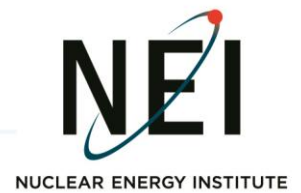


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May 27, 2020

Board of Directors
U.S. International Development Finance Corporation
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20527

NEI Public Statement to DFC

Dear Mr. Boehler and Board Members,

On behalf of our more than 300 members across the civil nuclear enterprise, NEI¹ urges expeditious implementation of the Nuclear Fuel Working Group's recommendation to remove the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation's legacy prohibition on support for nuclear energy projects.

The correlation between access to reliable and clean energy and economic development is clear. With nearly 1 billion people lacking access to electricity and hundreds of millions more lacking reliable access, many countries are considering a complementary basket of clean energy sources to fuel their development.

Around the world, countries like Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, Czech Republic, India and Indonesia are looking to build new or expand existing nuclear energy programs in an effort to meet their clean energy goals and bring on more reliable, always-on electricity. According to the International Energy Agency, "nuclear power is the second-largest source of low-carbon electricity today, with 452 operating reactors providing 2,700 TWh of electricity in 2018, or 10 percent of global electricity supply."² And with new nuclear energy

¹ NEI is responsible for establishing unified policy relating to matters affecting the nuclear energy industry, including the regulatory aspects of generic operational and technical issues. NEI's members include entities licensed to operate commercial nuclear power plants in the United States, nuclear plant designers, major architect and engineering firms, fuel cycle facilities, nuclear materials licensees, and other organizations involved in the nuclear energy industry.

² International Energy Agency, "Nuclear Power in a Clean Energy System", May 2019.

technologies like SMRs and micro-reactors coming to market, nuclear energy will provide a clean energy option to an increasing number of countries and regions.

When a nation pursues nuclear energy, its choice of partner matters greatly. Nuclear development forges deep economic and security relationships that can last 100 years. Today, state-owned enterprises (SOEs) from countries like Russia and China dominate the global nuclear market. They recognize the strategic nature of nuclear energy exports and pursue them as a matter of national interest and a foreign policy priority. It is imperative that the U.S. take decisive steps to advance our national interests via nuclear leadership.

Financing is a key test of a project's viability, and export financing for nuclear energy projects can be a key differentiator in project selection. SOEs have effective financing tools available to support their nuclear exports and they have demonstrated that they are willing and able to use them. DFC was created to address development challenges and U.S. foreign policy priorities. By expanding available financing tools for U.S. nuclear energy technology, DFC will achieve these synergistic goals.

As highlighted by the Nuclear Fuel Working Group, this is a critical time for reclaiming U.S. nuclear energy leadership. Success can mean multibillion-dollar growth for the United States and direct influence over nonproliferation and nuclear safety. Failure can mean ceding global nuclear influence to Russia and China. Through the timely removal of the prohibition on nuclear energy projects at DFC, we will simultaneously help partner countries achieve their energy development goals, advance U.S. national security interests, and create commercial opportunities for the U.S. nuclear supply base.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Carol Berrigan (clb@nei.org or 202-497-6935).

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Korsnick".

Maria Korsnick