

WOMEN LEAD NC

NOVEMBER 2025 | RALEIGH, NC



Elizabeth (Beth) Townsend
Government and Community Relations Director
Duke Energy, East Region

Beth currently serves as the Government and Community Relations Director for the East Region at Duke Energy. In this role, she leads a team of four district managers and together they engage with over 30 counties, focusing on strengthening relationships and driving meaningful community impact. Beth joined Duke Energy in June 2023 and stepped into her current leadership role in January 2025.



Prior to joining Duke Energy, Beth dedicated nearly 18 years at Piedmont Community College, serving the communities of Person and Caswell counties. Her most recent position there was Vice President of Advancement and Communications, where she led efforts in fundraising, outreach, and community engagement.

A native of New York, Beth relocated to Raleigh, North Carolina in the late 1990s after earning her Master of Public Administration from Framingham State University in Massachusetts. She eventually settled in Person County in 2004 to be closer to family following the birth of her daughter. An active volunteer, Beth fosters dogs and cats through Animal Protection Society of Person County and currently serves on the boards of the Boys and Girl Club of North Central North Carolina, Person County Education Foundation, two community college foundations and several chambers of commerce boards.