THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY REMAINS one of the strongest components of North Carolina’s diverse manufacturing sector. Hundreds of plastics manufacturing and processing companies employ close to 40,000 people in the state. Additionally, plastics-dependent industries — sectors like health care, automotive and aerospace — combine to employ another 725,000 North Carolinians.

INDUSTRY RESOURCES
North Carolina has a long and successful track record of supporting the plastics industry. From workforce training to consulting services, powerful resources exist to support continued growth of this important sector. Examples include:

The North Carolina Polymers Center of Excellence provides polymer testing, polymer processing and workforce training to increase knowledge within emerging technologies in the plastics industry.

The North Carolina Community College System, which has significant expertise in the plastics industry, offers customized training to eligible new and expanding businesses so new employees are able to hit the ground running.

The Nonwovens Institute was launched in 2007 as the world’s first accredited program for the interdisciplinary study of engineered fabrics. The Institute, which has a heavy focus on polymer technology, is dedicated to expanding the nonwovens industry through research, training and education.

THE NORTH CAROLINA WORKFORCE
- Ranked #1, Largest Manufacturing Workforce in the Southeast
- Ranked #2, Competitive Labor Environment by Area Development, 2018
- Elite higher Education — 53 colleges and universities including the Tier 1 research universities NCSU, Duke, and UNC
- 22,500+ STEM Degrees Annually

PUBLIC POWER IN N.C.
ElectriCities partners with its 70+ member cities, towns and university systems to provide reliable electricity, competitive rates, and local service to more than 1.2 million residential, commercial and industrial customers across the state.

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