



The Role of Nuclear in the Clean Energy Transition

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Report 

Nuclear Power and the Clean Energy Transition

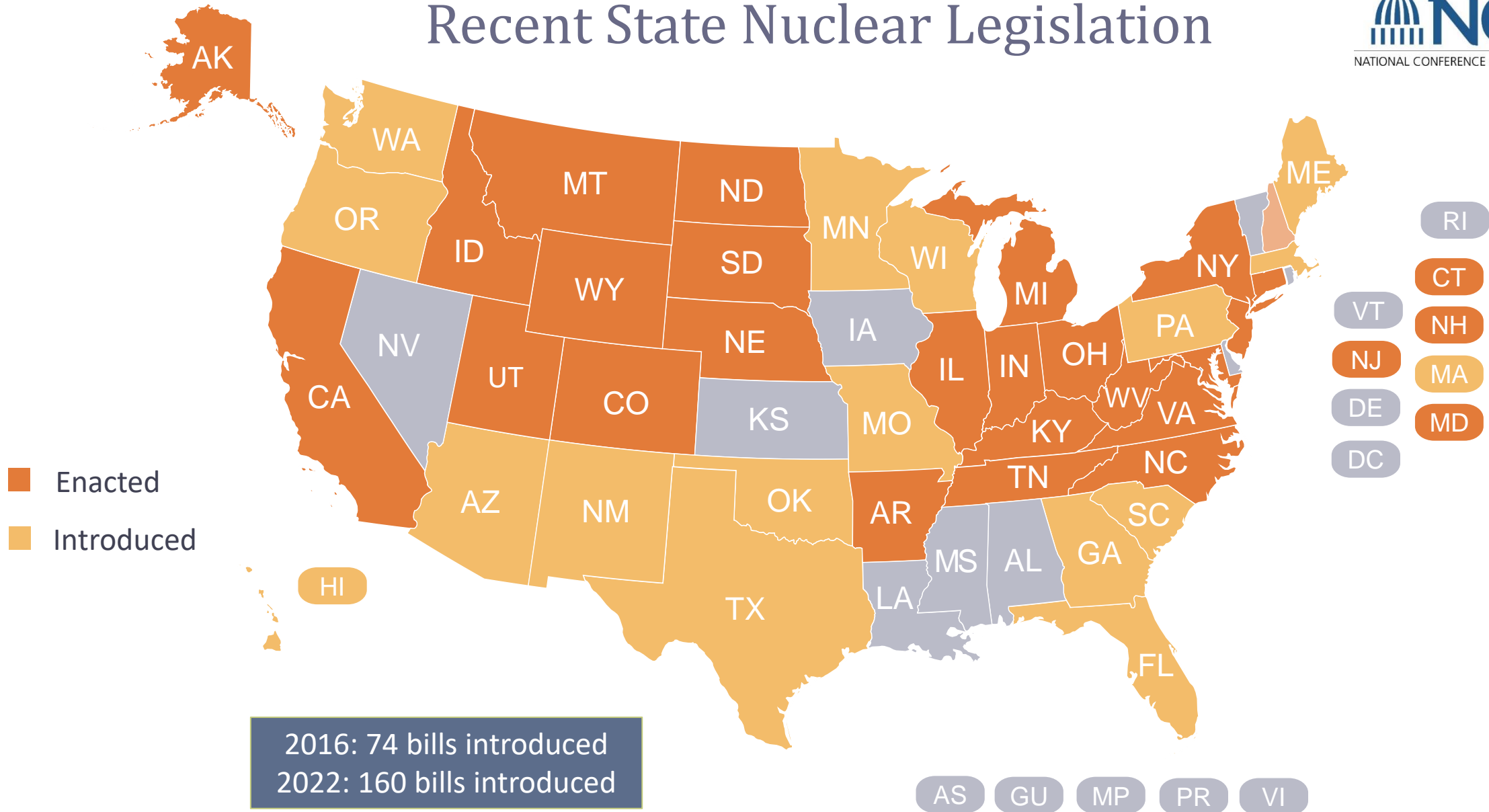
Updated April 06, 2023 | Daniel Shea



This recent NCSL report provides background on nuclear energy in the U.S. and a review of recent state and federal policies.

<https://www.ncsl.org/energy/nuclear-power-and-the-clean-energy-transition>

Recent State Nuclear Legislation





Nuclear Policies

A growing number of states have enacted and considered policies to support existing and new nuclear, while management of spent nuclear fuel remains a sticking point



Support for Existing Nuclear Power Plants



Support for SMRs & Advanced Reactors



Opening the Door to New Nuclear



Management of Spent Nuclear Fuel and Other Waste

Zero Emissions Credits

- IL, NJ, NY
- Provides \$/MWh for nuclear plants that demonstrate they're at risk of closure

State-Supported PPAs

- CT
- Allows the state's lone nuclear plant to bid half of its capacity into state-backed power purchase agreements

Civil Nuclear Credit Program

- CA
- Legislature enacted two measures to extend the life of Diablo Canyon NPP for grid reliability



Preserving the Existing Fleet

Five states have acted to prevent the premature closure of existing nuclear reactors and a recent federal program will provide additional support moving forward.



Support for Advanced Reactors

States are increasingly enacting policies to support advanced reactor development, including particular interest in coal-to-nuclear conversions.

Coal-to-Nuclear

Establish preference for replacing retired coal plants with advanced nuclear.

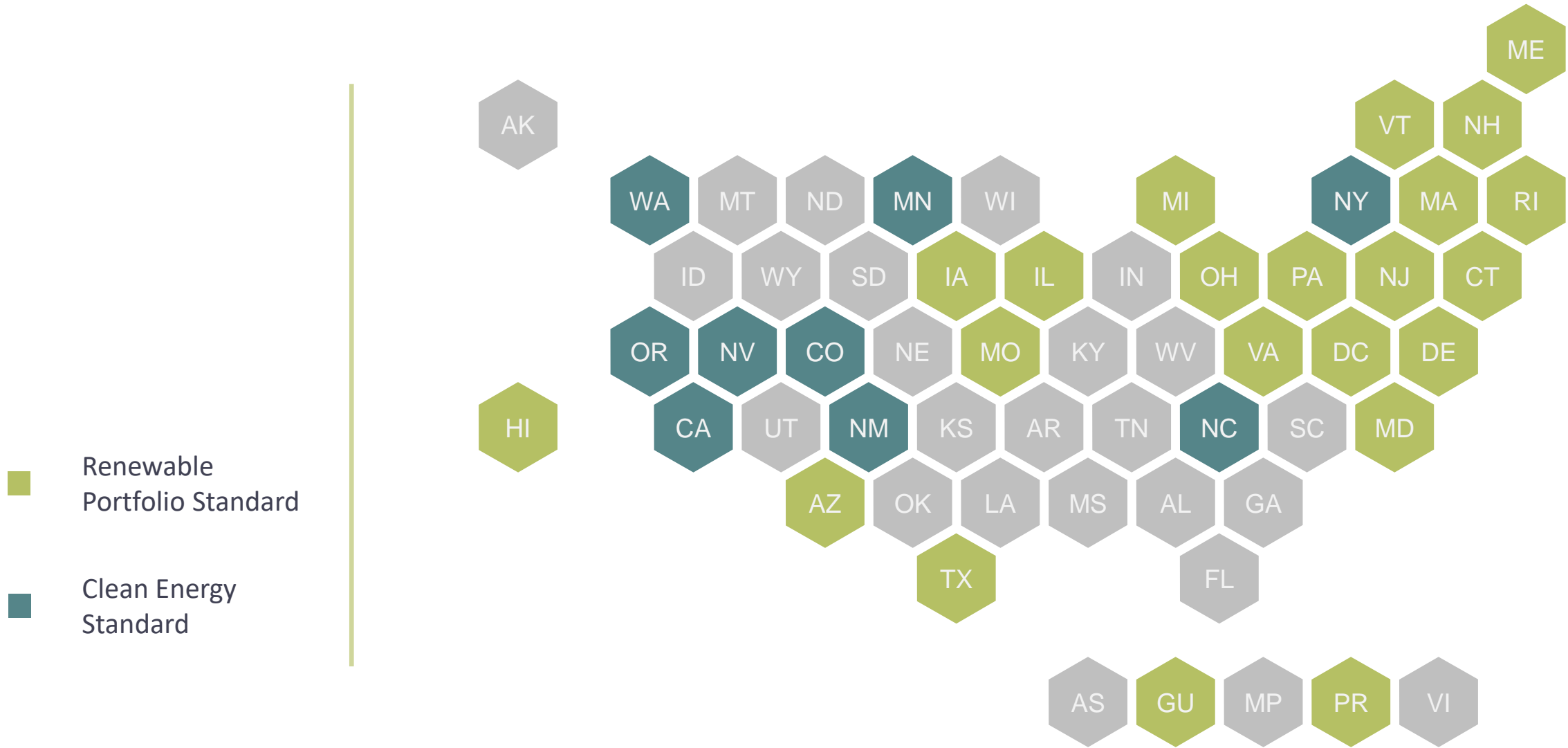
Streamlining Rules & Regulations

Incorporate nuclear into state energy policy, planning and regulations.

Studies/Task Forces/Workforce

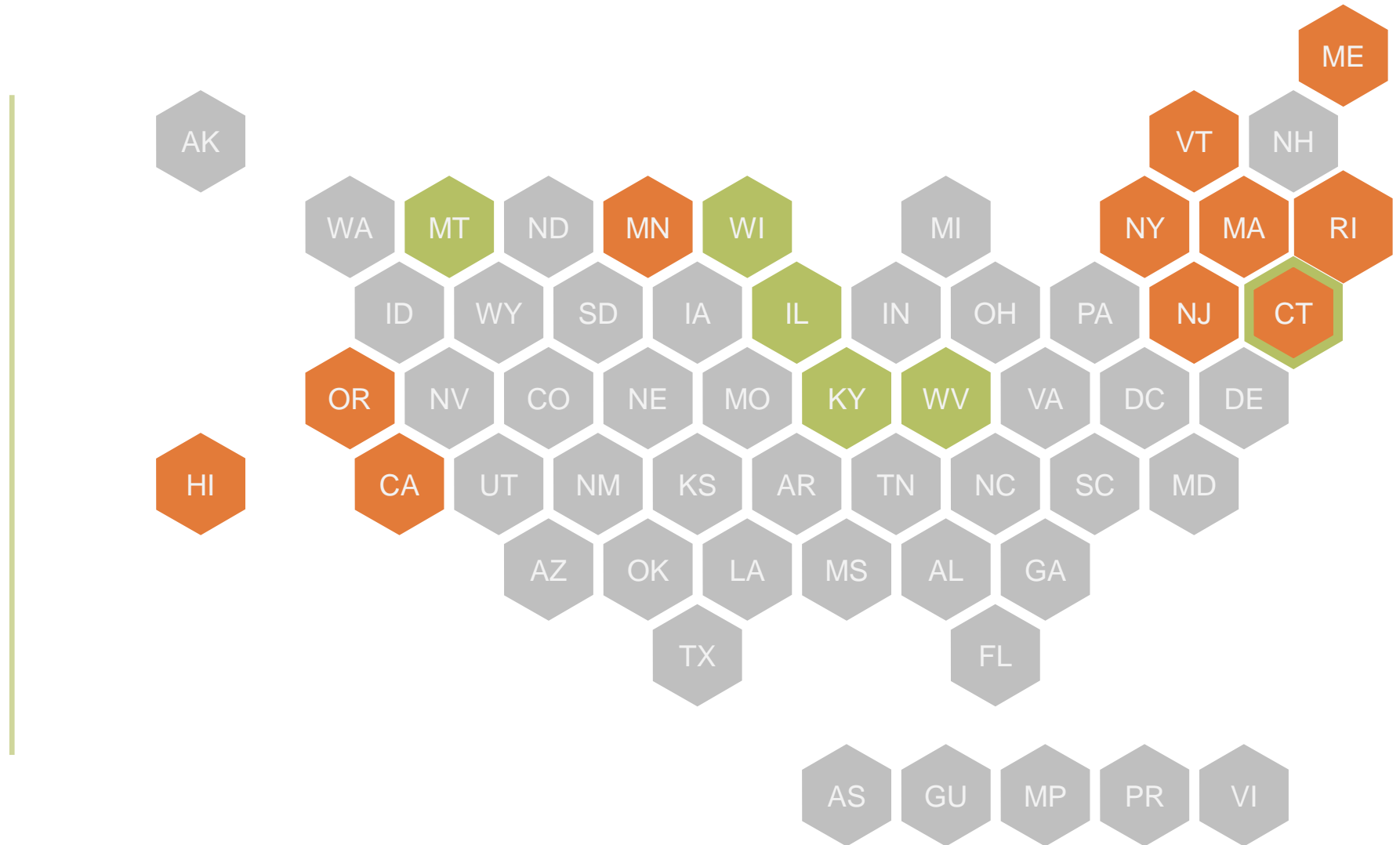
Explore policies to reduce barriers, provide funding for workforce development.

Renewable & Clean Energy Standards



Restrictions on New Nuclear Development

- Restrictions on New Nuclear
- Repealed Restrictions



The Clean Energy Transition is forcing nuclear back into the discussion. Red and Blue states are considering how nuclear might contribute.

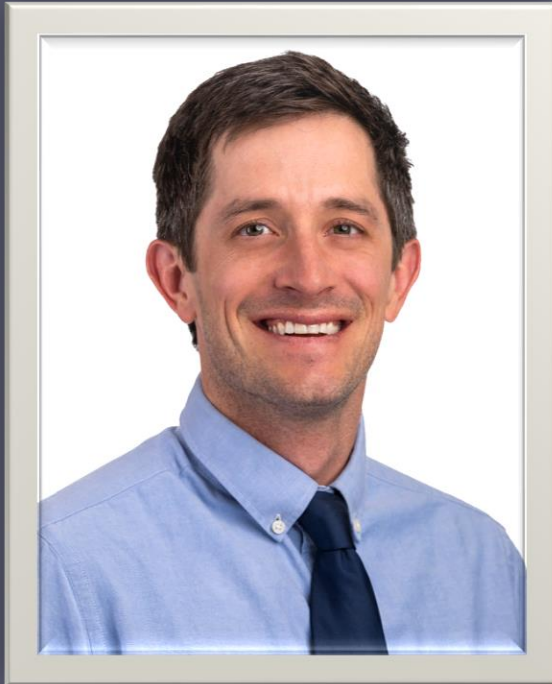
States are looking to nuclear due to:

- Dispatchable, Carbon-Free Power
- Reliability & Resilience
- Economic & Workforce Issues
- Capacity & Scale
- Federal Support (IIJA/IRA)

Opponents most often point to concerns over spent nuclear fuel and the high upfront capital costs for new builds.



Why are states taking action?



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Reach out anytime!