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QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SEPTEMBER 2013 NATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION TRACKING SURVEY

Source: Bisconti Research, Inc. with Quest Global Research. Telephone interviews with 1,000 nationally representative U.S. adults September 5-15, 2013, margin of error is plus or minus three percentage points.

I'm going to ask you some questions about energy and electricity.

1. How important do you think nuclear energy will be in meeting this nation's electricity needs in the years ahead? Do you think nuclear energy will be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?

Important	82
Not important	16
Very important	39
Somewhat important	43
Not too important	9
Not important at all	7
(Don't know)	2

2. In the next decade, do you think that nuclear energy's importance in meeting America's electricity needs will increase, decrease, or remain about the same?

Increase	50
Decrease	13
Remain about the same	35
(Don't know)	3

3. Please tell me if you personally strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements. How about...do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with that statement? (REPEAT AS NEEDED).

	TOTAL AGREE	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	(Don't Know)
When their original operating license expires, we should renew the license of nuclear power plants that continue to meet federal safety standards.	84	47	38	8	7	1
Electric utilities should prepare now so that new nuclear power plants could be built if needed in the next decade.	75	41	35	10	13	2
We should definitely build more nuclear power plants in the future.	61	32	29	16	22	2
As countries around the world build new nuclear power plants, it is important for the U.S. nuclear industry to continue to play a leading role in world markets.	75	46	29	12	12	2

4. 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?

Favor	69
Oppose	29
Strongly favor	33
Somewhat favor	36
Somewhat oppose	16
Strongly oppose	13
(Don't know)	2

5. Would new nuclear power plants be more acceptable to you if you knew the plants would be added at sites where current nuclear power plants are already operating?

Yes	67
No	28
(Don't know)	5

6. If a new power plant were needed to supply electricity, would it be acceptable to you or not acceptable to you to add a new reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant that is already operating?

Acceptable	70
Not acceptable	27
(Don't know)	3

(RANDOMIZE LIST FOR 7a. USE SAME ORDER IN 7a AND 7b)

7a. I'll read some considerations for the way electricity is produced. For each one, please tell me if it is of top importance to you, medium importance to you, or low importance to you. The first is.... Is that of top importance to you, medium importance to you, or low importance to you?

	Top	Medium	Low	(Don't know)
Reliable electricity	82	16	2	<1
Clean air	82	16	2	<1
Affordable electricity	78	20	2	<1
Efficiency	76	22	2	<1
Energy independence	73	21	4	2
Job creation	67	27	6	<1
Economic growth	65	29	5	1
Climate change solution	51	29	18	3

7b. Do you associate nuclear energy a lot, a little, or not at all with...

	A lot	A little	Not at all	(Don't know)
Reliable electricity	58	29	11	2
Energy independence	54	33	12	2
Efficiency	54	32	12	3
Clean air	52	30	16	2
Affordable electricity	51	32	14	4
Economic growth	43	40	16	2
Job creation	42	41	16	2
Climate change solution	34	34	27	5

ROTATE 8a AND 8b.

8a. How far ahead should electric companies be planning to ensure a well-balanced energy supply in the future—one year ahead, 5 years ahead, 10 years ahead, 20 years ahead, or more than 20 years ahead?

One year	4
5 years	16
10 years	26
20 years	23
More than 20 years	30
(Don't know)	1

8b. How far ahead should America's energy policy makers be planning to ensure a well-balanced energy supply in the future—one year ahead, 5 years ahead, 10 years ahead, 20 years ahead, or more than 20 years ahead?

One year	4
5 years	14
10 years	22
20 years	22
More than 20 years	37
(Don't know)	1

9. Think of grades from A to F where A is the top grade and F means failure. What grade—A through F—would you give to the United States for its energy planning? You can give any grade from A to F.

A	6
B	15
C	38
D	22
E	1
F	15
(Don't know)	4

10. What are the reasons for that grade? (ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES) (IF MULTIPLE ANSWERS ARE GIVEN, ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS, BUT DO NOT ASK "ANY OTHERS?")

Answers by four percent or more:

Poor planning/not planning ahead	28
Need to use more alternative energy sources	14
Not doing a good job (general)	12
Too much politics involved	10
Too much dependency on foreign oil/energy – need to become energy independent	9
Current plan is good	8
Not efficient energy sources	7
Price/cost of energy is too high	5
Current plan is not perfect, need to come up with a new one to plan for future (general)	5
Nuclear is unsafe	4
Obama/Democrats not doing a good job planning	4

11. SPLIT SAMPLE QUESTION, WITH HALF THE SAMPLE ASKED SPLIT SAMPLE A AND HALF ASKED SPLIT SAMPLE B

SPLIT SAMPLE A: Thinking about the nuclear power plants that are operating now, how safe do you regard these plants? Please think of a scale from "1" to "7," where "1" means very unsafe and "7" means very safe. The safer you think they are, the higher the number you would give.

SPLIT SAMPLE B: Thinking about the nuclear power plants that are operating in the United States, how safe do you regard these plants? Please think of a scale from "1" to "7," where "1" means very unsafe and "7" means very safe. The safer you think they are, the higher the number you would give.

	Split Sample A	Split Sample B
High (5-7)	70	67
7 – Very safe	13	17
6	23	23
5	34	27
Middle (4)	14	14
3	7	9
2	3	3
1 – Very unsafe	5	5
Low (1-3)	15	17
(Don't know)	1	2

12. Now I'm going to read you a list of various sources of energy used to generate electricity. (READ LIST. RANDOMIZE.) Which one of these energy sources do you think will be our primary source of electricity 10 years from now?
13. Of these remaining sources (READ SOURCES NOT SELECTED IN QUESTION 13) which ones will we use the most to generate electricity? (ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES) (IF MULTIPLE ANSWERS ARE GIVEN, ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS, BUT DO NOT ASK "ANY OTHERS?")

	Primary Source In 10 Years	Primary Source Or One of Sources Used Most
Natural gas	25	40
Solar energy	21	33
Nuclear energy	15	28
Wind	13	26
Hydroelectric or water power	9	27
Oil	8	16
Coal	6	19
(Other) [DO NOT READ]	2	5
(Don't know)	2	1

14. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement.

	TOTAL AGREE	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
We should take advantage of all low-carbon energy sources, including nuclear, hydro, and renewable energy, to produce the electricity we need while limiting greenhouse gas emissions.	85	54	31	7	6	1

15. If one of these energy sources had great potential as a climate change solution by producing a large amount of low-carbon electricity reliably around the clock, how much should that source be emphasized in our nation's energy mix—a great amount, a moderate amount, a low amount, or not at all?

A great amount	53
A moderate amount	33
A low amount	7
Not at all	4
(Don't know)	3

16. And if you knew that nuclear energy is a climate change solution because it produces low-carbon electricity reliably around the clock, how much would you say that nuclear energy should be emphasized in our nation’s energy mix—a great amount, a moderate amount, a low amount, or not at all?

A great amount	35
A moderate amount	41
A low amount	13
Not at all	9
(Don’t know)	1

17. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements. How about...do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with that statement? (REPEAT AS NEEDED).

	TOTAL AGREE	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	(Don’t Know)
Nuclear power plants operating in the United States are safe and secure.	77	30	48	11	11	1
As we have learned from experience and as technology has improved, U.S. nuclear power plants have been made safer.	83	38	45	7	7	2
Nuclear power plants in this area are built to withstand the most extreme natural events that may occur here.	70	26	44	13	12	6

18. On the subject of nuclear waste management and specifically the management of the spent nuclear fuel rods from nuclear power plants, do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements? **How about...do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with that statement?** (REPEAT AS NEEDED).

	TOTAL AGREE	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	(Don't Know)
Spent nuclear fuel rods are safely stored at the nuclear power plant sites.	60	17	43	15	16	9
The United States should retool its program for managing spent nuclear fuel rods from nuclear power plants to focus on consolidating the fuel rods at storage centers while the nation develops a permanent disposal facility.	84	47	36	6	5	6
The federal government should develop a final disposal facility for spent nuclear fuel rods as long as the facility meets U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations.	87	57	30	6	5	3
SPLIT SAMPLE A:						
Nuclear waste can be transported safely.	67	25	42	13	16	4
SPLIT SAMPLE B:						
Nuclear waste can be transported safely, as long as secure containment and proper procedures are used.	78	41	37	8	10	4

19. Which type of organization do you believe would do a better job of managing a nuclear waste storage facility? (ROTATE)

An independent federal authority with a corporate-style board of directors	57
A federal government agency	37
(Don't know)	6

20. I'll read some topics about nuclear energy. Please tell me if you have heard or read any information on the topic in the past year—that is, during the past year but before this interview. Just say yes or no. How about... (RANDOMIZE)

	Yes	No	Don't Know
SPLIT SAMPLE A: Safety of nuclear power plants	60	40	<1
Clean air benefits of nuclear energy	53	46	1
The need to build more nuclear power plants in the U.S.	53	47	<1
American nuclear power plants' ability to safely withstand earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes and other extreme natural events	46	54	1
SPLIT SAMPLE B: How America's nuclear power plants are safe	45	53	2
Using nuclear energy to grow the economy and create jobs	45	55	<1
Small nuclear power plant designs as a new technology option	31	69	<1
A company's decision to close a nuclear power plant	30	69	1
New nuclear power plant construction is underway in the United States	29	70	1

21. Please tell me if you think each of the following would be an excellent, good, fair, or poor source of accurate and reliable information about nuclear energy. (RANDOMIZE.) (REPEAT AS NEEDED: Do you think they/that would be an excellent, good, fair, or poor source of accurate and reliable information about nuclear energy)?

	EXCELLENT/ GOOD	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know
Nuclear energy scientists and engineers	74	33	41	17	7	2
Safety, radiation, or environmental experts at a nuclear power plant in this area	63	24	39	23	11	3
Medical professionals, such as doctors or radiation technicians	58	21	37	27	13	2
The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	55	18	37	30	14	2
The Chief Nuclear Officer at a nuclear power plant in this area	49	18	32	29	17	4
Electric utilities	44	10	33	37	18	1
The Internet	43	15	28	33	20	4
Environmental groups	43	15	28	30	26	2
Antinuclear groups	25	7	18	29	44	3
Social media, such as Twitter, YouTube or Facebook	22	7	15	21	51	6

22. Please say yes or no to the following, based on the best of your knowledge. (DO NOT ROTATE)

	Yes	No	Don't know
You consider yourself an environmentalist	46	53	1
You have visited a nuclear power plant or a nuclear power plant energy education center.	23	77	<1
You are registered to vote	92	8	<1

23. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as...

A Democrat	29
An Independent	32
A Republican	25
Or something else (specify)	7
(None of the above)	3
(Don't know/no answer)	4

24.	Is your age...?	
	18 to 24	10
	25 to 34	21
	35 to 49	23
	50 to 64	28
	65 or older	18
	(Don't know/no answer)	<1
25.	Is your ethnicity...?	
	Hispanic	5
	Native American	2
	African-American	6
	Asian	2
	Caucasian or White	80
	Other	5
	(Don't know/no answer)	2
26.	What was the highest level of school you completed?	
	College graduate	46
	Not college graduate	53
	Some high school or less	5
	Graduated high school	20
	Technical/vocational school	4
	Some college, associate degree	25
	Graduated college, bachelor's degree	29
	Graduate school	17
	(Don't know, no answer)	1
27.	To give us your best guess of the total annual income of your total household, is it...?	
	Less than \$20,000	12
	\$20K-29,999K	8
	\$30K-39,999K	9
	\$40K-49,999K	8
	\$50K-74,999K	17
	More than \$75,000K	34
	(Don't know, no answer)	12
RECORD		
	Male	48
	Female	52
	Reached on Landline	65
	Reached on Cell phone	35