

WSDCC Environment and Climate Caucus Resolution 04 ECC 2022 08 18
WSDCCRES -- XXX -- XXXXX -- XXX -- ENV – Facing Facts About Nuclear Power

FACING FACTS ABOUT NUCLEAR POWER

WHEREAS President Biden has set a 2030 greenhouse gas pollution reduction target aimed at creating good-paying union jobs and securing U.S. leadership on clean energy technologies including nuclear power¹, and

WHEREAS, the 2020 Democratic National Committee's platform endorses nuclear power² and nuclear power is included in Washington State's Clean Energy Transformation Act³, and

WHEREAS nuclear power jobs are among the highest paying jobs in the energy sector, and are the most likely to be unionized⁴, and

WHEREAS nuclear power is as safe as other forms of low-carbon power generation⁵ but has a much smaller physical footprint⁶ and is non-intermittent, and while nuclear waste disposal is a political problem, not a technical one⁷, and

WHEREAS additional supporting information can be found in the July 17, 2022 report of Ad Hoc Nuclear Power Committee of the Environment and Climate Caucus of the Washington State Democrats (the Capan Report)⁸,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that regardless of its official position regarding nuclear power, the ECC [the Washington State Democratic Party] recognizes President Biden's leadership on nuclear power, that the 2020 DNC platform embraces nuclear power, that nuclear power jobs are among the highest paying in the energy sector and are the most likely to be unionized, that nuclear power is dispatchable and as safe as other forms of low-carbon power generation, and that spent nuclear fuel disposal is a political problem, not a technical one; and

¹ [FACT SHEET: President Biden Sets 2030 Greenhouse Gas Pollution Reduction Target Aimed at Creating Good-Paying Union Jobs and Securing US Leadership on Clean Energy Technologies](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/04/22/fact-sheet-president-biden-sets-2030-greenhouse-gas-pollution-reduction-target-aimed-at-creating-good-paying-union-jobs-and-securing-u-s-leadership-on-clean-energy-technologies/)
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/04/22/fact-sheet-president-biden-sets-2030-greenhouse-gas-pollution-reduction-target-aimed-at-creating-good-paying-union-jobs-and-securing-u-s-leadership-on-clean-energy-technologies/>

² [2020 Democratic Party Platform \(PDF\)](#)

³ [2019 Clean Energy Transformation Act \(CETA\)](https://www.commerce.wa.gov/growing-the-economy/energy/ceta/). <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/growing-the-economy/energy/ceta/>

⁴ U.S. Energy & Employment Jobs Report, 2021. US Energy & Employment Jobs Report (USEER), [Link to Key Findings](#)

⁵ <https://ourworldindata.org/safest-sources-of-energy>

⁶ Merrill, D. (2021) The US Will Need a Lot of Land for a Zero-Carbon Economy. Bloomberg US Edition, June 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2021-energy-land-use-economy/>

⁷ Clifford, C (2021) The feds have collected \$44 billion for a nuclear waste dump -- here's why we still don't have one. CNBC. <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/12/18/nuclear-waste-why-theres-no-permanent-nuclear-waste-dump-in-us.html>

⁸ tinyurl.com/eccnr

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution and a copy of the Capan Report be forwarded to the Washington State Democratic Party for adoption consideration at the September, 2022 meeting, and to Democratic members of the Washington State Congressional delegation, the Governor of the State of Washington, the Democratic caucuses of each chamber of the Washington State Legislature, and the Chairs of each county and LD local party organization.

Submitted to: ECC on August 7, 2022 for consideration at its 2022 Aug 18 general membership meeting

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Passed by the ECC: at its 2022 August 18 general meeting PENDING

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