

Volume 1 - June 2024

We are thrilled to bring you the first newsletter from the newly relaunched <u>Nuclear Energy and</u> <u>National Security Coalition (NENSC)</u>. This newsletter will hit your inbox once a month to bring 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. Here's what you need to know for June.

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## **LEAD STORY**

### NENSC Relaunches Efforts to Promote Nuclear Energy and National Security



Admiral Richard W. Mies (Ret.)



Daniel Poneman

Last month, the Nuclear Energy and National Security Coalition (NENSC) announced its relaunch, during the Nuclear Energy Policy Forum held by the Nuclear Energy Institute. This <u>announcement</u> was made by retired United States Navy Admiral Richard Mies, who serves as a co-chair of the Coalition along with former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy Daniel Poneman.

With commitments to triple nuclear capacity by 2050 and ongoing geopolitical conflicts, the Coalition is working to strengthen our national security through efforts that promote the U.S. civil nuclear energy sector across the globe. NENSC's objectives are comprehensive and multifaceted, focusing on bolstering climate and energy security; enhancing global nuclear nonproliferation efforts; strengthening infrastructure for U.S. defense nuclear needs; and accelerating innovation in the domestic nuclear industry.

To support its efforts, NENSC brings a unique perspective through its Expert Council of national security voices. Expert Council member participants to date include:

- Chuck Hagel, Former Secretary of Defense
- John Deutch, Former Deputy Secretary of Defense and CIA Director

- Lisa Gordon-Hagerty, Former Undersecretary of Energy for Nuclear Security and Administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration
- **Dick Meserve**, Former Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and President of Carnegie Institution for Science
- Sherri Goodman, Former Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Environmental Security
- Susan Eisenhower, International Security and Energy Expert
- Jeff "Skunk" Baxter, National Security Expert, Grammy winner, and Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee

Over the next year, NENSC will host events and participate in activities to advance its mission. Additional details on these efforts will be shared soon.

## LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

#### **ADVANCE Act Approved by Lawmakers**

The House and Senate have approved the "Accelerating Deployment of Versatile, Advanced Nuclear for Clean Energy (ADVANCE) Act of 2024," with vote counts of 88-2 in the Senate and 393-13 in the House of Representatives. Passage of the legislation demonstrates the overwhelming bipartisan support for nuclear energy in Congress. The ADVANCE Act will help to ensure that the U.S. maintains its global leadership and meets our climate and national energy security goals. Specific provisions in the legislation will improve regulatory efficiency, bolster U.S. international competitiveness, and accelerate the domestic deployments of advanced nuclear technologies. An overview of the provisions in the ADVANCE Act may be found <u>here</u>.

#### House Introduces Milestone-Based Nuclear Fuel Bill; Passes Committee

Reps. Williams (R-NY) and Sorensen (D-IL) <u>introduced</u> H.R. 8674, the "Milestones for Advanced Nuclear Fuel Act". The <u>bill</u> would direct the use of a milestone-based structure for the development and demonstration of nuclear fuel projects in the "Nuclear Fuel Security Act of 2023" and DOE's Fuel Cycle Research and Development program. Specifically, the legislation directs DOE to award milestone-based projects across the domestic nuclear supply chain, including uranium production, conversion, fabrication, enrichment, deconversion, and recycling. The measure also allows for Milestone-based Demonstration Projects focused on recycling spent nuclear fuel. A fact sheet can be read <u>here</u>, and the full text can be read <u>here</u>. The bill <u>was</u> <u>marked up and passed favorably</u> out of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

#### NDAA Advances in Congress: NDAA Passes the House

The House recently passed the <u>FY2025 National Defense Authorization Act</u> (NDAA) on a narrow vote of 217-199. The bill allocates \$884B in defense spending, slightly below the \$895B cap from last year's debt deal. Several civilian nuclear amendments passed were included in the measure. The Senate also this month unveiled <u>its version</u> of the FY2025 NDAA, which was approved by the Armed Services Committee on a 22-3 vote, sending the legislation to the full Senate for consideration.

#### Hanson Sworn in for Second NRC Term

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chair Christopher Hanson was officially sworn in for his second term. Hanson has supported efforts to modernize nuclear regulations and has advocated for more staffing and training at the NRC to prepare the agency's workforce for an increase in new reactor applications. A statement released by the NRC is available <u>here</u>. His new term will expire in 2029.

## **IN THE NEWS**

Bisconti Research, Inc: <u>Record High Support for Nuclear Energy</u>

DOE Office of Nuclear Energy: <u>5 Reasons Nuclear Is a Good Neighbor</u>

**U.N. News:** <u>"Without nuclear, it will be almost impossible to decarbonize by 2050", UN atomic energy chief</u>

Information Technology & Innovation Foundation: <u>How Innovative Is China in Nuclear</u> <u>Power?</u>

Third Way: <u>The Next 5 NRC Activities to Watch—and Why They're Critical for Advanced</u> <u>Reactors</u>

World Nuclear News: <u>Nuclear industry sets expectations of next European Commission</u>

WSJ: The American Company Trying to Keep Ukraine's Nuclear Reactors Online [Paywall]

**Finnish Government - Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment:** <u>Minister Mykkänen</u> <u>discussed the future of nuclear energy with U.S. Acting Assistant Secretary of Energy Michael</u> <u>Goff</u>

World Nuclear News: Granholm calls for tripling of US nuclear fleet

Utility Dive: US Army seeks nuclear microreactors for reliable on-site generation

Financial Times: How Russia is using nuclear power to win global influence [Paywall]

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**



Partnership for Transatlantic Energy and Climate Cooperation July 23 - 24 Bucharest, Romania



**9th Annual Central and Eastern European Energy Security Conference - Atlantic Council** September 10 (additional details to be announced)



68th IAEA General Conference September 16 - 20 Vienna, Austria



COP29 United Nations Climate Conference November 11 - 24 Baku, Azerbaijan

## WHAT ARE WE MISSING?

What type of coverage are you looking for? Submit your thoughts and feedback <u>HERE</u>. 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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