



Presidential Energy Policy Project:
An overview of Presidential candidate energy policies

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Hillary Clinton



Nuclear Security

- Supports Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
- April 2006
 - "I would certainly take nuclear weapons off the table"
- April 2008
 - "I don't believe that any president should make any blanket statements with respect to the use or non-use of nuclear weapons."
- Increase funding to the Global Threat Reduction Initiative
- Supports establishing a secure international fuel bank

Nuclear power

- Skeptical about increasing dependence on nuclear power generation
- Acknowledges role in greenhouse gas reduction, but cites problems with cost and waste
- Voted against Yucca Mountain

Climate Change

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% from 1990 levels by 2050
- New cap-and-trade program that auctions 100% of permits
 - plan includes flexibility for bank, borrow, and trade, proceeds go toward tax breaks, and efficiency incentives
- Create at least 5 million jobs from clean energy over the next decade
- Require all publicly traded companies report financial risks due to climate change to the Securities and Exchange Commission
- Cut foreign oil imports by two-thirds from projected levels by 2030
- \$20 billion of "Green Vehicle Bonds" to U.S. automakers to retool plants

Energy Efficiency

- Agenda to reduce electricity consumption 20% from projected levels by 2020
- \$50 billion Strategic Energy Fund
 - Paid for in part by oil companies, funds invested in alternative energy
 - Finance one-third of the \$150 billion ten-year investment in new energy future plan
- Double federal investment in energy research – ARPA-E
- Develop ten "Smart Grid City" partnerships to prove effectiveness of "Smart Grid", and further demand-reduction.
- Increase fuel efficiency standards to 55 miles per gallon by 2030
- Emphasize federal energy leadership
- Phase out incandescent lights

Advisors

- Gene Sperling, Senior Fellow – Center for American Progress
- Dr. Ernest J. Moniz, Undersecretary of the DOE 1997 - 2001
- Bob Stanley

John McCain



Climate Change

- Believes in man-made climate change
- Against signing the Kyoto Treaty
- Supports an immediate reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
- Wants to use incentive based policy and keep economic impact at a minimum

Energy Efficiency

- “Manhattan Project” style program to make alternative energy more efficient
- Be free of dependence on foreign oil in 5 years
- Use public pressure to get automakers to increase fuel efficiency standards
- Voted to keep CAFÉ standards intact
- Voted yes on having 100,000 hydrogen powered cars by 2010
- Voted no on requiring ethanol in gasoline

Nuclear Power

- Nuclear power is the key to reducing greenhouse gases
- Oil profits should be reinvested in nuclear power

Nuclear Security

- Voted yes on the Yucca Mountain waste repository
- Examine storage versus reprocessing
- Voted no on the Energy Policy Act of 2005
- Reduce the size of the nuclear weapons stockpile
- In favor of missile defense shield

Potential Energy Policy Advisors

- James Schlesinger, former Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Energy
- Robert McFarlane, former National Security Advisor
- James Woolsey, former CIA Director



Barack Obama

Energy Efficiency and Climate Change

Supports:

- Renewable Portfolio Standards
- 80% Reduction in Carbon Emissions by 2050
- Cap-and-Trade system for Carbon Emissions – 100% Auction
- Government incentives for early conversion and compliance
- Increased energy efficiency standards

Nuclear Energy

Supports:

- Nuclear Energy as a part of the national energy portfolio
- Continued Research and Development of nuclear energy production
- Increased energy efficiency standards

Opposes:

- Yucca Mountain
- Interstate transport of spent fuel

Other:

- Building New Nuclear Plants – **Uncommitted**
- Recycling Spent Fuel – **Uncommitted**

Nuclear Security

Supports:

- Accelerated Reduction of nuclear stockpile
- Considering negotiations with Iran regarding nuclear energy

Opposes:

- Maintaining a nuclear stockpile, but will maintain an arsenal so long as others have one.

Other:

- Negotiation with Iran and other “rogue” states as a possible nonproliferation tactic.

Potential Energy Advisors

- Jason Grumet, National Commission on Energy Policy (Executive Director)
- Howard Learner, Environmental Law and Policy Center