

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Matt Abele, Interim Executive Director mattabele@energync.org 704-658-6265

## Report shows that economic impact of clean energy in North Carolina totals \$59.1 billion

The data also shows that clean energy investment is the highest in economically-distressed counties

**RALEIGH, N.C., September 21, 2023** — A biennial report released today reveals impressive numbers on how clean energy continues to help power North Carolina's economy. The Economic Analysis of Clean Energy Development in North Carolina: 2023 *Update* was conducted by RTI International and it reports that the cumulative economic impact of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in the state totals over \$59 billion throughout the last 16 years.

The report also finds that renewable energy project investment in 2022 alone totaled \$1.2 billion—41 times the \$29.8 million invested in 2007—and approximately \$31.3 billion was directly spent on clean energy development in North Carolina between 2007 and 2022. From a workforce standpoint, clean energy development supported 303,726 cumulative job years between 2007 and 2022.

Notably, some of North Carolina's most economically-challenged counties are those that see the largest economic benefits from clean energy development. Duplin, Robeson, Halifax, Edgecombe, Cumberland, Northampton, and Bladen Counties each experienced more than \$520 million in investment between 2007 and 2022. Additionally, more than 50 North Carolina counties experienced over \$100 million in investment.

"This report re-emphasizes what we've seen on a day-to-day basis here in North Carolina, which is that clean energy is a major economic force driving the growth of our state," said Jerry Carey, Market Intelligence Specialist at the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA). "These investments don't happen by accident they're the summation of years of proactive clean energy policies, business and nonprofit innovation, along with a market that demands cleaner, less-costly generation resources. With policies like HB951 and the Inflation Reduction Act, we fully anticipate these investments will only continue to accelerate, cementing clean energy as an economywide leader in investments and job growth in the state."

The Economic Impact Analysis of Clean Energy Development in North Carolina report is commissioned by the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association and is published



biennially to capture the economic impacts of clean energy investment. RTI International has performed this analysis since 2014 and the 2023 update captures results from investments made up to 2022. View the report <a href="here">here</a>, the report appendices <a href="here">here</a> and the report landing page <a href="here">here</a>.

###

## About the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association

The North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that drives public policy and market development for clean energy. Our work enables clean energy jobs, economic opportunities, and affordable energy options for North Carolinians. Learn more about NCSEA, our mission, and vision at www.energync.org.

## **About RTI International**

RTI International is an independent, nonprofit research institute dedicated to improving the human condition. We combine scientific rigor and technical expertise in social and laboratory sciences, engineering, and international development to deliver solutions to the critical needs of clients worldwide. For more information, visit www.rti.org.