The 3rd annual Nuclear Power Congress Survey Results

Many professionals from within the nuclear industry have participated in this years "Assessing the Future Nuclear Power within the U.S." survey. Inside you'll find answers from your peers and get a glipse of what industry trends are soon to produce. We welcome you to further discuss these results with us at our next event.

As a taster of October's 3rd Nuclear Power Congress, we are pleased to share with you a free presentation download on Reviving the U.S. Nuclear Industry from Michael McGough, Senior Vice President, Commercial Opperations, UniStar Nuclear Energy. This can be obtained at: http://www.nuclearcongress.com/UniStar

Following on from 2009's future new build projections, The World Nuclear Association, The Canadian Nuclear Association and ICHCERA will deliver you a fundamental session on Global Perspectives on an Increasing Nuclear Power Revival, in order to help you fully assess future projects and planning, both domestically and internationally.

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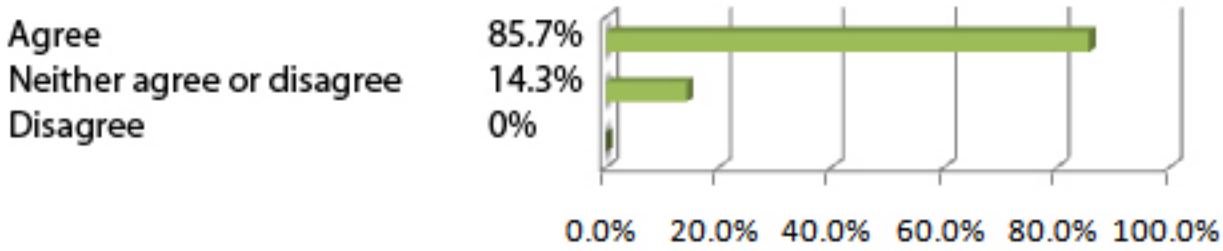
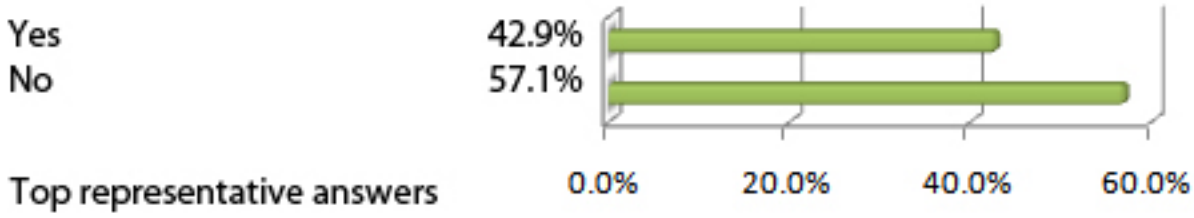
Is economic uncertainty and the status of global credit markets impacting the growth of the U.S. nuclear revival?



Are the introduction of federal loan guarantees increasing the expansion of future-planned U.S. nuclear new builds? Why do you think so?



Top representative answers

No. Until the first loans are awarded and the lead builds get into actual construction, industry is going to be very slow to move.

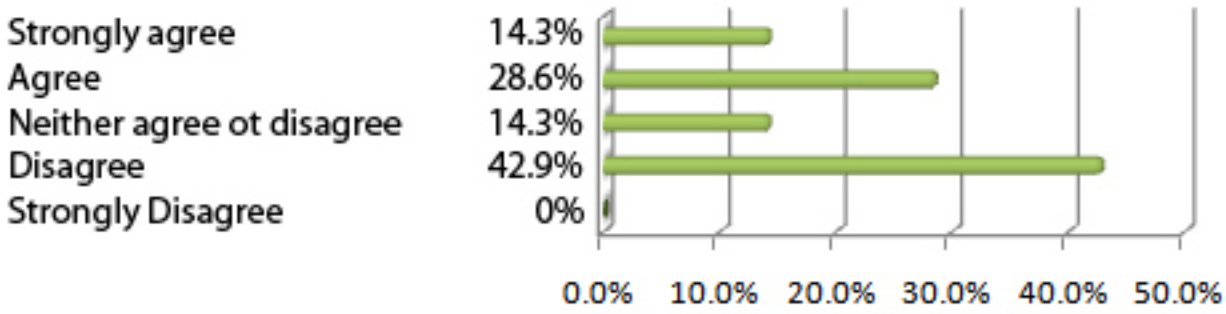
No. There are not nearly enough guarantees being provided.

No. Because they just cause chatter but no real work. The original amounts were reasonable, but the actual ammounts given for loans is too small to make a difference.

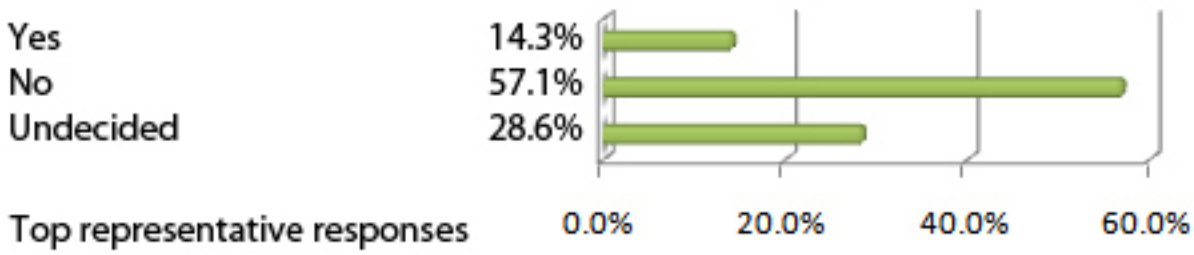
No. Vogtle went ahead before loans were approved and I haven't seen any movement on any of the other projects that stated they would wait for loan guarantees yet.

The nuclear revival continues, fueled by loan guarantees from the Obama administration and the increasing demand for cleaner energy sources. The first round of nuclear new build construction is on track to add 7 additional reactors to the U.S.'s existing fl eet of 104. And despite the obstacles surrounding the planning, construction and development, nuclear new build continues to advance.

Are proposed future new build projects suspended due to the complexities of the licensing process?



Is the new nuclear build industry shifting towards small modular reactors and alternative reactor designs? Please explain why.



Top representative responses

Undecided. Many issues of secruity, staffing, and licensing need to be worked out before they're feasible, but given the high costof large plants they may be the only option available to some utilities. I believe they have promise but aren't there yet.

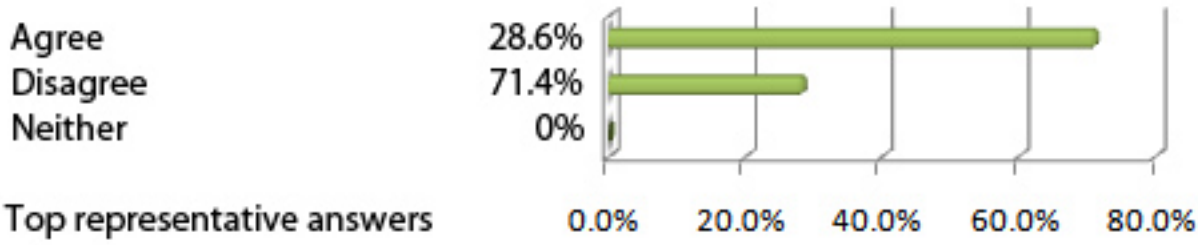
Yes The SMR strategy is one that can build capacity in smaller, hence cheaper, increments reducing capital expenditure and risk. Then, the initial unit can provide power to pay for subsequent units as a potential strategy.

No. Modular reactors are relatively new to the market and the general demand for new base load power generation supports reactors in the GW+ range

No. There is no evidence of any shift. Almost all of the interest in the US is still in the large reactors. The small reactor market is not visible in the USA.

No. Regulatory process requirements are too stringent.

Leadership and project management of a new build should be managed by the sponsor solely. Please exapand on your answer.



Top representative answers

Agree. The owner always owns the risk. Owner managed projects can go after the best athletes for the builds. Both owners and EPCs do not have the expertise to license and build successfully, and they must build in that infrastructure for long term capital construction.

Disagree. Leadership and PM should be managed by those assigned to by the plant owners. Different cases require different situations.

Disagree. All parties should be involved.

Disagree. Standardization is the key to a successful industry revival due to cost control. Utilities can't call the shots and wind up with a bunch of site-specific dis-similar designs on this go-around.

The construction of a new nuclear power plant implicates a wide range of risks and management challenges. New nuclear construction, as with any major project, requires an aggressive, proactive and structured focus on risk identifi cation and risk mitigation throughout the project. When billions of dollars are at stake, problems must be anticipated and dealt with before they arise. Reaction is usually too late! Careful planning, effective process defi nition, near fl awless execution and strong leadership are essential to the success of any large capital project. This workshop will detail specifi c methods and strategies your organization will need to manage the myriad of risks associated with new nuclear build.

Are identifying risk mitigation strategies paramount to the successes of a new build, in comparison to project length? If not, what aspects should be prioritized?

Top representative answers

Yes. All of these projects require a risk management strategy with off ramps and kill points within the projects. These projects need to be brought in within competitive cost ratio to other technologies and within reasonable ROI. Completion on tiem of the initial projects will set the trend in the industry. Large delays and increasing costs will kill the appetitie for nuclear in the industry.

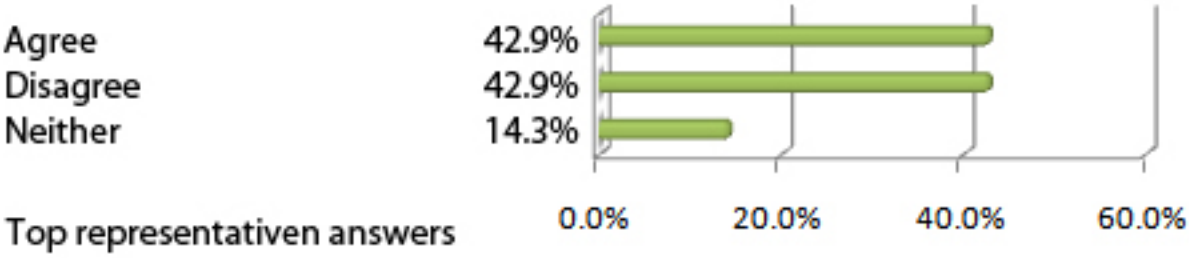
We successfully built reactors in the 60 and 70 we can also do so now if those that are supposed to build are allowed to do their job. Risk mitigation strategies can be useful but the system should be such that one an NPP is being built nothing would stop it short of negligance and criminal charges.

Financial. It's all about money and a prudent return on investment. The three biggest factors impacting new nuclear are: Economy, Loan Guarantees (or regulatory process that assures no delays), and Natural Gas prices.

No. As with any large scale multi-billion dollar project there is no single driver (other than safety). All priorities must be balanced.

No, Project length is key if CWIP financing is not approved for the constructor.

Uncertainties within spent fuel remain critical to the future nuclear growth within the U.S.



Top representativen answers

Technical solutions exist. The issue is political.

There are technical solutions for each scenario. The political establishment will need to go along instead of dragging its feet.

Top representative answers continued

It has been shown that fuel can be safely stored on site. The US must take advantage of fuel recycling to reduce the footprint and have a long range national strategy in the next 10 years.

Building on the success of the two previous iterations, this year's Nuclear Power Congress will bring you up to speed on the latest developments within the industry. Key areas to be discussed include:

•Forecasting future demand for nuclear power in the U.S. and globally, as analyzed by the World Nuclear Association, the Canadian Nuclear Association, CERA and the Georgia Public Services Commission.

•Lessons learned and best practices within new nuclear reactor licensing from Jack Bailey of Tennessee Valley Authority and Chuck Pierce of Southern Company, in addition to the regulatory perspective from Luis Reyes of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

•The effects of working with EPC contractors and labor sources from Chuck Whitney of Oglethorpe Power Corporation.

•New build project management strategies and success stories shared by Florida Power and Light Company and Southern Company.

•The impact of next generation reactor designs on capital costs, discussed by the U.S. Department of Energy and NuScale Power.

•Real-life case studies of ongoing projects by Bruce Power on their Canadian refurbishment and new build activities, as well as plant uprate analysis from Exelon Corporation.

Nuclear industry stakeholders annually convene at this executive-level forum to address the challenges the industry is facing, and to explore innovative solutions for the fi nancing, construction and deployment of new nuclear power plants.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to network with and learn from the industry regulatory agencies and associations, nuclear utilities, engineering companies and contractors, equipment manufacturers, lenders and investors and legal advisors.

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