



American Nuclear Society

Georgia Section

President's message...

Along with many other changes in the last 12 months, a small, but persistent voice extolling the virtues of nuclear energy has started to surface. As businesses, governments and even the media look ahead, a prevalent topic of discussion is global warming, and the value of nuclear plays into this beautifully.

As you'll see in this newsletter, the fact that studies show an increased confidence in nuclear is percolating throughout the world. A piece by Fareed Zakaria is well worth ten minutes of your summer vacation as he lays out a very concise explanation of the reasons why nuclear needs to be part of our energy picture going forward.

Save the date for September 29 when we're excited to welcome ANS president, Steven Nesbit as our speaker for our Zoom meeting. Take a look at his bio to your right. The title of Steve's talk will be: "Used Nuclear Fuel and High-level Waste Management: Past, Present, and Future."

Thanks for following us here in our newsletter and on our website. We're excited for nuclear's future and enjoy keeping you in the know!

Cheers,

*Your ANS GA Section Leadership Team:
Juan Villarreal, Dom Napolitano, Nick White,
Andrew Hummel and Dan Glassic*

ANS President, speaker at our GA Section September meeting

Our speaker for September will be Steven Nesbit, P.E., current president of ANS.

Steve has spent a substantial portion of his professional career working on used fuel and nuclear waste, both on the behalf of the government and for a major nuclear utility.

Steve founded LMNT Consulting in 2019 following a distinguished career with Duke Energy. LMNT supports clients on matters related to the nuclear fuel cycle, advanced nuclear energy systems and nuclear nonproliferation.

In a career spanning forty years, Steve has been at the cutting edge of developing company policies related to nuclear power. In addition to nuclear utility activities, during his career Steve worked on several DOE projects including the New Production Reactor Project, the Yucca Mountain Spent Nuclear Fuel Disposal Project, and the Centralized Interim Storage Facility Project. He supported the U.S. Department of State on outreach to countries with developing nuclear power programs.

Steve received Bachelor of Science and Master of Engineering degrees in nuclear engineering from the University of Virginia. In addition to many other accomplishments, Steven is a past adjunct faculty member at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where he taught nuclear engineering. He became President of the American Nuclear Society (ANS) in June 2021 and will serve in that role through June 2022.



Public's perception of Nuclear Generation changing

A renewed emphasis on clean carbon-free energy has raised the visibility of nuclear generation as a key contributor to the generation mix. In response to this more welcome news, current DOE Secretary Granholtz has come out in favor of providing government support to keep the existing generation fleet running.

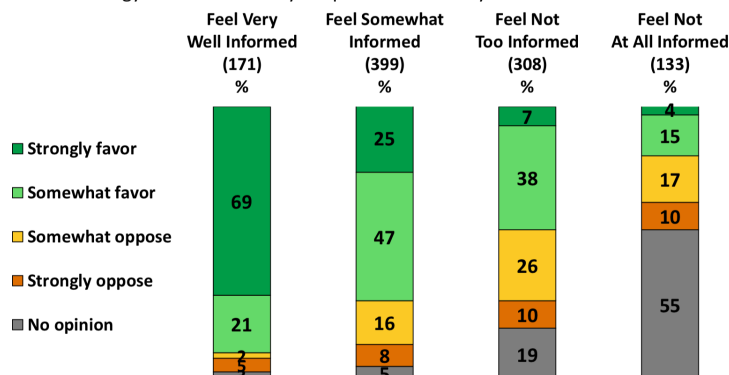
More good news can be found in a recent survey by Dr. Ann Stouffer Bisconti. Bisconti confirms that the perception of nuclear generation has become more positive in the last two years. For example, takeaways from Bisconti's research show:

- 71% believe that nuclear energy will be important in meeting the nation's electricity needs in the years ahead.
- 60% favor the use of nuclear energy, 25% oppose.
- Feeling more informed correlates strongly with more favorable attitudes.
- For two years in a row, a majority now perceive public opinion as favorable.

These results suggest that the image of nuclear energy as unpopular is changing and there will be more support for keeping the existing fleet operating and funding research for new designs that are more cost effective, efficient and safe. The detailed report from Dr. Bisconti can be found here : [Bisconti Survey 2020](#).

The More Informed People Are, The More Favorable

How well informed do you feel about **nuclear energy used to produce electricity**? Overall, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the use of nuclear energy as one of the ways to provide electricity in the United States?



Bisconti Research, Inc. survey of U.S. public opinion, June 2020



Last Look: Nuclear Energy in America Fareed Zakaria of CNN

Zakaria takes a look at plans to drastically reduce nuclear energy's role in powering America's grid, and why they are misguided. According to Zakaria, "If we're going to avoid a global climate disaster, nuclear energy will almost certainly have to be part of the solution." You can watch the video here: [Last Look - Fareed Zakaria](#)

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