

Our Stakeholders and What Matters Most

The Value of Our Stakeholders

Duke Energy seeks to provide reliable, clean and affordable energy that keeps our communities moving forward.

But with that mission comes a responsibility to deliver smart energy solutions that help our customers accomplish their own goals. No matter what those goals are, energy is a vital driver to a successful finish line.

Our stakeholder audience is diverse. They include customers, shareholders, regulators, environmental organizations, social advocates, community agencies, elected officials, employees and many others. Each stakeholder brings a needed and essential perspective, which is vitally important as we develop future energy solutions to meet their needs.

Getting those perspectives early and often – and then collaborating to develop workable solutions – is essential. We seek that input in many formal and informal ways. They range from remote interactions, one-on-one meetings, open houses with the public or Advisory or Listening Councils.

With so much at stake, securing and transforming our collective energy future depends on hearing many voices. Our commitment to make a positive impact on our communities keeps us focused on listening, learning and adjusting to better meet the needs of those we serve.

What Matters Most

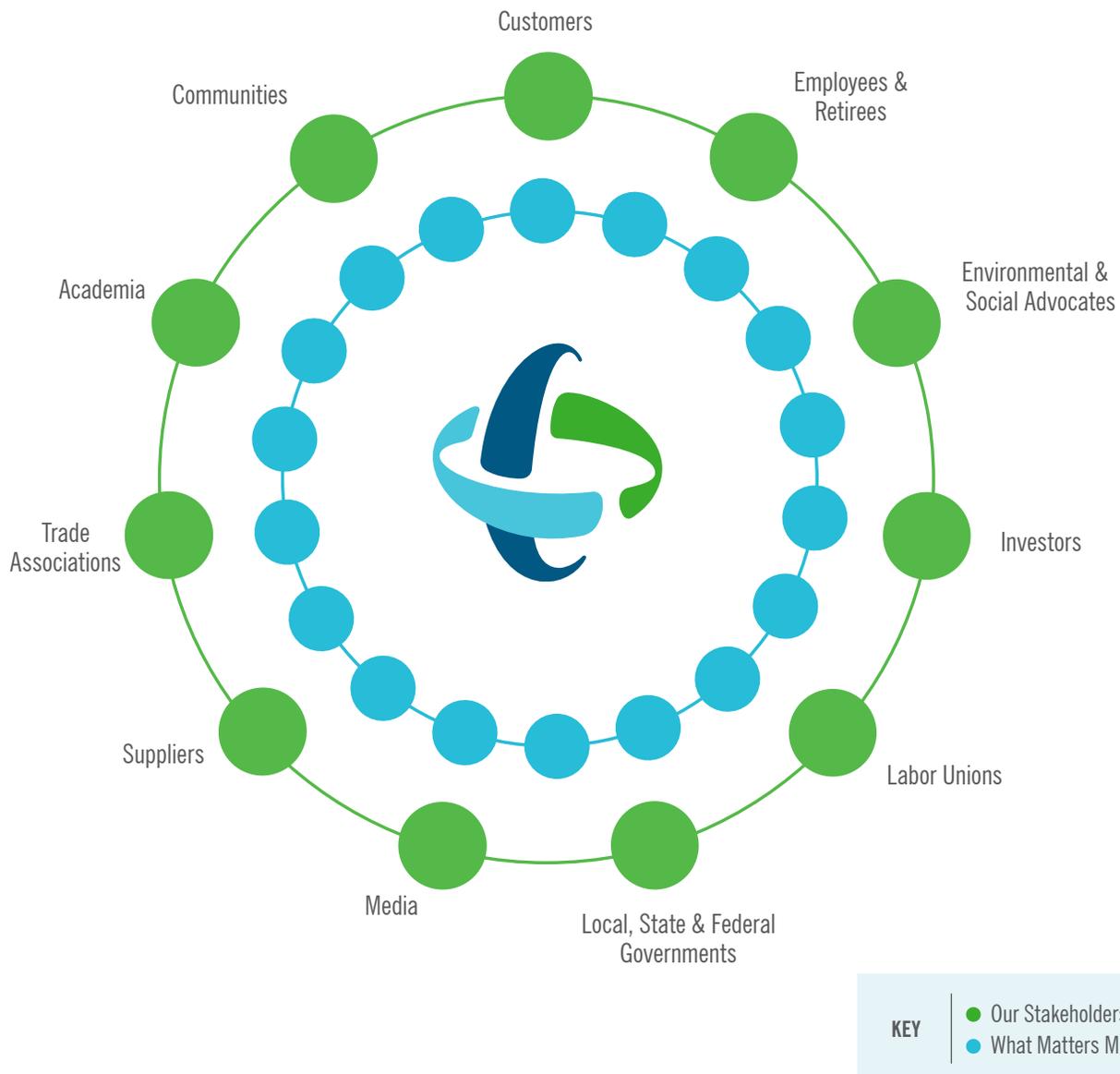
Duke Energy's approach to sustainability focuses on the issues that are most important to our stakeholders and to us. We identify issues from a variety of sources such as stakeholder feedback, surveys, reporting and rating frameworks, thought leader perspectives, social and traditional media coverage, 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 such as “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. The stakeholders and issues are both presented alphabetically to make it clear that they are all important while safety, as always, is our No. 1 priority.

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What Matters Most

- Safety: *Our No. 1 Priority*
- Affordable Energy
- Air Emissions
- Biodiversity & Habitat Protection
- Climate Change
- Community Engagement
- Corporate Governance
- Customer Engagement
- Cybersecurity
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Economic Development
- Employee Development & Engagement
- Ethics & Compliance
- Human Rights
- Long-Term Investor Value
- Reliability & Resiliency
- Risk Management
- Water Quality & Availability