



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 15, 2019

CLEAN ENERGY GROUPS OUTLINE WHY NUCLEAR MUST BE INCLUDED

U.S. and global climate and clean power goals won't be achievable without existing and next-generation nuclear generation, a coalition of clean energy experts detail in a [new white paper](#).

The scale of global environmental challenges demands that we continue developing and improving on a range of low-carbon options, not just one or two technologies, argues experts from ClearPath, Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES), American Council for Capital Formation (ACCF), Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions (CRES) Forum and the Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC).

"As we look at decarbonizing our power grid it's clear that a diverse set of low-carbon technologies is essential to move rapidly and affordably. Nuclear needs to be in that mix." ClearPath Energy Innovation Program Director Spencer Nelson said.

Reaching our mid-century climate goals is the challenge of our generation," C2ES President Bob Perciasepe said. "We can meet it only by dramatically reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which requires a zero-emission coalition that includes nuclear energy and carbon capture alongside renewables."

"The quest for cleaner energy sources cannot be separated from the need for energy that is affordable, stable and reliable as well," ACCF Senior Fellow & Director of Energy Innovation Programs Drew Bond said. "Nuclear power is not only capable of producing continual baseload electricity with zero air emissions, but it can also be designed to work well with intermittent renewables. No matter if our goal is energy dominance or carbon-free energy, nuclear energy has to be part of the mix."

"A comprehensive clean energy strategy to address our climate and energy challenges must include all low-carbon generation technologies, including nuclear," CRES Forum Executive Director Heather Reams said. "As the largest source of zero-carbon emitting electricity in the

United States, nuclear power is an essential generator for modern power systems and complements fast-growing renewable resources such as solar and wind. This report makes clear that there is no realistic path forward in meeting today's rising need for electricity while substantially reducing global carbon emissions without nuclear power."

"Any realistic low-carbon future must include a robust role for nuclear energy," said Blair Beasley, acting director of energy at the Bipartisan Policy Center. "BPC has long supported existing nuclear reactors and the development of next-generation nuclear technology as part of a viable climate solution."

The paper - [Clean Energy Solutions Must Include Nuclear](#) - outlines three main points:

- Modern power systems need clean energy that is available on demand
- Taking nuclear out of the mix undermines our ability to achieve deep carbon cuts
- Importance of focusing on outcomes and being technology-inclusive

Corporate leadership can show the way toward addressing carbon emissions. Companies interested in maximizing their contribution to clean energy and environmental protection should adopt targets that are both *more ambitious and technology neutral*.

To achieve very deep carbon reductions, the power system needs low-carbon emitting generators that are available on demand, such as nuclear and carbon capture, to complement variable resources like wind and solar. Given the energy technologies available to us today, taking nuclear out of the mix will undermine our ability to achieve climate goals. And since no energy source is perfect and all involve trade-offs, it's critical to focus on outcomes - such as carbon emission reductions - without favoring or discriminating against particular technologies.

The experts also dive in common issues surround nuclear power - including cost and the storage of spent nuclear fuel.