

Representative-Elect Veleria M. Levy Calls for Fairness and Relief at Charlotte Rally and NCUC Hearing

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Charlotte, NC — Representative-Elect Veleria M Levy will join community members, advocates, and residents in Charlotte today to speak out against Duke Energy’s proposed rate increase and its impact on working families across North Carolina.

Speaking as both a resident and the next representative of District 99, Levy will emphasize the real life impact of rising energy costs on households already struggling with rising costs. “This is not just about energy bills,” said Levy. “This is about whether families in District 99 can afford to live, learn, and build a future in North Carolina.”

Duke Energy has proposed an increase of approximately eighteen percent for residential customers, which could raise monthly bills by twenty to thirty dollars for many households. Advocates argue the proposal places a disproportionate burden on families while large scale energy users are not carrying an equitable share of system costs. This cost increase is also coupled with a request to raise their profit margin.

Levy will also highlight the broader impact on education and workforce development across her district, which is home to UNC Charlotte, as well as to Charlotte based Central Piedmont Community College, Johnson C Smith University, Johnson and Wales, Queens University, ECPI, and workforce training programs like NoGrease.

“When costs like this increase, they do not stay contained,” Levy said. “They show up in tuition, in fees, and in the cost of trying to move forward. Our increased power bills are only the start, this will raise the cost of everything we eat, buy, and consume.”

Levy called on the North Carolina Utilities Commission to delay or deny the proposed rate increase in its current form and to ensure that energy costs are allocated fairly.

“Growth is happening across North Carolina, but families should not be the ones asked to fund it,” Levy added. “It’s time to put working families first, large scale users must pay their fair share.”

As Representative Elect, Levy reaffirmed her commitment to affordability, accountability, and ensuring that District 99 residents are represented in decisions that impact their daily lives.

Rep. Levy is available for interviews upon request and always happy to discuss her plans to make sure large corporations and large scale users pay their fair share and ensure the burdens stop falling on working families.

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