



March 2025

In our latest edition of NENSC News, the [Nuclear Energy and National Security Coalition \(NENSC\)](#) brings you 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.

Please share our newsletter with a friend or colleague. If this email was forwarded to you, [subscribe for future NENSC communications here](#).

## U.S. LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

### Executive Branch

**DOE Re-issues Solicitation to Support Deployment of SMRs.** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on March 24 re-issued a \$900 million solicitation to support the deployment of small modular reactors. DOE is offering funding to de-risk the deployment of Generation III+ light-water small modular reactors (Gen III+ SMR) through two tiers: Tier 1- *First Mover Team Support* and Tier 2 - *Fast Follower Deployment Support*. Additional information is available [here](#).

**Trump's Tariffs Could Threaten U.S. Nuclear Energy Revival:** President Trump's proposed tariffs on Canadian and European uranium imports could severely disrupt the U.S. nuclear industry which relies on a global supply chain for fuel processing, [according to industry analysis](#). With over 95% of U.S. uranium sourced from abroad, the tariffs would increase costs, complicate supply logistics, and potentially lead to plant closures. Industry experts warn that retaliatory measures from Canada and Europe could further harm reactor development and nuclear fuel access. Despite Trump's push for energy security, the tariffs risk undermining America's nuclear competitiveness and strengthening foreign state-controlled rivals like Russia and China.

### Legislative Branch

**House Panel Backs Nuclear Energy Financing Bill:** The House Financial Services Committee [approved the "International Nuclear Energy Financing Act" \(H.R. 1474\)](#) in a 39-10 vote. Sponsored by Chair French Hill (R-Ark.), the bill seeks to establish a nuclear energy trust fund at the World Bank and enhance international cooperation. Key amendments included ensuring U.S.-backed projects meet high safety standards while rejecting proposals to expand financing

to all zero-emission sources and increase community oversight. The legislation aims to boost global nuclear energy development while maintaining stringent safeguards.

**Lawmakers Debate Expanding U.S. Development Finance Corporation:** The House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on East Asia and the Pacific [held a hearing](#) to discuss reauthorizing the U.S. Development Finance Corporation (DFC). Lawmakers and witnesses emphasized DFC's role in countering China's Belt and Road Initiative, supporting national security, and attracting private investment. Key topics included raising the \$60 billion lending cap, improving investment scoring, and expanding operations in strategic regions. The hearing also addressed transparency, coordination with U.S. agencies, and balancing economic development with security concerns, including DFC's role in Ukraine's reconstruction. A NENSC statement submitted to the Subcommittee may be viewed [here](#).

---

## INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS

**Strengthening the US/UK Special Civil Nuclear Relations:** Third Way and Stonehaven published a [joint report](#) highlighting the growing importance of deepening civil nuclear cooperation between the U.S. and U.K. in light of China and Russia's expanding influence over global nuclear supply chains. It emphasizes the need for a strategic partnership focused on SMR and Gen IV technologies to enhance security, reduce deployment costs, and maintain global leadership. The report recommends a new treaty or bilateral agreement that would include three core pillars: enabling a transatlantic program for SMR and Gen IV development, establishing a secure nuclear supply chain, and ensuring long-term growth in exports and technology.

**China Begins Construction on Lufeng Unit 1:** China General Nuclear (CGN) has [begun construction](#) on Unit 1 of the Lufeng nuclear power plant in Guangdong province, pouring the first safety-related concrete on February 24. The site will eventually house six reactors, including four CAP1000 units (Chinese versions of the AP1000) and two Hualong One units, with Unit 5 already under construction since 2022. Once completed, Lufeng is expected to generate 52 TWh annually, significantly reducing coal consumption and carbon emissions.

**Kazakhstan Moves Forward with Nuclear Energy Plans, Creating New Agency:** Kazakhstan's President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has announced the [creation of a Nuclear Energy Agency](#) to oversee the country's ambitious nuclear energy plans. With a focus on self-sufficiency and becoming a major energy exporter, Kazakhstan aims to build three nuclear power plants. Several international companies, including China National Nuclear Corporation and Rosatom, are competing for the project.

**Russia and Myanmar Sign Agreement for Small Modular Reactor Construction:** Russia and Myanmar [signed an intergovernmental agreement](#) during Myanmar's state visit to Russia, marking a key step in Myanmar's SMR project. The agreement, signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin and Myanmar's Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, outlines cooperation for constructing a 110 MW SMR, with potential expansion up to 330 MW. This follows a 2023 agreement between the two countries on peaceful nuclear energy use. Rosatom, Russia's state nuclear corporation, is leveraging its expertise in SMR technologies for this project, building on successful applications in nuclear icebreaker ships and floating nuclear power plants.

# IN THE NEWS

**ALPHA Institute:** [Nuclear Power in America: How Congress Can Unlock Energy Dominance \[Report\]](#)

**ANS:** Series on NRC's ADVANCE Act Hearing | ["The time is now" to advance U.S. nuclear — Part 1](#) | [NRC staff: "We've already made progress"— Part 2](#)

**ANS:** [U.S. uranium production up as companies press "go" on dormant operations](#)

**AP:** [US Energy Secretary Touts Nuclear Power as Tech Sector's Thirst for Electricity Grows](#)

**Atlantic Council:** [The US Can Reduce Russia's Nuclear Energy—and Geopolitical—Influence](#)

**CBS News:** [Fusion Energy: Unlocking the Power of the Stars \[Video\]](#)

**CBS News:** [Big Tech's Big Bet on Nuclear Power \[Video\]](#)

**CGEP:** [How the Energy Secretary Can Achieve His Goal of Next-Generation Nuclear Energy Deployment](#)

**Financial Post:** [World Bank May Drop Ban on Funding Nuclear Power, President Says](#)

**INL:** [Scientists Cook up the Perfect Recipe to Feed an Energy Future](#)

**MIT Energy Initiative:** [Adding Nuclear to the Mix \[Podcast\]](#)

**MSN:** [US to get 30 Nuclear Microreactors to Generate Clean Energy for Data Centers](#)

**NIA:** [DOE's GenIII+ Small Modular Reactor Program: Innovative Approaches to Public-Private Partnerships](#)

**PBS:** [Ceasefire Talks Put Zaporizhzhia in the Spotlight. What's Next for Ukraine's Nuclear Power Plant?](#)

**Reuters:** [Financial Folly or Pressure Tactic? Trump Eyes Ukraine's Occupied Nuclear Plant](#)

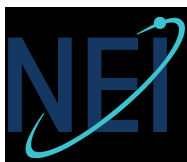
**Semafor:** [DOGE Reviews Nuclear Contractors](#)

**World Nuclear Association:** [Major Global Companies Pledge Historic Support to Triple Nuclear Energy](#)

**WNN:** [Minister updates parliament on Indian SMR project](#)

**WNN:** [India's Plans for Large-scale Nuclear Energy Expansion \[Podcast\]](#)

# UPCOMING EVENTS



**[Nuclear Energy Policy Forum](#)**

May 20-21, 2025

Washington, DC

# 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.*

Please share our newsletter with a friend or colleague. If this email was forwarded to you,  
[subscribe for future NENSC communications here](#).

For more information, visit us online at [nensc.org](http://nensc.org)



2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 6000 | Washington, DC 20006 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!