

Duke Energy

Response received by BHRRRC from Duke Energy regarding assessment of exposure to and steps taken in response to forced labour issues in XUAR as documented by Sheffield Hallam University, among others, 17 July 2023.

(1) Assessment of exposure

“We have proactively discussed the forced labor issues with all current battery and solar panel suppliers to ensure they are not sourcing materials from XinJiang region. In 2021, we changed our terms and conditions to ensure that suppliers affirm they are not sourcing materials from XinJiang. Prior to 2021, and during the interim period when there wasn’t the contractual provision, the deliveries still would have had to adhere to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) by providing required paperwork to overcome the withhold/release order related to Xinjiang. “

(2) Steps taken in response

“We have talked directly with vendors to certify the materials we have procured from them do not contain materials from the XinJiang region. In addition, we have focused our spend away from vendors that present heightened XinJiang risk, both for the CBP risk, and unrelated tariff risks, by limiting our solar panel providers to two manufacturers (First Solar and Canadian Solar) until at least 2027, which we will then reassess.”

“We have not identified any instances where we have been sourcing from XinJiang directly or indirectly.”