Now more than ever, it is critical that we all work together to find common ground and work to transform our collective energy future.

We achieve better outcomes for our customers through collaboration. Recognizing the value of sustained engagement, we continue to expand our stakeholder engagement capabilities. Every stakeholder has a different priority, but they are all important. We work to understand those priorities and be open to compromise. Our goal is to find innovative and transparent solutions that effectively address these many competing interests.

Our jurisdictions currently have Advisory or Listening Councils. These councils provide an opportunity for Duke Energy to hear people from diverse stakeholder groups as the company develops and adapts its long-term business plans.

We are also making changes to solicit stakeholder input earlier than ever. For example, during a recent transmission siting project, the company worked with the local communities and landowners to understand the unique historic and cultural sensitivities, which led to significant changes to the final route selection.

Our business is different than most. The vitality of our communities depends upon energy, so we lack the option to stop making our product in the face of opposition. Therefore, we must find new ways to engage with stakeholders and find solutions that are workable for all to provide cleaner, affordable and reliable energy for our customers.

What Matters Most

Duke Energy's approach to sustainability focuses on the issues that are most important to our stakeholders and to us. We identify issues from a variety of sources such as stakeholder feedback, surveys, thought leader perspectives, social and traditional media coverage, and shareholder proposals in our sector.

We have mapped our priority issues to the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs), which aim to “end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all.” Since their development in 2015, the 17 SDGs have gained traction with stakeholders concerned about sustainability issues. While there was alignment between our priorities and several of the SDGs, goals “Seven: Affordable and Clean Energy,” and “Thirteen: Climate Action,” are especially applicable to our company.

The graphic depicts the relationship among Duke Energy, its stakeholders and the most important issues as overlapping circles within circles to show that they are interconnected. The stakeholders and issues are both arranged alphabetically to make it clear that they are all important while safety, as always, is our No. one priority.

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