

## A CLEAR CONSENSUS:

# NUCLEAR ENERGY MUST BE PART OF ANY CLIMATE SOLUTION

The urgency to rapidly reduce carbon emissions is growing each day. In response, important voices and organizations focused on climate change have come to a clear consensus that nuclear energy is essential for timely decarbonization. Their recent analyses show that nuclear energy must be preserved to enable policymakers to curb emissions.

**The bottom line: Without nuclear energy, we cannot achieve our climate goals.**

July 3, 2019

Michael Liebreich, founder and senior contributor to BloombergNEF, Bloomberg's primary research service, argues that **"wind and solar alone can't provide enough zero-carbon power to decarbonize the economy in the near term"** and that **"the overwhelming priority is to keep existing nuclear plants open."**

June 29, 2019

Varun Sivaram, chief technology officer of ReNew Power, India's largest renewable energy company, participates in a panel at the Aspen Ideas Festival and states, **"Taking any option to reduce carbon emissions off the table, including nuclear power, is morally reprehensible."**

June 10, 2019

World Resources Institute's Senior Fellow John Woolard argues that commitments to 100 percent renewables cannot solely achieve the system change needed to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Woolard says it's time for companies and countries to commit to 100 percent zero-carbon energy and highlights the essential role of nuclear, stating, **"The imperative of climate change means we must look at options to continue to build nuclear power in the United States."**

June 5, 2019

PJM Interconnection, the regional transmission operator that manages a competitive wholesale electricity market in 13 states and Washington, D.C., issues a report to assess the impacts of preventing the closure of three nuclear plants in Ohio and Pennsylvania. The report finds that **preserving the Beaver Valley, Perry and Davis-Besse nuclear plants would reduce electricity costs by \$474 million and save more than 15 million tons of carbon dioxide.**

May 28, 2019

The IEA releases “Nuclear Power in a Clean Energy System,” a report that finds that without policy changes, advanced economies could lose 25 percent of their nuclear capacity by 2025 and as much as two-thirds of it by 2040. The lack of further lifetime extensions of existing nuclear plants and new projects could result in an additional 4 billion tons of carbon dioxide emissions. **“Without an important contribution from nuclear power, the global energy transition will be that much harder,”** said Dr. Fatih Birol, the IEA’s executive director.

May 28, 2019

Based on a year-long collaboration with leading companies including Microsoft and Mars Inc., C2ES outlines alternative scenarios for decarbonizing the U.S. economy. Its report, “Pathways to 2050: Alternative Scenarios for Decarbonizing the U.S. Economy,” identifies three scenarios that take a technology-neutral approach, showing **nuclear energy has a key role to play in achieving 80 percent decarbonization.**

May 20, 2019

The Atlantic Council Task Force on U.S. Nuclear Energy Leadership finds nuclear is necessary not only for national security, but for reaching global climate goals as well. Its report, “U.S. Nuclear Energy Leadership: Innovation and the Strategic Global Challenge,” states, **“From a foreign-policy perspective, U.S. technological leadership and the credibility of the nation’s nuclear capabilities allow the United States to present a viable, carbon-free option to countries intent on addressing their energy demand and security needs while also meeting climate goals.”**

April 6, 2019

In an op-ed in The New York Times titled “Nuclear Power Can Save the World,” authors Joshua S. Goldstein and Staffan A. Qvist state, **“Climate scientists tell us that the world must drastically cut its fossil fuel use in the next 30 years to stave off a potentially catastrophic tipping point for the planet. Confronting this challenge is a moral issue, but it’s also a math problem—and a big part of the solution has to be nuclear power.”**

Feb. 6, 2019

The report “Advancing the Landscape of Clean Energy Innovation” by the Breakthrough Energy Coalition finds that **“providing for a nuclear energy option, both nationally and globally, to provide clean, dispatchable baseload and scalable power in a complex and dynamic power grid environment is a critical goal.”**