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In our latest edition of NENSC News, the [Nuclear Energy and National Security Coalition \(NENSC\)](#) brings you the latest industry news, events you don't want to miss, and policies we are watching. Be sure to keep scrolling to learn how you can follow us and stay up to date with the latest information you need.

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TOP STORY

As NENSC begins its efforts in 2026, we have exciting programming in the works.

- **Podcasts.** New episodes of NENSC's [Atomically Speaking](#) podcast are currently being recorded, and will be released in the near future. *Atomically Speaking* is an innovative podcast dedicated to exploring the intersection of nuclear energy and U.S. national security designed as a unique space for some of the nation's foremost security experts, thought leaders, and policymakers to come together and engage in insightful, solution-oriented dialogue.
- **Webinars.** NENSC continues to organize webinars on topics relevant to the national security industry throughout the year as they pertain to nuclear energy priorities. These live events will allow participants to ask real-time questions of guests on priority topics. [An archive of previous webinars is available here.](#)
- **Newsletters.** NENSC prepares and distributes monthly newsletters highlighting the latest policy developments impacting the nuclear energy industry that have the potential to impact national security interests. [Sign up for the NENSC newsletter and other communications here](#) if you are not already receiving updates directly.
- **Website.** NENSC's written and online programming is available on our website, www.nensc.org. Please visit us if you have missed any of our prior programming.
- **Social Media.** NENSC regularly publishes updates on our [LinkedIn page](#). Sign up for the latest information.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

NRC Issues New Guidance for Reactor Safety Review: The NRC [issued new guidance](#) clarifying how its staff will participate in reactor safety reviews led by the DOE and DoD as the Trump administration pushes to speed licensing for new nuclear designs. The guidance allows NRC staff to observe, ask questions, and provide input during DOE and Pentagon reviews, while emphasizing that final licensing authority remains with the NRC and that staff participation requires developer consent.

Sweden Receives First State Aid Bid for New Nuclear: Sweden [has received](#) its first application for state aid under new legislation designed to support investment in nuclear power, with Vattenfall-backed Videberg Kraft AB seeking support for a project at Ringhals that could include either five GE Hitachi BWRX-300 reactors or three Rolls-Royce SMRs totaling about 1,500 megawatts.

Key Milestone for Chinese Nuclear: China National Nuclear Corporation [has completed hot functional tests](#) at Tianwan Nuclear Power Plant unit 7 in Jiangsu province, marking a key step toward fuel loading and grid connection.. China's ACP100 SMR project at the Changjiang site in Hainan [has completed](#) its non-nuclear steam turbine startup test, a major pre-fuel milestone that verified stable operation of the conventional island systems. China National Nuclear Corporation said the successful test clears the way for nuclear fuel loading and subsequent grid-connected operation

Slovakia, U.S. Sign Nuclear Cooperation Agreement: Slovakia and the United States have [signed an intergovernmental nuclear energy agreement](#) to support deployment of a new 1,200-MWe reactor at the Bohunice site and broader cooperation across reactor technology, supply chains, safety, workforce development, and financing. Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico said the project—widely expected to involve Westinghouse technology—could enter operation around 2040–2041 and would strengthen energy security while maximizing Slovak industrial participation.

Namibia, Rosatom Deepen Nuclear Partnership: Namibia and Russia's Rosatom are [advancing cooperation](#) on peaceful nuclear energy, including uranium exploration, mining, and potential nuclear power development. Rosatom plans to complete uranium exploration in Namibia by 2026 and begin mining by 2029, while discussions continue on a framework intergovernmental agreement.

Vietnam Moves Ahead on Ninh Thuan Nuclear Site: Vietnam [has launched](#) resettlement and site clearance for the Ninh Thuan 1 nuclear power plant, aiming to hand over cleared land in the first quarter of 2026 so construction can begin. The project, originally approved in 2009 and revived in 2024, continues cooperation with Russia, while the second planned plant with Japan has been reopened to other suppliers.

ANS: 2025: The Year in Nuclear

The Independent: NASA Commits to Nuclear Reactor on the Moon by 2030 After Trump Admin Pushed for Expedited Timeline

Interesting Engineering: US Boosts Molten Salt Nuclear Reactor Development with Nanofluids-focused Research

National Interest: America's Nuclear Comeback: How a New Law Opens Global Markets

National Interest: Nuclear Energy Now – Legislation Introduced to Establish the Office of Fusion

NYTimes: Optimism About Nuclear Energy Is Rising Again. Will It Last? [Paywall]

POLITICO: Meta Inks AI Data Center Deals to Boost Advanced Nuclear and Existing Plants [Paywall]

Power: Meeting the Moment: Industry Leaders Chart the Course for Power in 2026

Reuters: Japan Prepares to Restart World's Biggest Nuclear Plant, 15 Years After Fukushima

Washington Post: Opinion | Trump's Nuclear Energy Policy Will Fight Climate Change [Paywall]

WNN: In Quotes: What to Watch Out For in 2026

WHAT ARE WE MISSING?

What type of coverage are you looking for? Submit your thoughts and feedback [HERE](#).

Please note that we are not able to commit to the completion of any specific request. All feedback will be kept confidential.

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