



CONSERVATIVES FOR **CleanEnergy**

Clean Energy and Rural Prosperity

Solar & Wind Strengthen North Carolina's Farms, Communities, and Economy

Protecting Property Rights and Rural Investment Opportunities

North Carolina landowners deserve the freedom to choose how they use their land — including the ability to lease it for clean energy projects. Solar partnerships provide **economic freedom, private-sector opportunity, and a new path to rural prosperity.**

This is about:

- **Property rights**
- **Economic freedom**
- **Rural investment and energy security**

A Stable, Voluntary Income Stream for Farmers and Landowners

Clean energy partnerships allow farmers to diversify their income without giving up farming altogether.

- **Solar leases average \$500–\$800 per acre annually.**
- Wind project leases can generate **\$6,000 or more per turbine per year**, while maintaining **full farming access** beneath.
- These are **long-term, voluntary, and dependable revenues** — no subsidies required for landowners leasing to developers.

Strong Benefits for Local Communities

- On average, there is a **793% increase in the property taxes** a county collects in the year after solar is built on the land than the year before it was built.
- When solar is built on land, **no new infrastructure** is needed from the county. No new schools, fire stations roads, or sewer upgrades.
- The wind farms in northeastern NC are the **largest taxpayers** in those counties by far.

Local Oversight Ensures Smart Development

Clean energy projects are already subject to strict local and state review, including:

- **Zoning approvals, decommissioning plans, and visual buffers.**
- Compatibility with agriculture and nearby land uses.
- Additional review for military and community impacts on wind projects.

North Carolina has over 700 operating solar farms — all developed with local input and minimal impact on neighbors or farmland values.

Clean Energy = National and Economic Security

- Clean energy **reduces** dependence on foreign energy sources.
- Diversifying our energy mix **strengthens the grid**, especially in rural counties.
- Every new project brings private capital, jobs, and tax revenue — **all without government mandates.**

North Carolina Leads In Clean Energy — Let's Keep it That Way

Our state is a **national leader in clean energy deployment**, thanks to smart landowners and market driven growth.

- NC ranks **4th in the U.S. for solar capacity**, and **5th for solar generation.**

Let's keep North Carolina **open for business, strong on property rights, and committed to rural prosperity.**

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