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Nuclear Energy and National Security Coalition Relunched to Address Critical National Security Needs

Washington, D.C. – June 19, 2024 – The Nuclear Energy and National Security Coalition (NENSC) is pleased to announce its official relaunch.

Retired U.S. Navy Admiral Richard Mies will be joined as co-chair by Daniel Poneman, former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy and Special Assistant to the President for Nonproliferation and Export Controls. Along with a newly-formed cohort of Expert Council members, they aim to underline the importance of nuclear energy to our fundamental national security interests at this critical time in our history.

The Expert Council includes:

- Chuck Hagel, Former Secretary of Defense
- John Deutch, Former Deputy Secretary of Defense and CIA Director
- Lisa Gordon-Hagerty, Former Under Secretary 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 Under Secretary of Defense for Environmental Security
- Susan Eisenhower, International Security and Energy Expert
- Jeff “Skunk” Baxter, Counterterrorism Expert/Grammy winner and Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee

Co-chair Admiral Mies highlighted the coalition’s renewed commitment to advancing U.S. national security interests through nuclear energy leadership.

“Today, we recognize the symbiotic relationship between nuclear energy and our national security. NENSC is steadfast in its commitment to raise awareness of this crucial interdependence and advocate for policies ensuring a robust U.S. nuclear energy enterprise,” Admiral Mies emphasized.

An independent organization, NENSC brings together preeminent national security experts to promote policies that bolster the U.S. nuclear energy sector, both domestically and internationally. The coalition’s relaunch comes at a critical juncture, with recent geopolitical developments, such as Russia’s actions in Ukraine, underscoring the urgent need to secure and expand the role of nuclear energy in national security while restoring U.S. leadership in this critical technology.

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
- Accelerating innovation in the domestic nuclear industry

These efforts expand upon the work of other thought leaders in the energy and security sectors, including the Atlantic Council, Third Way, ClearPath, and others.

“Recent geopolitical events have underscored the urgency of our mission,” said Poneman. “NENSC will seek to leverage the many benefits of nuclear technology, from meeting burgeoning energy demand, providing resilient supply chains that strengthen energy security, and mitigating climate change, to enhancing U.S. leadership on global nonproliferation, safety, and security efforts.”

NENSC will engage policymakers, industry leaders, and the public to advance its mission.

For more information on how to support or get involved with the Nuclear Energy and National Security Coalition, please visit nensc.org or contact info@nensc.org.

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About the Nuclear Energy and National Security Coalition: The Nuclear Energy and National Security Coalition (NENSC) is an independent organization dedicated to advancing U.S. national security interests through nuclear energy leadership. Comprising leading experts in national security, NENSC advocates for policies that ensure a robust and secure nuclear energy sector, vital for the nation’s security and global leadership.