

# The Conservation Council of North Carolina

preserving our state's natural resources and protecting the public health through advocacy, education and collaboration. The Conservation Council supports a full time lobbyist at the state legislature to provide a voice for the public and to hold legislators accountable for their actions. The Conservation Council's non- partisan Political Action Committee takes an active role in the political process by supporting legislative candidates who protect our right to clean air and clean water. In short, we strive to make elected officials pass legislation that protects our public health and preserves our natural resources, while at the same time encouraging conservationists to play a more active role in politics.

To learn more about the Conservation Council please contact us at:

Conservation Council of North Carolina

PO Box 12671

Raleigh, NC 27605

919-839-0006

conc@conservation councilno org

ccnc@conservationcouncilnc.org www.conservationcouncilnc.org

### **A Message From Our President**

The Conservation Council is a statewide conservation organization with members from Manteo to Murphy. Our involvement in the shaping of our state's environmental policy now spans more than three decades. And we continue to grow stronger and larger. Our membership reflects the concerns of most voters. We care about clean air, clean water, human health and the protection of our state's beautiful natural landscape.

Most citizens are not able to spend their days at the General Assembly, analyzing pieces of legislation for their effects on our state, or advocating on behalf of the public. The professional staff at CCNC however can – and does. That is one of the important roles we play in shaping public policy in North Carolina. However, we realize that our work in the General Assembly hinges on the public's understanding of the issues and the state's legislative process. And so, in our continuing effort to inform voters, I am pleased to present the Conservation Council's scorecard for the 2002 short session of the North Carolina General Assembly.

The bills selected for this year's scorecard represent those that we believe would have the most significant impact on the protection of public health and the environment. The votes listed are not a comprehensive list of all votes taken on environmental bills during the 2002 session, but are the votes judged to be the most important by the Conservation Council. While scorecards serve as a good indicator of where legislators stand on conservation issues, they do have limitations. Scorecards cannot reflect some of the important, but less tangible elements of legislative work, such as when a legislator actively worked behind the scenes to build support for a bill. For these reasons, we have chosen to add an additional section which notes specific actions taken by legislators that we believe are worth highlighting.

Our primary goal in releasing the annual scorecard is to evaluate the voting record of individual legislators on environmental issues and to share that analysis with the voting public. In doing so, we hope that citizens will hold their elected public officials accountable for their votes on the issues we all care so much about—clean air, clean water, the protection of human health and our state's natural beauty. Because who we elect matters.

Nina Szlosberg, President

## **Legislative Overview for 2002**

When the General Assembly convened on May 28th for the short session, the issue that had dominated the 2001 long session, the state's budget crisis, continued to plague legislators throughout the 2002 session. North Carolina's budget situation worsened in 2002 as legislators were faced with a \$1.5 billion shortfall for the upcoming fiscal year. In an effort to address the shortfall, millions of dollars in state services and programs were cut and hundreds of state jobs were eliminated.

Despite the overwhelming focus on the budget crisis, the short session was a positive one for conservationists. The session included the passage of the landmark Clean Smokestacks bill in June, as well as inaction on a couple of harmful bills that would have threatened public health and environmental protections. The positive results of this session were due to two key factors: timely political leadership demonstrated by our elected officials and strong public involvement in conservation issues.

Widespread public input was most evident in the passage of the Clean Smokestacks bill. For over a year, citizens kept the pressure on legislators through calls, emails and letters to their elected officials in support of the bill. This pressure resulted in an agreement that will reduce the emissions of air pollutants produced by the fourteen coal-fired power plants in North Carolina (see sidebar: "Clean Smokestacks"). Strong public involvement also helped turn back potentially threatening legislation. For example, in late June clean water advocates from across the state traveled to Raleigh to meet with legislators and ask them to oppose a bill that would benefit polluters and put groundwater resources in jeopardy.

This session saw an increased effort in both the House and Senate to focus on consensus building before moving forward with controversial legislation. As a result, the majority of

environmental legislation voted on this session had broad support and scores for individual legislators are much higher than in recent years. Consequently, a legislator's score from the 2001 long session, in which several controversial bills were considered, serves as a better indicator of how legislators stand on environmental issues when forced to make a tough choice.

#### **Work Left Undone**

Despite some environmental accomplishments this session, a handful of good environmental bills were not considered this year and will be back up for discussion when the General Assembly returns in 2003. The first of these bills, HB 1565, would establish an electronics recycling program designed to keep toxic chemicals contained in televisions and computer monitors out of landfills. HB 1568, a bill to address the growing water quality problem of sedimentation in our rivers, was passed by the House in the waning days of the session, but was blocked in the Senate. HB 1761, a financing bill which would have created the opportunity for more land conservation efforts passed the House Environment Committee, but stalled at the end of session. In addition, SB 1260 which would have increased the use of renewable energy sources was modified so that a study commission would first look at the issue. These issues, along with possible legislation on environmental enforcement and smart growth, are all likely to be considered during the 2003 long session.

#### **AVERAGE PARTY SCORES**

	2001	2002	2001 General
	Long Session	Short Session	Assembly
House			Average
Republicans	34%	68%	51%
Democrats	76%	86%	81%
<b>Total House</b>	<b>55</b> %	77%	<b>66</b> %
Senate			
Republicans	61%	81%	71%
Democrats	77%	79%	78%
<b>Total Senate</b>	<b>72</b> %	<b>80</b> %	<b>76</b> %

# hile scorecards serve as a good indicator of where legislators stand on conservation issues, they are an incomplete measure of a legislator's record. For example, a scorecard does not reflect when a vote is difficult to cast or when a legislator worked behind the scenes to achieve a positive result. This section, while not comprehensive, highlights a few legislators who championed important conservation issues in the 2002 short session. Some of the more noteworthy actions taken by legislators in 2002 to protect our public health and the environment include:

Senator **Steve Metcalf** (D-Buncombe) and Representative **Martin Nesbitt** (D-Buncombe) for sponsoring the Clean Smokestacks bill (SB 1078) and for their persistence in ensuring that the bill became and remained a top priority for the General Assembly. House Speaker **Jim Black** (D-Mecklenburg) also deserves praise for his pivotal decision to force action on the Clean Smokestacks bill.

Senator **Marc Basnight** (D-Dare) and the entire Senate for including \$70 million in funding for the Clean Water Management Trust Fund in the Senate budget. This

#### **Noteworthy Actions**

action was a remarkable accomplishment during one of the toughest budget years state government has ever experienced.

Senator **Fletcher Hartsell** (R-Cabarrus) for offering an amendment to SB 1161 that would ensure that farmers and other landowners who place their land under a conservation easement will not be faced with higher property taxes under the Present Use Value program. The full Senate unanimously adopted the amendment. Senator **Dan Clodfelter** (D-Mecklenburg) also played a key role in making sure that conservation interests were included in this bill.

Representative **Joe Hackney** (D-Orange) for offering an amendment to SB 1037 in the House Finance Committee. As passed by the Senate, SB 1037 would have allowed industries to make unlimited investments to build facilities before obtaining an air quality permit. The Hackney amendment scaled back the bill so that only modest pre-construction activities can take place before obtaining an air permit. The amendment received bi-partisan support and received strong vocal support from Representatives **Danny McComas** 

(R-New Hanover), Larry Womble (D-Forsyth) and Jennifer Weiss (D-Wake). House Finance co-chair Paul Luebke (D-Durham) deserves credit for his hard work on this bill, as does House Finance co-chair William Wainwright (D-Craven) for allowing a lengthy and full debate on the amendment, which was approved by a vote of 15 to 14.

Senator **Wib Gulley** (D-Durham) for his work in protecting money that had been allocated for public transportation projects last year. In the 2001 session **Senator Gulley** helped secure \$120 million over three years for mass transit projects and his efforts this year ensured that the money would not be raided to help shore up the state's budget.

Senators Fountain Odom (D-Mecklenburg) and Ellie Kinnaird (D-Orange) and Representatives Joe Hackney (D-Orange), Jennifer Weiss (D-Wake) and Verla Insko (D-Orange) for championing legislation (SB 1255 and HB 1565) that would establish a statewide electronics recycling program. Although the bill was not passed, introduction of the legislation increased awareness of the growing problem of electronics waste and set the stage for action next year.

(cont'd on page 6)

# **House Vote Descriptions**

he House's biggest accomplishment this year was the quick action it took to approve the Clean Smoke-stacks bill early in the session. Also of note was the role the House leadership played in intervening to ensure that legislation (SB 1037) regulating the approval of air quality permits contained limiting language to protect the integrity of the permitting process.

#### **Clean Air:**

# SB 1078 – Improve Air Quality/Electric Utilities, second reading (double counted)

North Carolina enacted landmark environmental legislation this session with the passage of the Clean Smokestacks bill. Sponsored by Rep. Martin Nesbitt (D-Buncombe) and Sen. Steve Metcalf (D-Buncombe), the new law makes North Carolina a leader in improving air quality by reducing emissions of pollutants from coalfired power plants by over 70%. The bill passed 111 to 4. **YES** was the conservation vote.

#### **Clean Air Amendment:**

# SB 1078 — Improve Air Quality/Electric Utilities, Amendment #1

This "poison pill" amendment offered by Rep. Michael Harrington (R-Gaston) to the Clean Smokestacks bill would have modified the cost recovery provisions and was designed to unravel the compromise on the bill. The amendment failed, 99 to 16. **NO** was the conservation vote.

#### Scrap Tire:

#### HB 1578 – Remove Scrap Tire Sunset, second reading

This bill would permanently extend the advance disposal fee on the purchase of new tires which fund scrap tire collection programs to keep old tires out of landfills. This bill passed 100-13. **YES** was the conservation vote.

#### **Coastal Resources:**

#### HB 1540 – Disapprove CAMA Rule, second reading

This bill overturned a rule established by the Coastal Resources Commission that would have prohibited swimming pools from being built close to the ocean because of concerns about environmental impacts and property damage when storms hit our coast. This bill is the latest example of the legislature undermining administrative rules designed to protect the public. The bill passed 99 to 9. **NO** was the conservation vote.

#### **Land Protection:**

#### SB 1161 – Amend Use Value Statutes, third reading

This bill, which would modify the Present Use Value program, included language that would allow landowners to place property under conservation easements without being subject to tax penalties. The bill passed 99 to 11. **YES** was the conservation vote.

#### **Clean Water:**

#### HB 1568 – Sedimentation Act Amendments, third reading

This bill would make improvements to the Sedimentation Control Act, including increased inspections. Sedimentation in our rivers and streams is one of the biggest water quality problems in our state because of the adverse impact it has on drinking water supplies. The bill passed 77 to 19. **YES** was the conservation vote.

			/ *	) is			/ .		/ at	/_0	2001
HOUSE	PARTY	DISTRICT	Clean Air	Clean Air	scrap sine	Coastal Ces	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	Clean	2002 short	2007 Long	General Assembly
PRO-Conservation Vote			YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	%	%	Average %
Speaker Black	D	36	ILS							se procedur	
Adams	D	26	E	E E	+	E E	+	E	Inc.	Inc.	Inc.
Alexander	D	56	+	+	+	0	+	E	83	100	92
Allen	D	22	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	71	79
Allred	R	25	-	_	_	_	_	-	0	57	29
Arnold	R	72	+	_	E	_	+	+	67	29	48
Baddour	D	11	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	71	79
Baker	R	40	-	_	-	_	+	+	29	14	22
Barbee	R	82	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	29	58
Barefoot	D	44	+	+	+	_	+	E	83	100	92
Barnhart	R	81	+	+	+	_	+	-	71	14	43
Bell	D	97	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	71	79
Blue	D	21	+	+	+	E	Ë	E	Inc.	100	100
Blust	R	27	+	+	+	-	+	-	71	43	57
Bonner	D	87	+	+	+	_	+	Е	83	80	82
Bowie	R	29	+	+	+	_	0	+	71	57	64
Boyd-McIntyre	D	28	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	71	79
Brubaker	R	38	+	_	+	_	_	E	50	14	32
Buchanan	R	46	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	43	65
Capps	R	92	+		_	_	+	-	43	14	29
Carpenter	R	52	+	+	+	+	+	_	86	57	72
Church	D	47	+	+	+	E	+	+	100	43	72
Clary	R	48	+		+	-	+	+	71	14	43
Coates	D	35	+	+	+	_	0	+	71	71	71
Cole	D	25	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	Inc.	63
Cox	D	19	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	29	58
Crawford, J	D	22	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	57	72
Crawford, M	R	51	+	+	+	_	_	_	57	29	43
Creech	R	20	+	+	_	_	_	+	57	43	50
Culp	R	30	+		+	_	+	+	71	29	50
Culpepper	D	86	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	86	86
Cunningham	D	59	+	+	E	_	+	+	83	86	85
Daughtry	R	95	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	29	58
Davis	R	19	-	+	<u>'</u>	_	0	+	29	25	27
Decker	R	84	+	+	_	_	+	0	57	14	36
Dedmon	D	48	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	71	79
Dockham	R	94	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	57	72
Earle	D	60	+	+	+	E	+	+	100	100	100
Easterling	D	58	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	100	93
Eddins	R	65	+	+		_	+	+	71	14	43
Edwards	D	2	+	+	+	0	+	+	86	57	72
Ellis	R	15	+	+	E	-	+	+	83	71	77
Esposito	R	88	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	14	50
Fox	D	78	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	57	72
Gibson	D	33	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	57	72
Gillespie	R	49	+	+	+	-	+	-	71	14	43
Goodwin	D	32	+	+	+	_	+	E	83	100	92
Grady	R	80	+	+	-	-	-	+	57	29	43
Gray	R	39	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	100	93
Gulley	R	69	+	-	+	-	-	+	57	29	43
Hackney	D	24	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	86	93
Haire	D	52	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	100	93
Hall	D	7	+	+	+	_	+	+	86	86	86
Harrington	R	76	+	- '	-	_	+	+	57	43	50
		of the impo								1 70	- 30

KEY:

Hensley Hiatt Hill Hilton Holliman Holmes Howard Hunter Hurley Insko Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Miler	PARTY  D R D R D R D D R R R D D C R R R D D D D	64 40 14 45 37 41 74 5 18 24 89 90 50	+ E + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	clear River de la company de l	+ - + + + + +	Coasal ce	rdection + E + + + +	Creaties  O E + E + +	71 Inc. 86 50 100	201 Londs 201 Londs 86 Inc. 57 0 57	79 Inc. 72 25
Hiatt Hill Hilton Holliman Holmes Howard Hunter Hurley Insko Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	R D R D R D D D D R R R D	64 40 14 45 37 41 74 5 18 24 89 89	+ E + + + + + + E	+ E + - + + + + E	+ - + + + + +	- - - E	+ E + +	0 E + E +	71 Inc. 86 50 100	86 Inc. 57	79 Inc. 72 25
Hill Hilton Holliman Holmes Howard Hunter Hurley Insko Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	D R D R D D D C R R R D D D D D D R R R R	14 45 37 41 74 5 18 24 89 89	+ + + + + + E +	+ - + + + + E	+ + + + + +	- - E -	+ + + +	+ E +	86 50 100	57 0	72 25
Hilton Holliman Holmes Howard Hunter Hurley Insko Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	R D R R D D D R R R R	45 37 41 74 5 18 24 89 89	+ + + + + E +	- + + + + E	- + + + +	- E -	+ +	E +	50 100	0	25
Holliman Holmes Howard Hunter Hurley Insko Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	D R R D D D C D R R R R R R D	37 41 74 5 18 24 89 89	+ + + + E +	+ + + + E	+ + + + +	E -	+	+	100		
Holmes Howard Hunter Hurley Insko Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	R R D D D C D R R R R D	41 74 5 18 24 89 89	+ + + E +	+ + + E	+ + + +	-				57	70
Howard Hunter Hurley Insko Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	R D D D R R R D	74 5 18 24 89 89	+ + E + +	+ + E	+ +			+	07		79
Hunter Hurley Insko Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	D D D R R R D	5 18 24 89 89 90	+ E + +	+ E	+	_	Т	ı	86	14	50
Hurley Insko Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	D D D R R R D	18 24 89 89 90	E + +	E			0	+	71	43	57
Insko Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	D D D R R R	24 89 89 90	+			-	+	0	71	Inc.	67
Jarrell Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	D D R R R	89 89 90	+	+	+	-	+	+	75	86	81
Jeffus Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	D R R R D	89 90			+	+	+	+	100	100	100
Johnson Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	R R R D	90	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	86	86
Justus Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	R R D			+	+	-	+	+	86	100	93
Kiser Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	R D	50	+	+	+	-	+	-	71	29	50
Lucas Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	D		+	-	+	0	+	-	57	14	36
Luebke McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux		45	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	14	7
McAllister McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	D	17	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	57	72
McComas McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux		23	+	+	+	+	Е	Ε	100	100	100
McCombs McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	D	17	+	+	+	-	-	+	71	71	71
McLawhorn McMahan Michaux	R	13	+	+	+	E	+	+	100	71	86
McMahan Michaux	R	83	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	29	58
Michaux	D	9	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	86	86
	R	55	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	57	72
Miller	D	23	+	+	0	+	+	+	86	71	79
IVIIIIOI	D	23	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100
Miner	R	62	+	+	E	-	+	Ε	80	50	65
Mitchell	R	42	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	14	50
Morgan	R	31	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	43	65
Morris	R	18	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	57	72
Nesbitt	D	51	+	+	+	-	+	-	71	86	79
Nye	D	96	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	57	72
Oldham	D	67	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	86	86
Owens	D	1	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	57	72
Pope	R	61	+	+	+	-	+	Ε	83	71	77
Preston	R	4	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	29	58
Rayfield	R	93	+	-	-	-	-	+	43	14	29
Redwine	D	14	+	+	+	-	+	0	71	71	71
Rogers	D	6	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	43	65
Russell	R	77	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	57	72
Saunders	D	54	+	+	+	-	+	0	71	86	79
Setzer	R	43	+	-	+	-	+	-	57	0	29
Sexton	R	73	+	+	+	-	+	-	71	14	43
Sherrill	R	51	+	+	+	-	-	-	57	80	69
Shubert	R	34	+	-	+	-	+	+	71	57	64
Smith	D	4	+	+	+	-	+	E	83	43	63
Starnes	R	91	+	-	+	-	+	+	71	0	36
Sutton	D	85	+	+	+	-	+	E	83	100	92
Teague	R	25	E	Е	+	-	+	-	50	0	25
Thompson	R	46	E	Е	Е	-	-	-	Inc.	33	22
Tolson	D	71	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	71	79
Tucker	D	10	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	57	72
Underhill	D	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	86	93
Wainwright	D	79	+	+	+	-	+	Ē	83	57	70
Walend	R	68	+	+	+	i					
Walker					1 +	-	+	+			65
Warner	R	41	+	+	+	-	+	+	86 71	43	65 57

<sup>\*</sup> Because of the importance of the Smokestacks Bill, this vote is being double-counted.

pro-conservation vote
excused absence (not counted in final %)
Inc. members who did not cast votes for a majority of the scored votes were given an incomplete

KEY:

HOUSE	PARTY	DISTRICT	Clean Air	Clean kir	Scrap Scrap	Coastal Ces	Land Protection	Clean	2002 Short	2001 Long	2001 General Assembly Average
Warren	D	8	+	+	+	-	+	0	71	57	64
Warwick	D	12	+	+	+	E	E	+	100	29	65
Weatherly	R	48	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	43	65
Weiss	D	63	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100
West	R	53	+	+	+	-	+	-	71	0	36
Willingham	D	70	+	+	+	+	+	0	86	N/A	N/A
Wilson, C.	R	57	+	+	+	-	0	-	57	57	57
Wilson, G.	R	40	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	29	58
Womble	D	66	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	100	93
Wright	D	98	+	+	+	Е	+	Ε	100	57	79
Yongue	D	16	+	+	+	-	+	+	86	100	93

\* Because of the importance of the Smokestacks Bill, this vote is being double-counted.

KFY: pro-conservation vote

excused absence (not counted in final %)

0 did not vote (counted as a - vote in final %) Inc. members who did not cast votes for a majority of the scored votes were given an incomplete

(Noteworthy Actions cont'd from page 3)

Representative Alice Underhill (D-Craven) for offering an amendment during the House Appropriations budget debate that provided \$200,000 in funding for the Farmland Preservation Trust Fund. The amendment, which keeps this valuable program in place for another year, was adopted by the Committee in a close vote and was included in the final budget.

Representatives Jennifer Weiss (D-Wake) and Joe Hackney (D-Orange) for reviving a Sedimentation bill (HB 1568) that had been stalled in the House. Sedimentation is one of the biggest water quality problems in our state and this bill would help address the problem.

Representatives Lyons Gray (R-Forsyth) and Ruth Easterling (D-

Mecklenburg) for their commitment to conservation issues during their tenure in the General Assembly. Their strong voices on behalf of the public will be missed.

anti-conservation vote

Governor **Mike Easley** also merits special recognition for the role he played in influencing environmental legislation during the short session. Governor Easley should be recognized for his effective leadership that led to an agreement on the Clean Smokestacks bill (SB 1078). In addition, the behind the scenes actions of the Governor on legislation regulating the content of sulfur in gasoline (HB 1308) and on legislation regulating air permits (SB 1037) ensured that our state would not retreat from the air quality improvements expected from the Clean Smokestacks bill.

# **Senate Vote Descriptions**

he Senate continued its trend of positive work on conservation issues. For example, in a tight budget year the Senate budget fully funded the Clean Water Management Trust Fund at \$70 million. Although the budget that received final approval from both the House and Senate included \$66.5 million for the CWMTF, the Senate's initial funding level sent a strong signal that this program was a priority.

One notable aspect of the Senate's action this year was that controversial environmental legislation was worked out in the committee process before bills reached the full Senate for a vote. As a result, the majority of environmental legislation voted on in the Senate had wide bi-partisan support and scores for individual Senators are much higher than in recent years.

#### **Clean Air:**

#### SB 1078 - Improve Air Quality/Electric Utilities, **Concurrence (double counted):**

North Carolina enacted landmark environmental legislation this session with the passage of the Clean Smokestacks bill. Sponsored by Sen. Steve Metcalf (D-Buncombe) and Rep. Martin Nesbitt (D-Buncombe), the new law makes North Carolina a leader in improving air quality by reducing emissions of harmful pollutants from coalfired power plants by over 70%. The bill passed 47 to 1. **YES** was the conservation vote. Page 6

#### **Land Protection:**

#### SB 1161 - Amend Use Value Statutes, Amendment #2

The General Assembly considered legislation that would modify the process by which agricultural and forestry lands are determined to qualify for the Present Use Value program. This program allows qualifying foresters and farmers to pay reduced tax rates on their land. Sen. Fletcher Hartsell (R-Cabarrus) offered an amendment on the Senate floor to SB 1161 that would keep landowners from facing tax penalties if they chose to transfer land into a conservation easement. The amendment passed by a 48 to 0 vote. YES was the conservation vote.

#### **Scrap Tire:**

#### HB 1578 – Remove Scrap Tire Tax Sunset, second reading

This bill would permanently extend the advance disposal fee on the purchase of new tires which funds collection programs by local governments to keep old tires out of landfills. The bill passed 50 to 0. **YES** was the conservation vote.

#### **Coastal Resources:**

#### HB 1540 - Disapprove CAMA Rule, second reading

This bill overturned a rule established by the Coastal Resources Commission that would have prohibited swimming pools from being built close to the ocean because of concerns about environmental impacts and property damage when storms hit our coast. This bill is the latest example of the legislature undermining administrative rules designed to protect the public. The bill passed 38 to 3. NO was the conservation vote.

PRO-Conservation Vote				/ .*	Land	w/	Coastal	Short	2007 Long	2001 General
PRO-Conservation Vote   YES   YES   NO   %   %   %   %   %   Microson   D   5   + + + + -   80   71   76   69   Ballance   D   2   +   E   +   0   75   71   73   73   84   88   86   83   86   83   86   84   84   84   84   84   84   84	SENATE	PARTY	DISTRICT	San Air	La diecti	Scial	Corsolic	2002 ssion	2007 Estati	Assembly
Albertson  D  5  + + + + 80  77  69  Ballance  D  2  + E  + 0  75  76  Bollance  D  2  + E  + 0  75  77  73  Ballantine  R  4  + + + 80  75  77  73  Ballantine  R  4  + + + 80  57  69  Ballance  D  1 + + + 80  57  69  Ballance  R  12  + + + + 80  57  69  Ballance  R  12  + + + + 80  57  69  Ballantine  R  38  Berger  R  12  + + + + 80  57  69  Ballantine  R  38  Berger  R  12  + + + 80  57  69  Carpenter  R  42  + + + 80  57  69  Carpenter  R  42  + + + 80  57  69  Carpenter  R  42  + + + 80  57  69  Carpenter  R  42  + + + 80  57  69  Carlentington  R  36  4 + + + 80  57  69  Carlentine  D  28  00  + + + 80  57  69  Carlentine  D  28  00  + + + 80  57  69  Carlentine  D  28  00  - + + + 80  57  69  Carlentine  D  28  00  - + + + 80  77  76  Courningham  D  23  + + + + 80  57  69  Ballantine  Ballantine  R  33  4 + + + 80  77  76  Courningham  D  23  + + + + 80  57  69  Ballantine  Ballantine  R  36  4  4  4  4  4  4  4  4  4  4  4  4  4	DD0 0 11 1/1			Cles			110	, 20	, 20	
Altran R R 26 H R 10 R R 14 H H H H H H R R R 14 H H H H H H H H R R R R R R R R R R R										
Ballance         D         2         +         E         +         0         75         71         73           Balantine         R         4         +         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Basnight         D         1         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Barger         R         12         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Carpenier         R         42         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Carrer         D         28         0         +         +         -         40         83         62           Carler         D         28         0         +         +         -         40         83         62           Carler         D         28         0         +         +         -         80         57         69           Carler         D         23         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Dannelly         D							_			
Balantine         R         4         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Bassight         D         1         +         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Berger         R         12         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Bingham         R         38         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Carpenter         R         36         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Carrigion         R         36         +         +         +         -         40         83         62           Clark         D         7         +         +         +         -         40         83         62           Clark         D         7         +         +         +         -         80         0.71         76           Curringham         D         23         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Dainnelly         D </td <td></td>										
Basnight         D         1         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Berger         R         12         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Bingham         R         38         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Carpenler         R         42         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Carrenton         D         28         0         +         +         -         40         83         62           Carter         D         28         0         +         +         -         40         83         62           Cladrk         D         7         +         +         +         -         80         071         76         69           Cladre         D         40         +         +         +         -         80         57         69         55         69         10         33         62         10         80         80         71         76         60         80         83         8							0			
Berger							-			
Bingham				+	+	+	_			
Carpenter         R         42         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Carrington         R         36         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Carrer         D         28         0         +         +         -         40         83         62           Clark         D         7         +         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Cuningham         D         23         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Dalton         D         33         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Damelly         D         333         +         +         +         -         80         29         55           Damelly         D         333         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Forester         R         39         +         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Garrou <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>+</td> <td>+</td> <td>+</td> <td>_</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>				+	+	+	_			
Carrington         R         3.6         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Carler         D         28         0         +         +         -         40         83         62           Clark         D         7         +         +         +         -         40         n/a         <				+	+	+	_			
Carler         D         28         0         +         +         -         40         83         62           Clark         D         7         +         +         +         -         40         n/a         n/a           Clodifeller         D         40         +         +         +         0         80         71         76         69           Cuningham         D         23         +         +         +         -         80         57         69         9           Dannelly         D         33         +         +         +         -         80         29         55         69           Dannelly         D         33         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Forester         R         39         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Garrou         D         20         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Garwod         R         27         +         +         +         +         -         80         86         83				+	+	+	-			
Clark         D         7         +         +         +         -         80         In/a         In/a           Clodfelter         D         40         +         +         +         +         0         80         71         76           Cunningham         D         23         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Datton         D         33         +         +         +         -         80         29         55           Dannelly         D         33         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Forrester         R         39         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Forrester         R         112         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Garroud         D         D         13         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Hagan         D         15         +         +         +         +         -         80         57         69 <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>+</td><td>+</td><td>_</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>					+	+	_			
Clodfelter				0	+	+	_			
Cunningham         D         23         +         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Dallon         D         37         +         +         +         -         80         29         55           Dannelly         D         33         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Forxa         R         12         +         +         +         -         80         33         57           Fox         R         12         +         +         +         -         80         33         57           Fox         R         12         +         +         +         -         80         36         83           Garrou         D         13         +         +         +         +         E         100         57         79           Gulley         D         13         +         +         +         +         +         100         100         100         1100         1100         1100         1100         1100         1100         1100         1100         1100         1100         1100				+	+	+				
Dation   D   37				+	+	+	0			
Dannelly				+	+	+	_			
Forester				+	+	+	_			
Fox         R         12         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Garrou         D         20         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Garwood         R         27         +         +         +         E         100         57         79           Gulley         D         13         +         +         +         +         100         100         100           Hagan         D         32         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Harrisell         R         22         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Hartsell         R         22         +         +         +         -         80         71         76         49           Hartsell         R         22         +         +         +         -         80         71         76         49           Hoyle         D         25         +         +         +         -         -         80         72         55	3			+	+	+	_			
Garrou         D         20         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Garwood         R         27         +         +         +         E         100         57         79           Gulley         D         13         +         +         +         +         +         100         83         3         4         +				+	+	+	_			
Garwood         R         27         +         +         +         E         100         57         79           Gulley         D         13         +         +         +         +         +         100         86         83         33         140         + <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>+</td> <td>+</td> <td>+</td> <td>_</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>				+	+	+	_			
Gulley         D         13         +         +         +         +         +         100         100           Hagan         D         32         +         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Harriss         D         15         +         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Hartsell         R         22         +         +         +         +         E         100         86         93           Horton         R         20         +         +         +         +         0         80         71         76           Hoyle         D         25         +         +         +         -         40         57         49           Kerr         D         8         0         +         +         -         40         57         49           Kinnaird         D         16         +         +         +         E         100         100         100           Lucas         D         13         +         +         +         E         100         90	Garrou			+	+	+				
Hagan	Garwood			+	+	+	E			
Harris         D         15         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Hartsell         R         22         +         +         +         E         100         86         93           Horton         R         20         +         +         +         0         80         71         76           Hoyle         D         25         +         +         +         -         80         29         55            Ker         D         8         0         +         +         -         40         57         49           Kinnaird         D         16         +         +         +         +         +         100         <	Gulley			+	+	+	+			
Hartsell         R         22         +         +         +         E         100         86         93           Horton         R         20         +         +         +         +         0         80         71         76           Hoyle         D         25         +         +         +         -         80         29         55           Kerr         D         B         0         +         +         -         40         57         49           Kinnaird         D         16         +         +         +         +         +         100         100         100           Lee         D         16         +         +         +         +         100         86         93           Lucas         D         13         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Martin, R.         D         6         0         +         +         0         40         Inc.         Inc.           Metall         D         31         +         +         +         +         -         80         83         32				+	+	+	_			
Horton				+	+	+				
Hoyle         D         25         +         +         +         -         80         29         55           Kerr         D         8         0         +         +         -         40         57         49           Kinnaird         D         16         +         +         +         +         +         100         100         100           Lee         D         16         +         +         +         E         100         86         93           Lucas         D         13         +         +         +         +         E         100         86         93           Lucas         D         6         0         +         +         -         80         100         90           Martin, R.         D         6         0         +         +         -         80         71         76           Metalf         D         28         +         +         +         -         80         83         82           Miller         D         14         +         +         +         +         +         +         +         +         +         -	Hartsell			+	+	+	E			
Kerr         D         8         0         +         +         -         40         57         49           Kinnaird         D         16         +         +         +         +         +         100         100         100           Lee         D         16         +         +         +         +         E         100         86         93           Lucas         D         13         +         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Martin, R.         D         6         0         +         +         0         40         Inc.         Inc.           Martin, W.         D         31         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Metcalf         D         28         +         +         +         -         80         83         82           Miller         D         14         +         +         +         +         +         +         100         100         100         100         100         100         100         100         100         100         100         100 <th< td=""><td>Horton</td><td>R</td><td></td><td>+</td><td>+</td><td>+</td><td>0</td><td>80</td><td>71</td><td>76</td></th<>	Horton	R		+	+	+	0	80	71	76
Kinnaird         D         16         +         +         +         +         +         100         100         100           Lee         D         16         +         +         +         E         100         86         93           Lucas         D         13         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Martin, R.         D         6         0         +         +         0         40         Inc.         Inc.           Martin, W.         D         31         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Metcalf         D         28         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Metcalf         D         14         +         +         +         +         +         100         <	Hoyle	D		+	+	+	_	80		
Lee         D         16         +         +         +         +         E         100         86         93           Lucas         D         13         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Martin, R.         D         6         0         +         +         0         40         Inc.         Inc.           Martin, W.         D         31         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Metcalf         D         28         +         +         +         -         80         83         82           Miller         D         14         +         +         +         +         100         100         100           Moore         R         27         +         +         +         +         -         80         67         74           Odom         D         34         +         E         +         -         75         86         81           Plyler         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Purcell	Kerr	D		0	+	+	_	40	57	49
Lucas         D         13         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Martin, R.         D         6         0         +         +         0         40         Inc.         Inc.           Martin, W.         D         31         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Metcalf         D         28         +         +         +         -         80         83         82           Miller         D         14         +         +         +         +         +         100	Kinnaird	D	16	+	+	+		100	100	100
Martin, R.         D         6         0         +         +         0         40         Inc.         Inc.           Martin, W.         D         31         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Metcalf         D         28         +         +         +         -         80         83         82           Miller         D         14         +         +         +         +         100         100         100           Moore         R         27         +         +         +         -         80         67         74           Odom         D         34         +         E         +         -         75         86         81           Plyler         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Purcell         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rand         D         24         +         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Reves         D	Lee	D		+	+	+	Е	100	86	93
Martin, W.         D         31         +         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Metcalf         D         28         +         +         +         +         -         80         83         82           Miller         D         14         +         +         +         +         +         +         100         100         100         100           Moore         R         27         +         +         +         -         80         67         74         00         00         0         100 <td< td=""><td></td><td>D</td><td>13</td><td>+</td><td>+</td><td>+</td><td>_</td><td>80</td><td>100</td><td>90</td></td<>		D	13	+	+	+	_	80	100	90
Metcalf         D         28         +         +         +         +         +         -         80         83         82           Miller         D         14         +         +         +         +         +         100         100         100           Moore         R         27         +         +         +         -         80         67         74           Odom         D         34         +         E         +         -         80         67         74           Odom         D         34         +         E         +         -         80         67         74           Odom         D         34         +         E         +         -         80         67         74           Odom         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Purcell         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rand         D         24         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Robinson<	Martin, R.	D	6	0	+	+	0	40	Inc.	Inc.
Miller         D         14         +         +         +         +         +         100         100           Moore         R         27         +         +         +         -         80         67         74           Odom         D         34         +         E         +         -         75         86         81           Plyler         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Purcell         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Purcell         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rand         D         24         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Reeves         D         14         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Robinson         D         29         +         +         +         +         E         100         29         65           Shaw, L         D	Martin, W.	D	31	+	+	+	_	80	71	76
Moore         R         27         +         +         +         -         80         67         74           Odom         D         34         +         E         +         -         75         86         81           Plyler         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Purcell         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rand         D         24         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rand         D         14         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Reeves         D         14         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Robinson         D         29         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rucho         R         35         +         +         +         E         100         29         65           Shaw, L         D         4	Metcalf	D	28	+	+	+	_	80	83	82
Odom         D         34         +         E         +         -         75         86         81           Plyler         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Purcell         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rand         D         24         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Reeves         D         14         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Robinson         D         29         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rucho         R         35         +         +         +         E         100         29         65           Shaw, L         D         41         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Shaw, R.         R         19         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         10	Miller	D	14	+	+	+	+	100	100	100
Plyler         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         57         69           Purcell         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rand         D         24         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Reeves         D         14         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Robinson         D         29         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rucho         R         35         +         +         +         E         100         29         65           Shaw, L         D         41         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Shaw, R.         R         19         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Soles         D         18         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         3	Moore	R	27	+	+	+	_	80	67	74
Purcell         D         17         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rand         D         24         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Reeves         D         14         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Robinson         D         29         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rucho         R         35         +         +         +         E         100         29         65           Shaw, L         D         41         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Shaw, R.         R         19         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Soles         D         18         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Warren         D         9	Odom	D	34	+	Е	+	_	75	86	81
Rand         D         24         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Reeves         D         14         +         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Robinson         D         29         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rucho         R         35         +         +         +         E         100         29         65           Shaw, L         D         41         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Shaw, R.         R         19         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Soles         D         18         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         10         +         +         +         E         100         71         86           Thomas         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Weinstein         D	Plyler	D	17	+	+	+	_	80	57	69
Reeves         D         14         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Robinson         D         29         +         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rucho         R         35         +         +         +         E         100         29         65           Shaw, L         D         41         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Shaw, R.         R         19         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Soles         D         18         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         10         +         +         +         E         100         71         86           Thomas         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Warren         D         9         E         +         +         -         40         33         37           Weinstein         D	Purcell	D	17	+	+	+	_	80	86	83
Reeves         D         14         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Robinson         D         29         +         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rucho         R         35         +         +         +         E         100         29         65           Shaw, L         D         41         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Shaw, R.         R         19         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Soles         D         18         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         10         +         +         +         E         100         71         86           Thomas         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Warren         D         9         E         +         +         -         40         33         37           Weinstein         D	Rand	D	24	+	+	+	_	80		
Robinson         D         29         +         +         +         +         -         80         86         83           Rucho         R         35         +         +         +         E         100         29         65           Shaw, L         D         41         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Shaw, R.         R         19         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Soles         D         18         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         10         +         +         +         E         100         71         86           Thomas         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Warren         D         9         E         +         +         -         67         60         64           Webster         R         21         -         +         +         -         40         33         37           Weinstein         D		D		+	+	+	_	80	100	90
Rucho         R         35         +         +         +         E         100         29         65           Shaw, L         D         41         +         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Shaw, R.         R         19         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Soles         D         18         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         10         +         +         +         E         100         71         86           Thomas         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Warren         D         9         E         +         +         -         67         60         64           Webster         R         21         -         +         +         -         80         83         82	Robinson	D	29	+	+	+	_	80		83
Shaw, L         D         41         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Shaw, R.         R         19         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Soles         D         18         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         10         +         +         +         E         100         71         86           Thomas         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Warren         D         9         E         +         +         -         67         60         64           Webster         R         21         -         +         +         -         40         33         37           Weinstein         D         30         +         +         +         -         80         83         82										
Shaw, R.         R         19         +         +         +         -         80         100         90           Soles         D         18         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         10         +         +         +         E         100         71         86           Thomas         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Warren         D         9         E         +         +         -         67         60         64           Webster         R         21         -         +         +         -         40         33         37           Weinstein         D         30         +         +         +         -         80         83         82										
Soles         D         18         +         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Swindell         D         10         +         +         +         E         100         71         86           Thomas         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Warren         D         9         E         +         +         -         67         60         64           Webster         R         21         -         +         +         -         40         33         37           Weinstein         D         30         +         +         +         -         80         83         82										
Swindell         D         10         +         +         +         E         100         71         86           Thomas         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Warren         D         9         E         +         +         -         67         60         64           Webster         R         21         -         +         +         -         40         33         37           Weinstein         D         30         +         +         +         -         80         83         82										
Thomas         D         3         +         +         +         -         80         71         76           Warren         D         9         E         +         +         -         67         60         64           Webster         R         21         -         +         +         -         40         33         37           Weinstein         D         30         +         +         +         -         80         83         82										
Warren         D         9         E         +         +         -         67         60         64           Webster         R         21         -         +         +         -         40         33         37           Weinstein         D         30         +         +         +         -         80         83         82										
Webster         R         21         -         +         +         -         40         33         37           Weinstein         D         30         +         +         +         -         80         83         82										
Weinstein D 30 + + + - 80 83 <b>82</b>										
. *************************************	Wellons	D	11	+	+	+	_	80	100	90

<sup>\*</sup> Because of the importance of the Smokestacks Bill, this vote is being double-counted. vation vote – anti-conservation vote

KEY: + pro-conservation vote

excused absence (not counted in final %) 0

<sup>0</sup> did not vote (counted as a – vote in final %)

	Join Conservation Council							
Yes! I want to help hold our legislators accountable & maintain a voice for the environment where decisions are being made.								
□ \$25 Individual member □ \$30	0 Family Member 🛛 \$100 Organi	zation 🖵 Other \$						
Name:								
Address:								
City:	State:	Zip:						
Phone:	Email:							
Please make your check payable to	CCNC, or use ☐ MC or ☐ Visa: E	xpiration Date:						
Card #:	Signature:							
Your membership supports CCNC's advocacy and political programs, and are not tax-deductible.								
Please return payment with form to:	CCNC PO Box 12671 Raleigh, No	C 27605 (919) 839-0006						

#### **Clean Smokestacks**

The North Carolina General Assembly passed landmark environmental legislation early in the 2002 session with the adoption of SB 1078, the Clean Smokestacks bill. This legislation, sponsored by Senator Steve Metcalf and Representative Martin Nesbitt, will improve air quality in NC by requiring the fourteen coal burning power plants in the state to reduce emissions of air pollutants by over seventy percent. Passage of this bill makes North Carolina the first southern state to impose air pollution standards on coal burning plants.

After passage by the Senate last year, the Clean Smokestacks bill stalled in the House because of concerns about higher electric rates. In April 2002, Governor Mike Easley announced a compromise proposal that received the backing of the legislative leadership, the utilities, the business industry and environmental organizations. This compromise required the same emission reductions as the original bill, but would also freeze electric rates at current levels for five years. While the political players on this bill were critical, the Clean Smokestacks bill would never have been enacted without the tremendous outpouring of public support from across the state. The message to legislators was that the public would not allow the bill to remain bottled up. As Rep. Nesbitt said at the bill signing ceremony, "This bill had ten good chances to die, but the public wouldn't let it."



2002 SCORECARD FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(919) 839-0006 ccnc@conservationcouncilnc.org www.conservationcouncilnc.org www.ccnccpac.org

PO Box 12671 Raleigh, NC 27605

Conservation Council of North Carolina

