

What is Charlotte USA?

The Charlotte region continues to strengthen its position as one of the most dynamic and diversified locations in North America. This 16-county region – 12 in North Carolina and four in South Carolina – is home to more than 750 foreign-owned firms, eight FORTUNE 500 company headquarters and a growing population of more than 2.5 million residents.



Energy & Environment Industry Highlights

- The University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Lee College of Engineering, a leading university for engineering, science and technology
- Headquarters of *Fortune 500* Duke Energy, one of the largest utilities in the U.S.
- 1,400+ undergraduate engineering degrees and 1,000+ graduate and doctoral engineering graduates annually at major universities within 250 miles of Charlotte, N.C.
- 39 power plants currently operating in the region, and 12 nuclear reactors operating in the Carolinas, with six new potential units in the application process
- Energy Production Infrastructure Center (EPIC) at UNC Charlotte providing education and research to train electrical/civil engineers for careers in energy field
- Electric Power Research Institute's R&D headquarters facility
- Large engineering firms including Shaw Power Group, Parson's AREVA, URS/Washington Group, Fluor Corp, Stantec Consulting Services and Perigon International Inc.

Recent News in the Energy/Environment Industry

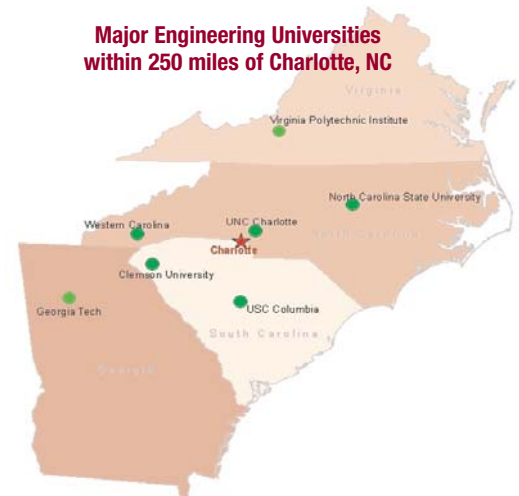
- Sencera International Group, investing \$36.8 million to build solar-module factory
- Finland-based Metso Power, building \$13.2 million boiler manufacturing plant
- Shaw Power Group's 556-job unit relocating to uptown Charlotte office tower; Fluor Corp adding 100 jobs
- URS/Washington Group opening nuclear center bringing 400 jobs and \$6.5 million in investment
- City of Mooresville, exploring hydrail initiative to become first commuter service fuel-cell powered locomotive in the U.S.

Firms in the Energy/Environment Industry

Aldo Products Co.
Argand Energy Solutions
Bio Energy Conversion
Biotech Industries
C3 International
Conbraco Industries
DesignLine International
Duke Engineering Services

EverGlow Inc.
Environmental Building Solutions
Ingersoll-Rand Co.
John Deere Southeastern
Nature Fuels
Mar Mac Protective
PBI Performance Products

Major Engineering Universities within 250 miles of Charlotte, NC



PPG Industries
Rollcast Energy Inc.
Sencera Technologies
Southeast Biodiesel
Storm Technologies
Southern Energy Management
Sunlife Systems Int'l
Sunquest Inc.
US Greenfiber Inc.

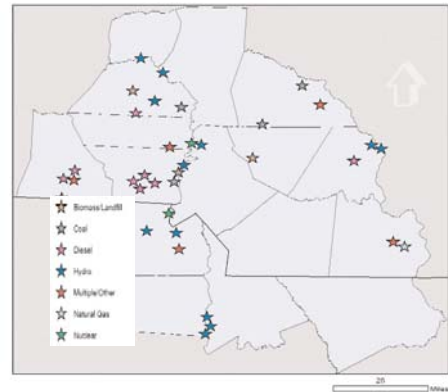
ENERGY/ENVIRONMENT

Engineering Occupations Average Annual Salary, May 2007

METRO AREA	ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS	MECHANICAL ENGINEERS	COST OF LIVING
	ANNUAL AVG WAGE	ANNUAL AVG WAGE	INDEX
Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord, NC-SC MSA	\$75,150	\$76,480	94.7
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ, MSA	\$79,890	\$72,530	101.6
Albuquerque, NM MSA	\$85,470	\$92,210	95.5
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy-MA-NH MSA	\$96,830	\$86,570	134.0
San Diego-Carlsbad-CA MSA	\$88,380	\$79,050	139.4
United States	\$82,090	\$75,130	100.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics OES, May 2007; ACCRA Cost of Living Index, 2008Q1

Charlotte USA Power Plant Locations



- Renewable Energy Tax Credits available in North and South Carolina
 - N.C. Renewable Energy Incentives provide 35% tax credit of the cost of renewable energy property constructed, purchased or leased in N.C.
 - S.C. Renewable Energy Incentives provide a 25% tax credit for development, production and use of biomass energy, renewable fuels, solar, wind and energy-efficient vehicles and buildings
- EPIC - Energy Production Infrastructure Center at UNC Charlotte housing a department of electrical and civil engineering and is designed to address the shortfall of trained engineers capable of servicing and replacing an aging fossil fuel and nuclear infrastructure
 - Project recently received \$56 million in state funding, plans to build 200,000sf research center
 - Market driven effort with significant corporate involvement (Duke Energy)
 - Initiative will also develop future technologies for wind, solar, and biofuels
 - Academic training provided in transmission and distribution, environmental issues, construction management and logistics
- The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
 - National academic leader in patents and technology transfers
 - Headquarters of International Society of Environmental Geotechnolgy (ISEG), a growing organization of more than 500 professionals from 50 countries
 - Global Institute for Energy and Environmental Systems (GIEES), an applied research institute focusing on integrated analysis of energy and environmental systems; Duke Energy is a research partner
 - Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering includes research expertise in structural, environmental, traffic and soils engineering, as well as Ph.D. program in Infrastructure and Environmental Science

Industry Resources

North Carolina State Energy Office
<http://www.energync.net>
 North Carolina Green Power
<http://www.ncgreenpower.org>
 North Carolina Solar Center
<http://www.ncsu.ncsu.edu>
 South Carolina State Energy Office
<http://www.energy.sc.gov>
 UNCC College of Engineering
<http://www.coe.uncc.edu>
 Electric Power Research Institute
<http://www.epri.com>
 Biofuels Center of North Carolina
<http://www.biofuelscenter.org>
 International Hydrail Conference
<http://www.hydrail.org>



- Catawba County partnership with Appalachian State University to operate a biodiesel research facility that will assist Catawba County in producing biodiesel fuel from operations at the County's EcoComplex and locally grown crops

For more information, call 800.554.4373 or 704.347.8942.
www.charlotteusa.com