

Department of Energy Requests Information on Uranium Reserve Program As Part Of The Biden Administration's Supply Chain Security And American Jobs Plan Efforts

The U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) announced a request for public comments on the establishment of a Uranium Reserve program. The Federal Register [notice](#) explains that while nuclear energy accounts for more than 55 percent of clean energy in the United States, “the U.S. nuclear industry and the nuclear fuel supply chain face significant challenges that have left domestic nuclear fuel suppliers in a weakened position on the domestic and global stage” and that “[r]evitalizing the U.S. nuclear fuel supply infrastructure would support the Administration's goals described in the American Jobs Plan, including addressing the climate crisis, creating American jobs, positioning the U.S. to compete with economic rivals, and supporting national security.” Congress appropriated \$75,000,000 to DOE in 2021 for the Uranium Reserve Program and the agency “is considering options to acquire natural uranium and convert this uranium into uranium hexafluoride that would be stored at commercial facilities in the United States.” The Federal Register notice poses several questions “related to the establishment of a uranium reserve and the development of a procurement strategy for acquiring uranium, conversion services, and storage for the uranium.” Any comments in response must be filed by September 10, 2021.