Nuclear energy produces affordable, around-the-clock, emission and pollution free electricity. Nearly 20% of America's power is provided by 99 nuclear reactors in 30 different states.

### **Nuclear Power**

Nuclear power is the fastest growing form of energy that provide safe, clean, and reliable baseload power.



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Safe Clean Reliable

# New Nuclear

nuclear fuel cycle

Five new nuclear plants are currently under construction in Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee. In addition, small modular reactor designs are being prepared for review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Vogtle, V.C. Summer, and Watts Bar are nuclear plants constructing new units to provide baseload energy to the U.S. electricity grid. In addition, ten other units are under review by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission that will create hundreds of new jobs for engineers, mechanics, electricians, and more.

Small modular reactors (SMRs), a new nuclear design widely believed to be the future of energy, are smaller than their currently existing full-scale counterparts, but are quicker to construct. These SMRs produce fewer than 300 MWe on average, though NuScale, an Oregon-based company, is in the application review phase with the NRC for the first 50 MWe SMR design. North American Young Generation in Nuclear (NAYGN) was established in 1999 by seven young nuclear professionals. These individuals wanted to create an organization that provided professional development, public information, knowledge transfer, recruiting, and networking opportunities for the next generation of nuclear leaders.

## NAYGN

NAYGN is committed to inspiring today's nuclear workers to meet the challenges of the 21st century by developing leadership and professional skills, engaging the public, and getting involved in activities to promote the growth of the nuclear power industry.



### Careers

Nuclear power-related careers can include engineering, construction, licensing, operations, maintenance, radiation protection, chemistry, and more.

In 2013, the average age range for nuclear employees was 53 to 57 years old. The aging nuclear workforce was a product of nuclear events in the 70s and 80s which delayed or halted the construction and commissioning of new nuclear plants. Thus, few new employees were hired in that timeframe. Many employees are reaching retirement age, leaving new job openings for upcoming nuclear professionals.

Employees in the nuclear energy industry are some of the best paid in the country. An entry-level maintenance technician can earn up to \$60,000 per year with a 2-year degree and training. An entrylevel reactor operator can earn \$80,000 per year with a 4-year degree and training.