



14th Edition, June 28, 2021

Member Conference Special Notice

Join UAMPS for its 2021 Annual Member Conference August 15-18 at The Village at Squaw Valley and explore how changing policy, technology, and lifestyles are reshaping the energy industry. Engage with experts, exchange strategies and solutions with other public power leaders, and discover tools for your future success.

All member representatives, governing bodies, and other stakeholders are invited. See [conference website](#) for agenda, speakers, other activities and hotel information. For other questions, email Jackie Coombs at jackie@uamps.com.

Survey shows citizens strongly support nuclear energy

The UAMPS Carbon Free Power Project is being developed in an era of dramatically increased support for nuclear energy and for next-generation nuclear plants.



Some 76 percent of U.S. adults now support nuclear energy, up significantly over just last year, and up dramatically since 1995, when only about 45 percent of adults supported nuclear energy. Today, only 24 percent of adults oppose nuclear energy.

Ann Stouffer Bisconti, PhD, of Bisconti Research, Inc., who has measured attitudes about nuclear energy since 1983, said the increased support comes from the fact that public discourse on energy and climate now includes nuclear energy. Citizens are becoming aware that nuclear is needed to combat climate change and bolster energy supplies. Support has also risen because Democratic presidents Barack Obama and Joe Biden and their energy departments have endorsed nuclear.

Bisconti said the strength of support can be seen by the fact that those who “strongly favor” nuclear outnumber those who “strongly oppose” by a margin of 5-1. Biden and Trump voters support nuclear energy about equally.

Some 85 percent of survey respondents agreed with the statement: “Our nation should prepare now so that advanced-design nuclear power plants will be available to provide electricity.”

The survey was conducted May 1-6, 2021, with a sample of 1,000 adults representative nationally, and an error margin of plus/minus 3%. See [SURVEY SUMMARY](#) and [SURVEY DATA](#).

Industry Information & Developments

[**General Electric White Paper: Nuclear Energy is a Critical Pillar of a Carbon-Free Future**](#). As the world continues to decarbonize the energy sector and strives to attain net-zero greenhouse gases to combat the threat of a warming planet, producing dependable, cleaner power is a global priority. As the most dependable source of carbon-free power generation providing around-the-clock energy supply without interruption, nuclear energy is an important part of the power generation landscape, and it is a critical pillar in the transformation to a carbon-free future. . . .

With the urgency of the climate challenge, decision makers should ensure nuclear energy is included in the discussion.

[**NEI’s Policy Priorities for Decarbonizing Our Economy**](#). Nuclear power is the ideal carbon-free, 24/7/365 partner to wind turbines, solar panels and energy storage in meeting the Biden administration’s goal to decarbonize our electricity system by 2035 and rebuild the economy.

New nuclear generation will be needed to achieve meaningful carbon reductions in the electric, transportation and industrial energy sectors. Government support in the form of both R&D funding and incentive policies is needed to accelerate and expand the deployment of advanced reactor technologies in order to meet the diverse set of market and customer needs.

[**If We Want to Fight the Climate Crisis, We Must Embrace Nuclear Power | Bhaskar Sunkara | The Guardian**](#). A powerful form of clean energy already exists – and it is far more reliable than wind and solar. Shutting down the Indian Point nuclear plant in New York State caused [a 46% increase](#) in the average carbon intensity of statewide electric generation compared to when the plant was fully

operational. New York replaced clean energy from Indian Point with fossil fuel sources like natural gas.

It's a nightmare we should have seen coming. In Germany, nuclear power formed around a third of the country's power generation in 2000, when a Green party-spearheaded campaign managed to secure the gradual closure of plants, citing health and safety concerns. Last year, nuclear share fell to 11%, with all remaining stations scheduled to close by next year. A recent paper found that the last two decades of phased nuclear closures led to an increase in CO2 emissions of [36.3 megatons a year](#) -- with the increased air pollution potentially killing 1,100 people annually.

[Bill Gates, Warren Buffett to Launch 'Game-Changing' Nuclear Power Plant in Wyoming \(ntd.com\)](#) Billionaire Bill Gates' advanced nuclear reactor company TerraPower LLC and PacifiCorp have selected Wyoming to launch the first Natrium reactor project on the site of a retiring coal plant, the state's governor said.

In Other News . . .

UAMPS Long-Time Chief Operations Officer Receives Individual Achievement Award. Marshall Empey, recently retired chief operations officer at UAMPS, received the James D. Donovan Individual Achievement Award on June 22 during the American Public Power Association's National Conference in Orlando, Florida. The award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the electric utility industry and to public power.

Marshall has worked in public power for 35 years and has represented UAMPS and other public power systems throughout the Intermountain West before multiple local and regional transmission organizations. In the early 1990s, Marshall was instrumental in obtaining a network transmission service agreement, the first of its kind in the United States, which allowed cities, through his agency, to purchase power from organizations other than Utah Power & Light. The agency saw a large reduction in power costs, which in turn lowered costs to member cities. Marshall is a passionate and valuable leader who has dedicated his career to defending public power in the West.



Marshall Empey

UAMPS, NTUA & Blanding Collaborate to Bring Electricity to Navajo Homes. UAMPS, the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA), and Blanding City have entered into contractual agreements to provide much-needed electrical service to residences in Westwater, a small Navajo Nation community which currently has no electric service.



The project will consist of an electric line extension from Blanding City's distribution system to an interconnection point on the Navajo Nation, where NTUA will extend its distribution line to the individual Navajo residences. As a member of UAMPS, NTUA will purchase power supply from the UAMPS Pool. Blanding will be responsible to retain a contractor and oversee the construction, ownership and energization of the distribution line extension.

UAMPS will encourage its 49 members to assist NTUA to connect individual residences. UAMPS' members have volunteered in similar projects with Light Up Navajo, which has provided electricity to many homes on Navajo lands.