



August 21 - 23, 2008  
Charleston South Carolina

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[www.musc.edu/NAC2008](http://www.musc.edu/NAC2008)



the nuclear alternative



With increased reliance on foreign oil threatening national security and economic development, the United States must, as a matter of national policy, examine and develop alternative energy resources. These may include -- but are not limited to -- conservation, domestic oil and gas exploration, abundant domestic coal, biofuels, wind and solar, hydrogen fuel cell technology and nuclear energy. While, in the near term, no single technology or policy can eliminate America's dependence on foreign oil, a combination of approaches holds great potential for assuring our nation's energy independence.

In the case of nuclear energy, renewed interest revisits an earlier time, when nuclear-powered generating stations were perceived as the answer to America's need for clean, presumably limitless energy. Forty years ago, electric utilities actively sought permits and licensing for nuclear plants. Enthusiasm for such facilities declined in the wake of enormous construction cost overruns (Shoreham) and serious questions about the technology's safety and environmental impact. Widely reported near-disasters and disasters (Three Mile Island and Chernobyl) contributed to many communities' "not in my backyard" attitude toward nuclear energy. But, are those concerns realistic in 2008?

The "next generation" of nuclear energy offers improved safety, reliability and cost-effectiveness, with the added benefit of significantly reduced carbon emissions (as opposed to coal-fired plants). Still, many Americans reject nuclear energy as a viable alternative, citing health, safety and environmental concerns, and comparatively new fears that nuclear-powered generating stations may be difficult to secure from terrorist attacks. Additional concerns center on transportation and storage of radioactive by-products of nuclear energy. Much as they reject nuclear plants in their "neighborhood" many Americans reject the concept of waste treatment and storage facilities in their states, much less their "backyards."

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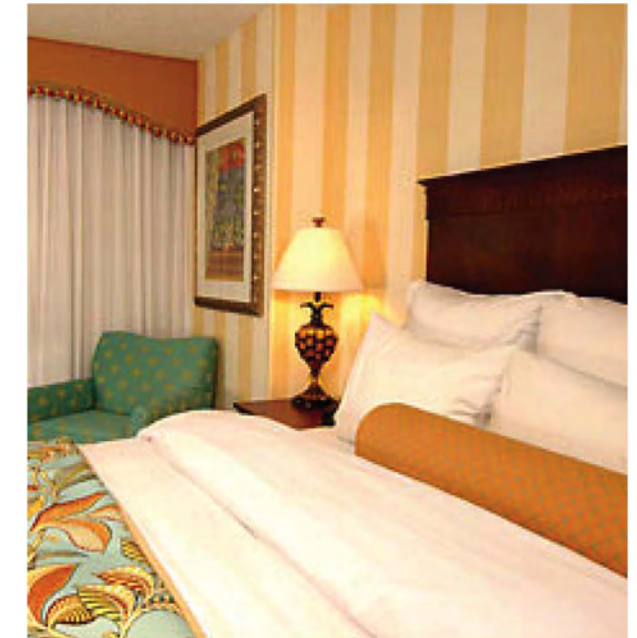
Registration Information

**Registration for the Securing Our Future:**

The Nuclear Alternative Conference is \$175 per person.

To register for this conference, visit [www.musc.edu/nac2008](http://www.musc.edu/nac2008) and click the 'Registration' tab.

Registration deadline is **July 7, 2008**;  
onsite early bird registration is \$175 per person.  
We encourage all participants to register early.



Hotel Information:

**The Charleston Marriott**

170 Lockwood Boulevard  
Charleston, South Carolina 29403 USA

**Reservations:** 1-800-968-3569  
**Hotel (Direct):** 1-843-723-3000

**Web site:** [www.marriott.com/chsmc](http://www.marriott.com/chsmc)

**Conference Room Rate:**  
\$179 per room/per night.  
Mention the 'Securing Our Future: The Nuclear Alternative Conference' to obtain the discounted rate.

**Deadline:** In order to receive the conference rate, please confirm your hotel reservation by **July 22, 2008**.



{Co-Sponsors} (partial listing):



Washington Division

{Government}



DAY THREE Continued

9:45 a.m. BREAK

10 a.m. Panel Five: 21st Century Technology and the Nuclear Energy Industry

**Overview:** Decades have passed since the last new commercial nuclear power facility came on-line. Technology developed in the interim may result in cleaner, safer nuclear facilities. Panelists will describe those technologies, their impact on safety, and what it all means to workers and residents of communities located near next-generation commercial nuclear facilities.

**Moderator:** Mr. Jim Little, President, Washington Safety Management Solutions, Washington Division of URS Corporation, Aiken, SC

**Panelist:** Dr. Travis W. Knight, Assistant Professor of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Nuclear Engineering Program, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

**Panelist:** TBA

**Panelist:** TBA

Questions and Answers

DAY THREE Continued

11 a.m. Panel Six:

The Community/Citizen Perspective on Nuclear Energy

**Overview:** Having listened to the preceding five panel discussions, panelists will offer the "community" perspective on commercial nuclear energy. Given our nation's current state of energy dependence, are Americans willing to consider commercial nuclear energy as one part of a comprehensive national energy policy? What are the community's health, safety and Environmental Justice concerns? What will it take for communities to embrace commercial nuclear facilities as neighbors? And just where will we store the radioactive waste material from commercial nuclear facilities?

**Moderator:** Dr. Deborah Klein Walker, Past President of the American Public Health Association, Abt Associates, Inc., Cambridge, MA

**Panelist:** State Representative Harold Mitchell, South Carolina Legislature (D-SC), Director of Regeneration, Spartanburg, SC

**Panelist:** Mr. Charles A. Acquard, Executive Director, National Association of State Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), Silver Spring, MD

**Panelist:** Bishop James L. Black, Executive Director/Founder, Center for Environmental & Economic Justice, Biloxi, MS

Questions and Answers

12:15 p.m. Luncheon

**DAY TWO** Continued**9:15 a.m. Keynote Address**

Ms. Christine Todd Whitman, former Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, former Governor of New Jersey, and National Co-Chair of the CASEnergy Coalition, Washington, DC, Invited

**Topic:** The role of nuclear energy as part of a comprehensive national energy policy crafted to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil and its impact on the global environment.

**10 a.m. BREAK****10:15 a.m. Panel One:**

The Nuclear Regulatory Process as a Function of Government

**Overview:** A variety of Federal, State and Local regulatory agencies review and approve plans to license, construct and operate a commercial nuclear facility. Panelists will provide a descriptive roadmap of the regulatory process as it currently stands, then offer suggestions for improving the process without compromising public involvement and safety.

**Moderator:** Mr. Michael E. Rowe, Director, Planning and Research, Office of Environmental Quality Control, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), Columbia, SC

**Panelist:** David B. Matthews, Director of New Reactor Licensing, Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Office of New Reactors, Rockville, MD

**Panelist:** Ms. Karrie-Jo Robinson-Shell, Environmental Engineer, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – Region 4, Atlanta, GA

**Panelist:** Ms. Shelly Sherritt, Federal Facilities Liaison, Environmental Quality Control, SCDHEC, Columbia, SC

**Questions and Answers**

The role of nuclear energy

**DAY TWO** Continued**11:15 a.m. Panel Two:**

A Utility Industry Perspective on the Nuclear Regulatory Process

**Overview:** As energy producers and providers, our nation's utilities are major decision-makers regarding the viability of commercial nuclear energy as a safe, clean and cost-effective means of generating electricity. Panelists will offer the industry's perspective on commercial nuclear power, describe issues utilities must address before moving forward with nuclear projects, and offer recommendations.

**Moderator:** Mr. Robert L. Harris, Former Vice President, Environmental Affairs, Pacific Gas & Electric Co., San Francisco, CA

**Panelist:** Mr. John Simmons, Senior Vice President, Commercial Nuclear Operations, URS Washington Division, Princeton, NJ

**Panelist:** Mr. Bill McCall, Jr., Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Santee-Cooper, Moncks Corner, SC

**Panelist:** TBA

**Questions and Answers****12:30 p.m. Luncheon Speaker:**

The Honorable James E. Clyburn (SC-6)  
Majority Whip, U.S. House of Representatives

**Topic:** A legislative overview of our national energy policy, where it currently stands and where it may be heading.

**DAY TWO** Continued

**1:45 p.m. Panel Three:** A Wall Street Perspective on the Financial Realities of Nuclear Energy

**Overview:** Experts suggest that developing a commercial nuclear energy plant may take up to 10 years and cost billions of dollars. The uncertainty of key timeline and cost numbers gives pause to those financiers whose investment is a "must" for projects to move forward. Panelists will address the economic realities of bringing the next generation of commercial nuclear power on-line.

**Moderator:** Mr. Julius Hollis, President, Hollis & Company, LLC, Atlanta, GA

**Panelist:** Mr. Sesh Raghavan, Executive Director, Energy Financing, JP Morgan Chase, New York, NY

**Panelist:** Mr. John E. Matthews, Partner, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, Washington, D.C.

**Panelist:** TBD

**Questions and Answers****2:45 p.m. BREAK**

**DAY TWO** Continued

**3 p.m. Panel Four:**

Disposal, Transportation and Storage of Radioactive Waste Material

**Overview:** Commercial nuclear energy facilities pose a complex and unique challenge in the form of radioactive waste by-products. At a time when the proposed nuclear waste repository in Nevada faces community and political opposition, commercial nuclear energy proponents must find answers to questions about the disposal, transportation and long-term storage of radioactive waste. Panelists will discuss both current and future options for resolving this issue in a safe, fair and equitable manner.

**Moderator:** Dr. Patricia Lee, Environmental Policy Institute Fellow, South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC

**Panelist:** Mr. William B. House, Vice President for Regulatory Affairs, Energy Solutions, Columbia, SC

**Panelist:** Dr. Eric Loewen, Chief Consulting Engineer, Advanced Plants, General Electric Hitachi Nuclear Energy, Wilmington, NC

**Panelist:** Mr. Rick Boyle, Director of the Office of Radioactive Materials, United States Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Washington, D.C.

**6 p.m. Reception**

**DAY THREE:** Saturday, August 23, 2008

**8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast**

**9 a.m. Keynote Address**

Dr. Samuel W. Bodman, Secretary of Energy, United States Department of Energy, Washington, DC, Invited

While there has been much talk in recent years about America's need to reduce its dependence on foreign oil, and substantial disagreement on how best to achieve that goal, most parties to the discussion agree that energy independence is a National Security issue. What is the Federal Government's perspective on commercial nuclear energy and its place in energy independence and national security discussions? What role should the government play in developing the next generation of commercial nuclear energy plants?



**DAY ONE:** Thursday, August 21, 2008

**6 p.m. Reception**

**DAY TWO:** Friday, August 22, 2008

**7:30 a.m. Registration**

**Breakfast**

**8:30 a.m. Opening Session**

David E. Rivers, Director, Public Information and Community Outreach Program (PICO), Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC

**Welcome**

Dr. Raymond S. Greenberg, President, Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), Charleston, SC

Dr. Leonard McIntyre, Interim President, South Carolina State University (SCSU), Orangeburg, SC

**Opening Remarks**

The Honorable James E. Clyburn (SC-6), Majority Whip, U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham (SC), U. S. Senate, Invited

The Honorable Henry E. Brown, Jr., (SC-1), U.S. Congress, Invited

The Honorable Mark Sanford, Governor, SC, Invited

The Honorable Joseph P. Riley, Jr., Mayor, City of Charleston, SC, Invited

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

Dr. Reinhardt G. Brown, Director for the Environmental Policy Institute, James E. Clyburn Transportation Research and Conference Center, SCSU, Orangeburg, SC

DAY THREE Continued

**1:30 p.m. Panel Seven:** Workforce Development for the Nuclear Energy Industry

**Overview:** The next generation of commercial nuclear energy facilities will require highly-skilled and trained professionals to plan, build and operate them. Panelists will discuss ways to address a critical and national shortage of engineering and other trained professionals needed to design, construct and operate commercial nuclear facilities.

**Moderator:** Dr. Lonnie Sharpe, Samuel P. Massie Chair of Excellence, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

**Panelist:** Mr. Jeffrey M. Allison, Manager, Savannah River Operations Office, Department of Energy, Aiken, SC

**Panelist:** Mr. Alan Torres, Construction Manager for Nuclear Development, South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCANA), Jenkinsville, SC

**Panelist:** TBA

**Questions and Answers**

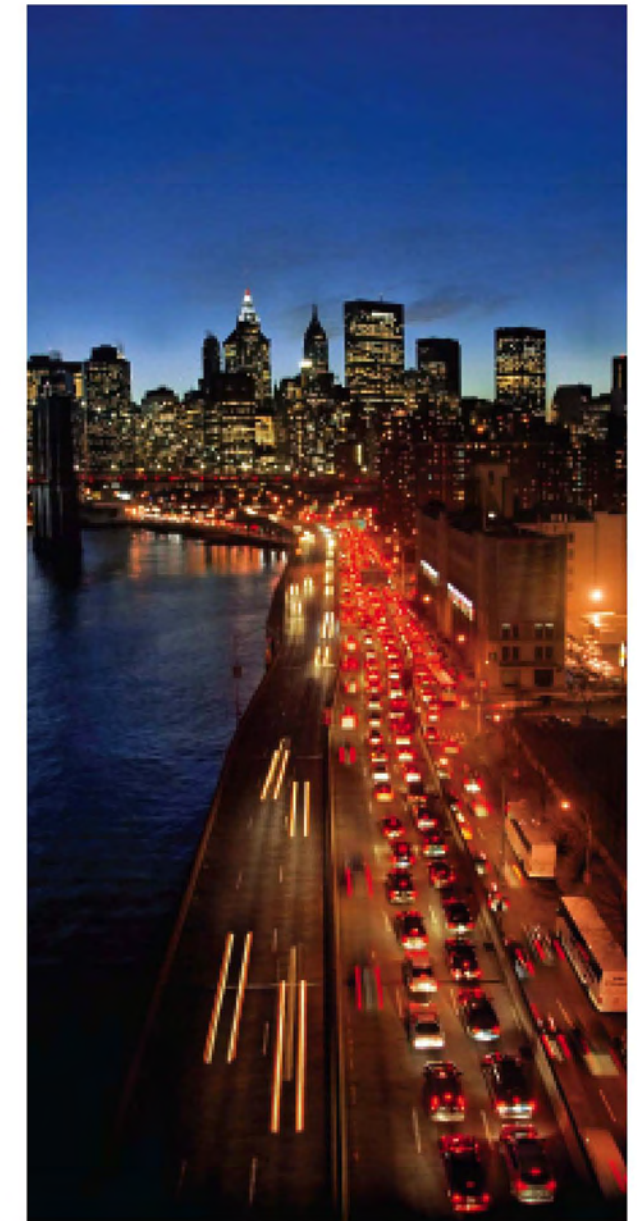
**2:45 p.m. BREAK**

**3:00 p.m. Closing Session:** Energy and the Election

**Topic:** With the 2008 Presidential Election occurring just three months after the conference, candidates from the two major parties will be invited to offer their positions on nuclear energy as part of a comprehensive national energy policy designed to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil.

With increased interest in nuclear energy and an anticipated surge in permit requests for construction of nuclear plants, advocates of the technology must answer a series of questions. These include: Is nuclear energy a viable, cost-effective alternative to other generation methods? Is it safe and reliable? Will environmental justice concerns be addressed when planning, building and operating nuclear energy facilities? Under what circumstances will Americans embrace nuclear energy as an acceptable alternative to existing generation methods? Assuming a new generation of nuclear-powered generating stations is built, does America have a sufficiently educated and trained workforce to build, operate and maintain such facilities in a safe, reliable fashion?

Until these questions are answered to the satisfaction of citizens, public and private interest groups, corporations, policy-makers and elected officials, the future of nuclear-powered generating stations is unclear. By answering these questions in a concise, balanced and credible manner, this conference and its products hold great potential for advancing our nation's related quests for energy independence, economic development and national security.



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