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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 STORIES

NENSC Adds New Members to Expert Council

NENSC is pleased to announce the addition of three members to its Expert Council, a cross-section of eminent authorities on U.S. national security interests benefitted by a strong U.S. commercial nuclear energy enterprise. New members include:

- **Steven Rademaker**, Former Assistant Secretary of State
- **Kenneth Luongo**, President, Partnership for Global Security
- **William C. Ostendorff** Former Commissioner, Nuclear Regulatory Commission

NENSC looks forward to working with each of these esteemed professionals as the organization's efforts proceed.

Reactions Widespread Over Trump Nuclear Policy EOs

There has been wide-ranging analysis in recent weeks to [four Executive Orders](#) signed by President Trump last month aimed at revitalizing the U.S. nuclear industry through regulatory reform, accelerated deployment, and national security integration. NENSC Expert Council member Kenneth Luongo, president and founder of the Partnership for Global Security and the Center for a Secure Nuclear Future, recently authored [this piece](#) in the National Interest.

U.S. LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

David Wright Renominated to NRC: The White House on June 16, 2025 [renominated](#) Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Chair David Wright to a new term on the commission through June 2030, two weeks before the South Carolina Republican's current term would

have expired. During his June 25, 2025 [confirmation hearing](#), Wright noted that safety will continue to be the independent agency's highest priority.

Christopher Hanson Removed from NRC: On June 13, 2025, President Trump dismissed Christopher Hanson from his role as a commissioner of the NRC. Hanson chaired the NRC under former President Joe Biden. He was originally nominated to the commission by Trump in 2020.

DOE Announces New Pathway to Test Advanced Reactors : The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the start of a new pilot program to expedite the testing of advanced nuclear reactor designs under DOE authority outside of the national laboratories. In accordance with President Trump's Executive Order, [Reforming Nuclear Reactor Testing at the Department of Energy](#), DOE issued a Request for Application (RFA) and is seeking qualified U.S. reactor companies interested in constructing and operating their test reactors outside of the national laboratories using the DOE authorization process.

NRC Clears Regulatory Path for Factory-Built Microreactors: The NRC [has approved](#) key policy changes to support the development and deployment of factory-built microreactors—very small reactors producing roughly 1% or less of the output of traditional nuclear plants. The Commission ruled that microreactors with built-in safeguards to prevent a chain reaction can be fueled and tested at manufacturing sites without being considered “in operation.”

Idaho National Laboratory seeks to supplant DOE in regulating safety for advanced reactors: The Idaho National Laboratory (INL) [has volunteered to assist DOE in regulating advanced reactors](#), taking over some responsibilities from the NRC. INL proposes a DOE-led licensing process, which would allow nuclear companies to opt out of the NRC's process. This move would shift some licensing authority to political appointees under President Trump, whose administration prioritizes advanced reactors for the growing AI industry.

INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS

World Bank Lifts Nuclear Ban: In a major policy reversal, the World Bank [has ended](#) its decades-long ban on financing nuclear power projects, last funded in 1959. The move could accelerate industrialization and clean energy access in developing nations while countering reliance on Russian and Chinese nuclear financing. Prompted in part by U.S. advocacy and a global push to triple nuclear energy by 2050, the decision enables support for next-generation reactors. Countries like Ghana, Vietnam, and Indonesia stand to benefit, aiming to replace coal with low-carbon alternatives. The change also boosts U.S. competitiveness in exporting advanced nuclear technologies.

Canada's Election Boosts Nuclear Energy Outlook: Mark Carney's election as Canada's Prime Minister signals [strong support for the nuclear energy sector](#). Canada, with the world's third-largest uranium reserves, stands to benefit from government incentives boosting uranium exploration and mining. Major players like Cameco and Westinghouse (part-owned by Cameco) are well positioned. While short-term uncertainty remains due to tense US-Canada relations—important since 85% of Canada's uranium exports go to the US—the long-term global demand and expanding trade partners like China and France offer growth opportunities.

Central Asia Deepens Nuclear Ties with Russia: Kazakhstan has [chosen Russia's](#)

[Rosatom](#) to build its first nuclear power plant using VVER-1200 reactors, citing cost, safety, and integration advantages. A second plant with Chinese technology is also planned. Meanwhile, [Uzbekistan is working with Rosatom](#) to study a larger plant with up to four VVER-1000 reactors, complementing an earlier SMR project. Both moves, announced at the St. Petersburg Economic Forum, highlight Russia's growing role in Central Asia's nuclear energy development.

IN THE NEWS

Abundance Institute: [How to Fix the NRC – and Unlock Advanced Nuclear Power](#) [Video]

Forbes: [Powering The Future: Why America Must Double Down on Nuclear Energy](#)

Foreign Policy: [The United States Needs a Nuclear Operation Warp Speed](#) [Op-Ed]

Goldman Sachs: [Is Nuclear Power Set for a Revival?](#)

Hood line: [Oak Ridge National Lab Outlines Vision for U.S. Energy Future: Emphasis on Security and Innovation](#)

MarketWatch: [Trump and Meta's Nuclear Deals Address the AI-fueled Energy Crisis. But Can U.S. Uranium Supply Meet Demand?](#)

National Interest: [Restoring America's Relationship with Nuclear Power as a National Security Priority](#)

National Interest: [The Secret Ingredient to AI Dominance? Nuclear Power](#)

POLITICO: [Britain Prepares to go all-in on Nuclear Power — After Years of Dither](#)

POLITICO: [State Lawmakers go Big on Bills to Advance Nuclear Power](#)

Third Way: [Strategic Rebuilding: America's Role in Ukraine's Energy Recovery](#)

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