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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

National Security Panel Featured at Nuclear Energy Policy Forum

Attendees of the Nuclear Energy Institute's [Nuclear Energy Policy Forum](#) heard from a panel of experts on May 20, 2025 about nuclear energy's role in national security. The conversation featured NENSC co-chair Dan Poneman, UCAN Power's Lucian Niemeyer, and former Assistant Secretary of State for ISN Steve Rademaker. Topics included AI, nonproliferation, global competition, U.S. policy leadership, and more. A recording of the discussion is available [here](#).

NENSC and UCAN Power Call on Congress to Support Deployment of Advanced Nuclear Technologies.

The Nuclear Energy and National Security Coalition (NENSC) and the United Coalition for Advanced Nuclear Power (UCAN Power) sent a letter on May 13, 2025 to the Senate and House Armed Services Committees urging the establishment of a technical and project support program within the Department of Defense to accelerate the deployment of advanced nuclear technologies in support of national security and mission-critical operations. [Click here](#) to view the letter.

U.S. LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

[*Executive Branch*](#)

Trump Administration Issues Executive Orders to Overhaul U.S. Nuclear Policy: On Friday, May 23, 2025, President Trump [signed four Executive Orders](#) aimed at revitalizing the U.S. nuclear industry through regulatory reform, accelerated deployment, and national security integration. The orders direct sweeping actions across multiple agencies to rebuild domestic fuel production, overhaul reactor regulation, fast-track advanced testing, and deploy nuclear technologies for defense and global competitiveness. A NENSC press release on the Orders is available [here](#). A May 28, 2025 POLITICO Energy podcast, “[How US Nuclear Power is Getting a Presidential Push](#),” digs into the Orders, the recently passed reconciliation bill, and other emerging issues at the crossroads of nuclear energy and national security.

White House Releases President’s FY26 “Skinny” Budget: The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on May 2, 2025 released [President Trump’s FY26 budget proposal](#), which seeks to cut \$163 billion from non-defense spending. Under the proposal, the DOE’s annual budget [is reduced by \\$4.7 billion](#), with large cuts to programs related to renewable energy and climate change. The Budget proposes cutting [over \\$400 million from the DOE’s Office of Nuclear Energy](#), with the goal of reducing funding for “*non-essential research on nuclear energy to focus on what is truly needed to achieve national dominance in nuclear technology*”.

Secretary Wright Outlines 2026 Budget Priorities before Appropriations Subcommittee: On May 7, 2025, Energy Secretary Chris Wright [testified](#) before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development to present the DOE’s FY2026 budget. Framing the proposal as a return to “energy dominance,” Secretary Wright emphasized increased fossil fuel development, deregulation, advanced nuclear investment, and domestic energy infrastructure expansion. Republicans strongly backed the nuclear investments and permitting reforms, highlighting national security and grid reliability.

Ted Garrish Confirmed As DOE Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy: The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on May 8, 2025 [approved](#) Ted Garrish’s nomination following his hearing on April 30, 2025. At [his Senate confirmation hearing](#), Garrish emphasized the urgent need to modernize existing nuclear reactors and build new ones to meet soaring electricity demand driven by AI and industrial growth.

[Legislative Branch](#)

House Bill Preserves and Expands Key Nuclear Energy Incentives: On May 22, 2025, the House of Representatives cleared a major reconciliation hurdle, advancing its version of a 2025 Fiscal Year (FY2025) budget reconciliation bill, [H.R. 1 — One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025](#) (OBBBA)—by a vote of 215 to 214. Nuclear energy emerged as a clear legislative winner amid sweeping changes to tax and energy policy. While the bill accelerates phaseouts of clean energy tax credits and strips several public lands and drilling provisions, it protects nuclear incentives under Sections 45U, 45Y, and 48E of the tax code, including a carveout from the production and investment credits restrictions and having the full credit value available until 2031.

Senators McCormick and Coons introduce International Nuclear Energy Financing Act: Senators Dave McCormick (R-PA) and Chris Coons (D-DE) on May 13, 2025 [introduced the](#)

[International Nuclear Energy Financing Act \(S. 1739\)](#) to direct U.S. representatives at the World Bank and other development banks to support financing for nuclear energy projects abroad. Aimed at countering Chinese and Russian influence in global nuclear development, the bill promotes clean energy, job creation, and energy security by removing long-standing barriers to nuclear financing.

Senators Reintroduce International Nuclear Energy Act: A bipartisan group of senators has [reintroduced the International Nuclear Energy Act](#), aimed at strengthening U.S. leadership in global nuclear energy development. The bill would establish a new office to coordinate a nuclear export strategy, push for multilateral development banks to fund nuclear projects that meet U.S. or allied safety standards, and create trust funds to support competitive financing for partner countries.

INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENTS

India's Power Ministry Sets Out Steps for Accelerating Nuclear Energy Expansion: The Ministry of Power of India [outlined key steps](#) to meet the country's ambitious target of increasing its nuclear energy capacity to 100 GW by 2047, a more than 10-fold increase.. The ministry's plan focuses on several critical actions, including amending key legislation to allow greater private and state sector participation.

EU Proposes Trade Framework with U.S. to Boost Tech Cooperation, Including Nuclear: The EU has [proposed a new trade framework](#) with the Trump Administration, aiming to encourage direct foreign investment and collaboration on critical technologies such as nuclear energy, LNG, artificial intelligence, and semiconductor chips.. Although discussions are still in early stages, the inclusion of civil nuclear technology alongside sectors like LNG and AI signals the growing importance of nuclear energy in transatlantic relations.

Vietnam and Russia Accelerate Nuclear Power Plant Talks: Vietnam and Russia have [agreed to fast-track negotiations](#) for the construction of nuclear power plants in Vietnam, following a bilateral meeting between leaders from both countries.

Germany Softens Stance on Nuclear Power: Germany has [dropped its long-standing opposition to nuclear power](#). Berlin will no longer block efforts to recognize nuclear energy on equal footing with renewables in EU legislation, resolving a key dispute that delayed energy decisions, especially since Russia's invasion of Ukraine.. This policy reversal, driven by rising gas prices and energy security concerns, reflects growing EU support for nuclear energy, with only Austria maintaining strict opposition

IN THE NEWS

Breakthrough Institute: [Does Nuclear Energy Need the IRA Credits?](#)

CSIS: Experts React: [Energy Policy in the Reconciliation Debate](#)

Foreign Affairs: [The Other Nuclear Race: America Is Falling Behind China and Russia on](#)

[Energy Innovation](#)

IAEA: [Director General Grossi Discusses Global Non-proliferation, Nuclear Safety Issues with Senior US Officials](#)

India Times: [India & Russia Eye Collaboration on Nuclear Energy, Cybersecurity](#)

Interesting Engineering: [US Scientists End 70-year Fusion Struggle, Paving Way for Better Reactors](#)

Market Watch: [Google is Making Another Bet on Nuclear Energy as it Steps up its AI Efforts](#)

MIT Technology Review: [Can Nuclear Power Really Fuel the Rise of AI?](#)

Nuclear Engineering International: [Transforming the Spent Fuel Story](#)

Nuclear Engineering International: [Creating a Maritime Nuclear Rulebook](#)

POWER Magazine: [Group Projects 100-GW Rise in Global Nuclear Power Capacity Across Next Decade](#)

Reuters: [Why Does Saudi Arabia Want a Civil Nuclear Deal with the US?](#)

TechXplore: [First US Utility Seeks Permit for a Small Nuclear Reactor](#)

The Hill: [Trump Administration Approves First Expedited Uranium Mining Project](#)

WNN: [Ten New Reactors Approved in China](#)

WNN: [World Bank Looking into Support for Nuclear Energy](#)

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