2010 Statewide Nuclear Opinions Poll

Result Highlights

- 90 percent believe the use of nuclear power is an important part of meeting the United States' electricity needs
- 84 percent agree the use of nuclear power will lead to greater energy independence
- 83 percent agree that nuclear is a reliable source of energy
- 79 percent support allowing existing nuclear plants to extend their operating licenses
- 69 percent agree that nuclear power is a safe method of generating electricity
- 67 percent would classify nuclear as a clean energy source as it produces carbon emission-free energy and emits no greenhouse gases
- 69 percent support the construction of new nuclear power plants in the state
- 92 percent say it is important to educate youth about the benefits of nuclear energy

**The survey of 800 Pennsylvania adults was conducted June 7-9, 2010. It was designed and conducted by Susquehanna Polling and Research, Inc. The sample error for the total sample is plus or minus 3.46%. Survey results were generated via a random sample telephone survey.*

Complete Survey Results

Q1. How important is the use of nuclear power in terms of meeting our country's electricity needs – very important, somewhat important or not at all important?

1. Very	363	45%	
2. Somewhat	363	45%	
3. Not at all	55	07%	
4. Undecided	17	02%	

Q2. Nuclear power helps reduce the effects of global warming because it emits no emissions or greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

1. Strongly agree	250	31%	**Total Agree: 60%**
2. Somewhat agree	229	29%	**Total Disagree: 18%**
3. Strongly disagree	86	11%	
4. Somewhat disagree	62	08%	
5. Undecided	170	21%	

Q3. Nuclear power is a reliable source of energy.

1. Strongly agree	404	50%	**Total Agree: 83%**
2. Somewhat agree	260	32%	**Total Disagree: 10%**
3. Strongly disagree	37	05%	
4. Somewhat disagree	45	06%	
5. Undecided	53	07%	

Q4. Nuclear power is a safe method of generating electricity.

1. Strongly agree	258	32%	**Total Agree: 69%**
2. Somewhat agree	290	36%	**Total Disagree: 22%**
3. Strongly disagree	74	09%	
4. Somewhat disagree	103	13%	
5. Undecided	73	09%	

Q5. The use of nuclear power will lead to greater energy independence for the United States because it will help to reduce our dependence on foreign sources of oil.

1. Strongly agree	446	56%	**Total Agree: 84%**
2. Somewhat agree	228	28%	**Total Disagree: 11%**
3. Strongly disagree	50	06%	
4. Somewhat disagree	36	05%	
5. Undecided	39	05%	

Q6. The use of nuclear power will lead to increased national security for the United States.

1. Strongly agree	210	26%	**Total Agree: 57%**
2. Somewhat agree	245	31%	**Total Disagree: 30%**
3. Strongly disagree	101	13%	
4. Somewhat disagree	138	17%	
5. Undecided	104	13%	

Q7. It is important to educate Pennsylvania's youth about nuclear energy and its benefits.

1. Strongly agree	560	70%	**Total Agree: 92%**
2. Somewhat agree	173	22%	**Total Disagree: 06%**
3. Strongly disagree	24	03%	
4. Somewhat disagree	27	03%	
5. Undecided	13	02%	

Q8. Since nuclear energy produces carbon emission-free energy and emits no greenhouse gases, would you classify it as a clean energy source?

1. Yes	539	67%
2. No	194	24%
3. Undecided	66	08%

Q9. Given that nuclear power plants are the lowest-cost producers of electricity do you support the construction of new nuclear power plants to reduce energy prices and the demand on the energy grid?

1. Yes	550	69%
2. No	165	21%
3. Undecided	83	10%

Q10. All nuclear power plants are licensed to operate for 40 years. If a nuclear power plant continues to meet federal safety standards, would you support or oppose allowing that plant to extend their license so they can continue generating electricity?

1. Strongly support	334	42%	**Total Support: 79%**
2. Somewhat support	300	37%	**Total Oppose: 15%**
3. Strongly oppose	76	09%	
4. Somewhat oppose	48	06%	
5. Undecided	41	05%	

Q11. Do you live near any of Pennsylvania's five nuclear power plants which include Three Mile Island in Dauphin County, Limerick Generating Station in Montgomery County, Peach Bottom in York County, Susquehanna Generating Station in Columbia County or Beaver Valley in Beaver County?

1. Yes, Three Mile Island in Dauphin County	130	16%	**Total Yes: 51%**
2. Yes, Limerick Generating Station in Montgomery County	175	22%	
3. Yes, Peach Bottom in York County	49	06%	
4. Yes, Susquehanna Generating Station in Columbia County	30	04%	
5. Yes, Beaver Valley in Beaver County	70	09%	
6. No	386	48%	
7. Undecided	11	01%	

Q12. Is your opinion of the plant favorable or unfavorable?

1. Very favorable	140	34%	**Total Favorable: 72%**
2. Somewhat favorable	160	39%	**Total Unfavorable: 11%**
3. Very unfavorable	22	05%	
4. Somewhat unfavorable	24	06%	
5. Undecided	68	16%	

**The margin of error for a sample size of 800 is +/-3.46%