

**NATIONAL SURVEY  
OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANT  
COMMUNITIES**

*(10-MILE RADIUS AROUND THE  
64 PLANT SITES)*

JULY 2009

*for*  
**NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE**

*by*  
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## Summary and Observations

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In July 2009, Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) sponsored the third national public opinion survey of nuclear power plant communities. The survey replicated the methodology and most of the questions asked in August 2005 and July–August 2007.

### **Plant Neighbor Surveys in 2005 and 2007 Showed Stable High Support**

Previous surveys in 2005 and 2007 found that nuclear power plant neighbors, on average across the 64 nuclear power plant sites, are highly favorable to nuclear energy and their local plant. The strength of favorable attitudes and the stability of the public opinion numbers from 2005 to 2009 suggested that these attitudes are quite firmly fixed.

From 2007 to 2009, companies announced the intention to seek a license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to add new reactors at existing plant sites. At the time of the July 2009 survey, intentions had been announced to seek licenses for one or two new reactors at 16 sites, one-fourth of the 64 existing plant sites. Nationally, a focus on energy and climate change spotlighted the benefits of nuclear energy and the need for new reactors. Public support for nuclear energy rose to new heights.

### **2009 Survey Finds Support Even Higher**

The 2009 plant neighbor survey shows once again that plant neighbors, on average across the U.S. nuclear power plant sites, are solidly favorable to nuclear energy. The numbers in 2009 are even slightly more favorable than in the past.

Now, 90 percent hold a favorable impression of the local nuclear power plant, and 76 percent would find it acceptable to add a new reactor at the nearby nuclear power plant site. Moreover, 79 percent of the public near the 16 sites where new reactor licenses are planned (COL sites) said that it would be acceptable to add a new reactor at the site. This is an average figure for the 16 sites.

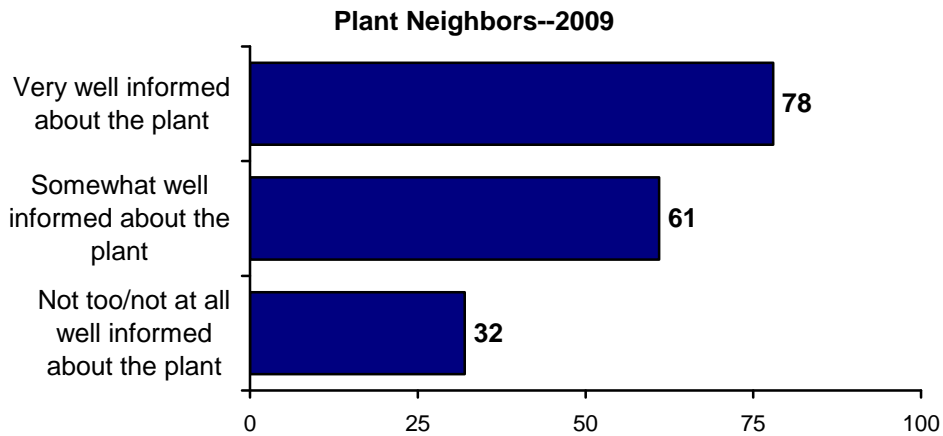
Acceptability of a new reactor at the nearby plant is lower in the Northeast (65 percent) than in the Midwest (79 percent), South (81 percent), and West (81 percent). Acceptability is highest in low population density areas (81 percent). Also, fewer women (72 percent) than men (82 percent) would find a new reactor acceptable.

### **Awareness Associated with Support**

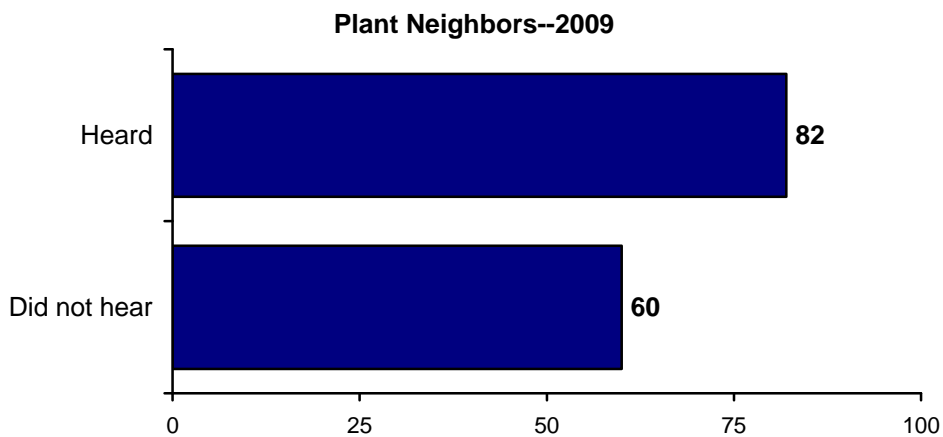
Even though the numbers are so high that there is a ceiling effect in measurable support, there is potential for strengthening support through information. Support is closely correlated with feeling informed about the plant and also with having heard or read in the past year about the need for nuclear energy and its benefits.

Those who do not support a new reactor give unusually high importance to clean air and are much less likely than supporters to associate nuclear energy a lot with clean air. Majorities of non-supporters are more inclined to accept a new reactor decision after hearing messages.

**Percent Very Favorable Impression of Nearby Nuclear Power Plant,  
By Level of Feeling Informed about the Plant**



**Percent Find a New Reactor Acceptable by,  
By Heard/Did Not Hear about Need to Build More Nuclear Power Plants**



**Method**

NEI's third biennial survey of nuclear power plant neighbors, conducted July 6-18, 2009 replicated the methodology and most of the questions asked in 2005 and 2007. Bisconti Research, Inc. conducted the survey with Quest Global Research Group, using lists of randomly selected residential phone numbers provided by Affordable Samples, a sampling firm.

The U.S. has 104 nuclear power plants located at 64 nuclear power plant sites. “Nuclear power plant communities” are defined as the 10-mile radius around each of the 64 nuclear power plant sites, and “plant neighbors” are defined as adults living within that area. In total, 1,152 adults were interviewed:

- 18 selected at random from each of the 64 plant sites.
- Full-time residents of the area.
- Households with electric company employees excluded.

The margin of error is plus or minus three percentage points. Each finding may be considered an average across plant sites. Attitudes are less favorable in some areas and more favorable in others.

The survey only included existing sites and did not include sites where new reactors are being planned and there is no existing plant.

### **Opinions of Nuclear Energy**

Most plant neighbors express favorable opinions about nuclear energy:

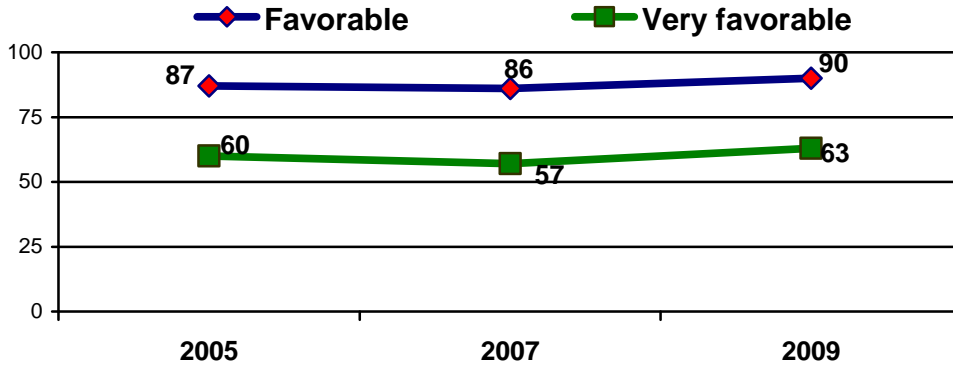
- 92 percent believe that nuclear energy will play an important role.
- 93 percent agree with license renewal for nuclear power plants that continue to meet federal safety standards.
- 86 percent agree we should keep the option to build more nuclear power plants in the future.
- 87 percent agree that electric utilities should prepare now so that new nuclear power plants could be built if needed in the next decade.
- 79 percent agree that we should definitely build more nuclear power plants in the future.
- 84 percent favor the use of nuclear energy – 58 percent strongly.

### **Opinions about the Nearby Nuclear Power Plant and the Company**

Plant neighbors are overwhelmingly favorable to the nuclear power plant, and most rate its safety high.

- 90 percent have a favorable impression of the nearby nuclear power plant – 63 percent are very favorable.
- 78 percent think that the majority of people in their community have a favorable impression of the plant – thus, community support is widely recognized.
- 88 percent rated the safety of the nearby plant high (5 to 7 on a 1 to 7 scale) – 73 percent gave a rating of 6 or 7.
- 90 percent agree that the plant helps the local economy – 66 percent strongly agree.
- 89 percent agree that there are good jobs for local people at the plant and in local businesses that provide services to the plant.

**Percent Favorable to the Nuclear Power Plant  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors**



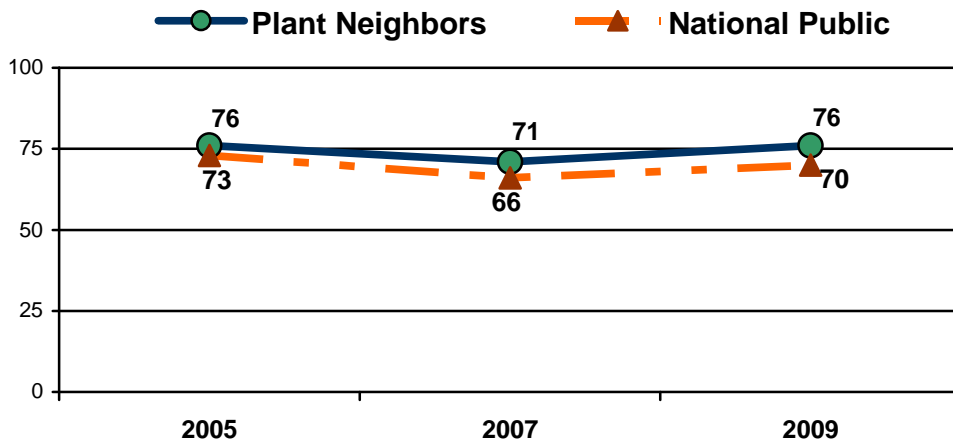
Most give high marks to the company that operates the plant. Attitudes to this company have become more favorable since 2007 (changes since 2007 shown in parentheses).

- 91 percent are confident in the company’s ability to operate a nuclear power plant safely (+4).
- 86 percent believe that the company is doing a good job of protecting the environment (+5).
- 83 percent believe that the company is involved in the community (+6).

**New Reactor at the Nuclear Power Plant Site: Acceptability and Messages**

Three-fourths would find it acceptable to add a new reactor at the nearest nuclear power plant site. The numbers have returned to 2005 levels both nationally and in plant communities.

**Percent Say Acceptable to Add a New Reactor at the Nuclear Power Plant Site  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**

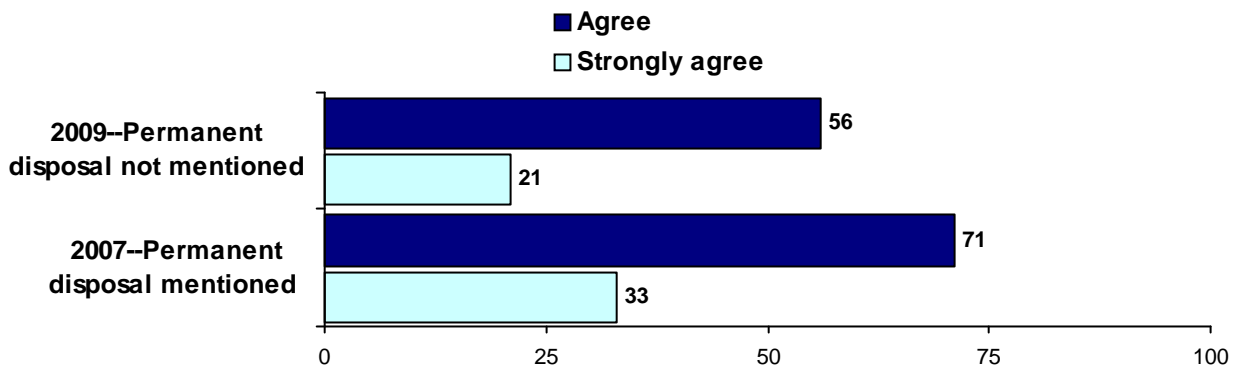


Eight messages to increase support for a new reactor all proved very persuasive. Each made a majority feel more inclined to accept a decision by the electric company to add a new reactor at the nearby plant site. These messages speak of energy independence, safety, planning for reliable and affordable sources, jobs, clean air, and infrastructure.

## Used Fuel Management

Following the federal government's decision to terminate the Yucca Mountain project, plant neighbors expressed more clearly than ever that they do not want waste to stay at the plant sites and prefer centralized storage options. Now, 56 percent agree that nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site, and 21 percent strongly agree. In 2007, 71 percent agreed that nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site until it is moved to a permanent disposal facility, and 31 percent agreed strongly. This difference between the two years could reflect a greater confidence in the safety of waste storage at the plant when that storage is temporary.

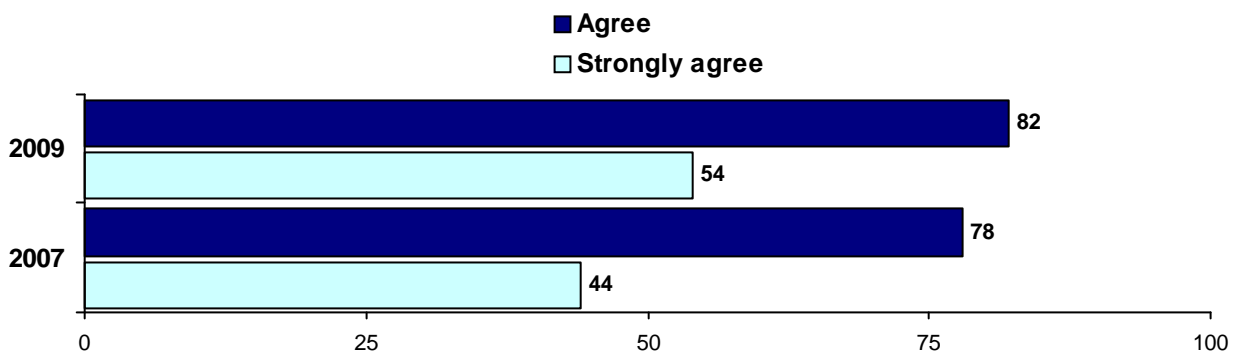
### **Percent Agree and Strongly Agree that Nuclear Waste Can be Stored Safely at the Plant Site: Plant Neighbors 2007 and 2009: Different Wording**



Two centralized storage options make sense to plant neighbors:

- 85 percent in 2009 think that it is more appropriate that nuclear waste be stored at 1 or 2 volunteer sites where it can be stored more securely and efficiently (not asked in previous surveys). *Note that this question was always asked after the question about the safety of storage at the plant site and so did not influence the opinions about plant site storage.*
- 82 percent in 2009 agree that the federal government should continue to develop the Yucca Mountain site for a national disposal facility for nuclear waste as long as it meets NRC regulations – up from 78 percent in 2007. And 54 percent agree strongly – up from 44 percent in 2007 (+ 10 percentage points).

### **Percent Agree and Strongly Agree that the Federal Government Should Continue to Develop Yucca Mountain: Plant Neighbors 2007 and 2009**



Most (91 percent) believe that the U.S. should recycle used nuclear fuel to make more electricity and reduce the amount of nuclear waste. Surveys of plant neighbors and the general public consistently find that the recycling concept has wide appeal.

### **Emergency Information**

Most plant neighbors (87 percent) feel at least somewhat well informed about what to do in case of an emergency at the nuclear power plant. The numbers on this measure improved steadily from 2005 to 2009.

At the time of an emergency, most would refer to the radio or TV to find out about the situation and what they should do. Although most would not turn to written materials at that time, three-fourths recall receiving and reading them.

The survey asked plant neighbors whom they would like to hear from first in case of a crime involving the plant. A large majority, 59 percent, preferred to hear from someone from the plant – especially the person responsible for emergency management at the plant. Only 16 percent would like to hear first from the head of the FBI on the scene.

### **Energy Education Center**

The survey asked about the best name for what has typically been referred to as an energy information center. Energy Education Center and Energy and Environmental Center were preferred. The traditional term, Energy Information Center, was liked least.

A total of 38 percent said they had visited such a center, and two-thirds of those who had made a visit said that the experience made them more favorable to nuclear energy. Thus, one-fourth of all plant neighbors became more favorable to nuclear energy as a result of visiting an energy education center.

### **Branding**

Plant neighbors selected clean air, energy independence, and affordability as the three top considerations for the way electricity is produced.

Associations of branding attributes with nuclear energy remain positive but largely unchanged. However, reliability is increasingly becoming a salient attribute of nuclear energy. In 2009, 72 percent said they associate nuclear energy “a lot” with reliability – up from 65 percent in 2007.

Large majorities of plant neighbors said they heard or read information about the need for and benefits of nuclear energy in the past year, as well as plant safety:

- Need for nuclear energy – 79 percent.
- Using nuclear energy to reduce America’s dependence on foreign oil – 75 percent.
- Safety of nuclear power plants – 74 percent.
- Using nuclear energy to grow the economy and create jobs – 60 percent.

Awareness of hearing about topics that were included in both 2007 and 2009 surveys increased by 10 percentage points:



- Need to build more nuclear power plants in the U.S. – 73 percent, up from 63 percent in 2007.
- Clean air benefits of nuclear energy – 71 percent, up from 61 percent.
- Using nuclear energy as a way to fight global warming and climate change – 58 percent, up from 48 percent.

### **Information Sources: Plant Sources Credible**

The main sources of information about the nuclear power plant are the news media and plant sources: booklets or brochures from the plant, people who work at the plant, and visits to the plant or information center. A new item, the Internet, was included in 2009; just under half rated the Internet useful.

The most highly rated sources for accurate and reliable information about the nuclear power plant also are plant sources:

- Safety, radiation, and environmental experts at the local plant
- Booklets or brochures from the local plant
- “People you know” who work at the local plant

Those findings are unchanged from previous years.

Antinuclear organizations again were rated least useful, and 74 percent rated them a fair or poor choice for accurate information about nuclear energy, mostly poor.

### **Observations**

This third plant neighbor tracking survey finds, once again, that the vast majority of people living in the communities around nuclear power plants, on average, support these plants. They are comfortable with the plants and the company that operates these plants. Three-fourths would accept a new reactor at the plant site – 79 percent at COL sites. The main conclusion from these positive attitudes is that plant neighbors appear unaffected by plans to seek licenses for new reactors – and indeed are largely receptive to them.

Consistent with national general public trends, attitudes of plant neighbors are more favorable now than they were two years ago. There is, of course, a ceiling effect; with attitudes already very favorable, there is not much room for upward movement on some of the measures. However, attitudes are closely correlated with feeling informed about the plant and hearing about the need for and benefits of nuclear energy, so information can strengthen support. Messages tested in this survey are very effective.

Awareness of positive news about nuclear energy is very high, and this awareness increased significantly in the past two years. That also is consistent with the increased awareness measured among the national general public. Clearly, media coverage of energy problems and mentions of nuclear energy as a part of the solution are being heard.

Also significant is the evidence that many plant neighbors are not convinced that it is safe to store used nuclear fuel at the plant site. Eliminating Yucca Mountain as an option is bad news for plant neighbors, given their views in this survey.

FACTS ABOUT THE SURVEY  
AND  
DETAILED FINDINGS

## Facts about the Survey

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Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) sponsored the third national public opinion survey of nuclear power plant communities July 6-18, 2009. The survey replicated the methodology and most of the questions asked in August 2005 and July–August 2007. Bisconti Research, Inc. conducted the survey with Quest Global Research Group, using lists of randomly selected residential phone numbers provided by Affordable Samples, a sampling firm.

The U.S. has 104 nuclear power plants located at 64 nuclear power plant sites. “Nuclear power plant communities” are defined as the **10-mile radius around each of the 64 nuclear power plant sites**, and “plant neighbors” are defined as **adults living within that area**. In total, 1,152 adults were interviewed:

- 18 selected at random from each of the 64 plant sites.
- Full-time residents of the area.
- Households with electric company employees excluded.

The margin of error is plus or minus three percentage points. Each finding may be considered an average across plant sites. Attitudes are less favorable in some areas and more favorable in others.

Persons contacted but not included in the 1,152 final interviews:

- 232 in households with persons who worked for an electric company,
- 71 not full-time residents of the area,
- 157 not English speakers, and
- 104 who said they were not aware of a nuclear power plant in the area.

A test analysis of the first 50 persons who terminated the interview part-way (after the screening questions) eliminated any concern that the interview itself might have caused persons with negative attitudes to drop out. Their attitudes were at least as favorable as those of persons who completed the interview. Of the 50 who terminated the interview part-way, 35 persons were asked about acceptability of a new reactor at the nearby plant site, and 34 of them said a new reactor would be acceptable.

By the random selection process, 12 of the total 1,152 persons interviewed in 2009 were also interviewed in 2007.

### **Sample Subgroups for Analysis**

The selection of 18 persons from each plant community resulted in the same geographic distribution as in 2005 and 2007:

- 24 percent in the Northeast.<sup>1</sup>
- 27 percent in the Midwest.
- 30 percent in the South.
- 19 percent in the West.

The distribution by population density also is the same as in 2005 and 2007:

- 25 percent in high population density areas.<sup>2</sup>
- 19 percent in medium population density areas.
- 56 percent in low population density areas.

**COL sites:** At the time of the survey, 16 sites had announced plans to seek a license to add a new reactor at the site. A total of 288 persons were interviewed at these sites, 25 percent of the total. These sites are referred to as COL sites (Construction and Operating License sites).

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<sup>1</sup> Regions correspond to regions of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

<sup>2</sup> The population density classification of areas was based on the number of potential interviewees: High = 20,000 or more, medium = 10,000 to 19,999, low = less than 10,000.

## Attitudes toward Nuclear Energy

The vast majority of plant neighbors hold favorable attitudes toward nuclear energy. Plant neighbors are more favorable to nuclear energy than the general U.S. public. Attitudes of plant neighbors are notably stable but have become slightly more favorable to nuclear energy over the past two years.

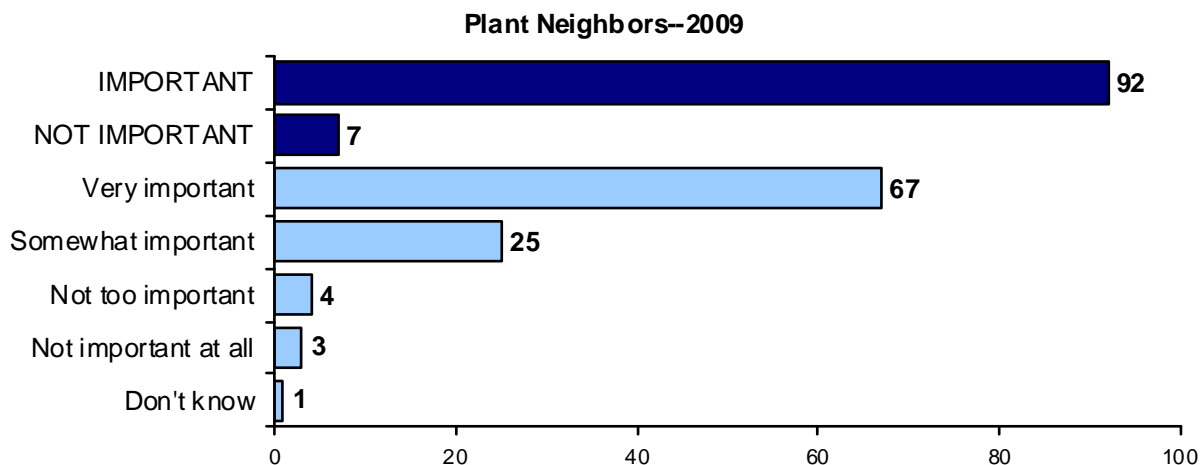
Most plant neighbors express favorable opinions about nuclear energy:

- 92 percent believe that nuclear energy will play an important role.
- 93 percent agree with license renewal for nuclear power plants that continue to meet federal safety standards.
- 86 percent agree we should keep the option to build more nuclear power plants in the future.
- 87 percent agree that electric utilities should prepare now so that new nuclear power plants could be built if needed in the next decade.
- 79 percent agree that we should definitely build more nuclear power plants in the future.
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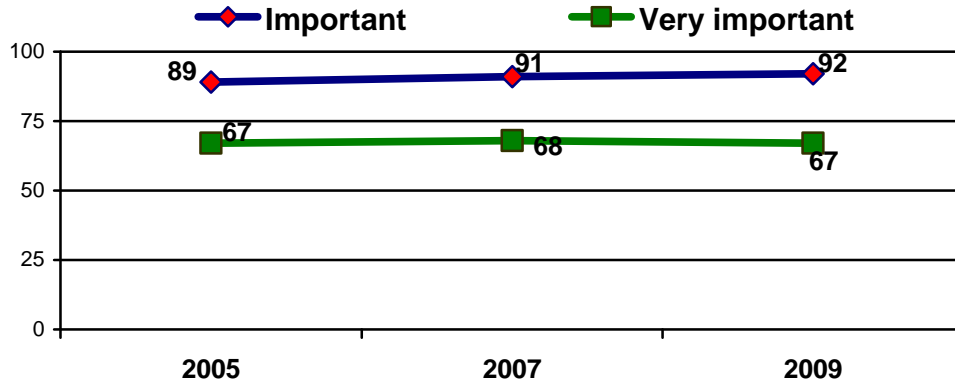
### Importance of Nuclear Energy for Meeting Future Electricity Needs

“How important do you think nuclear energy will be in meeting this nation’s electricity in the years ahead? Do you think nuclear energy will be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?”

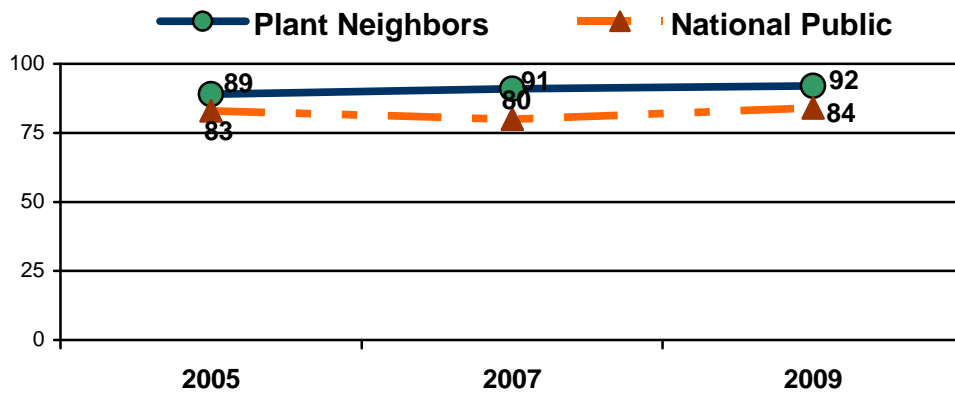
*Percentages*



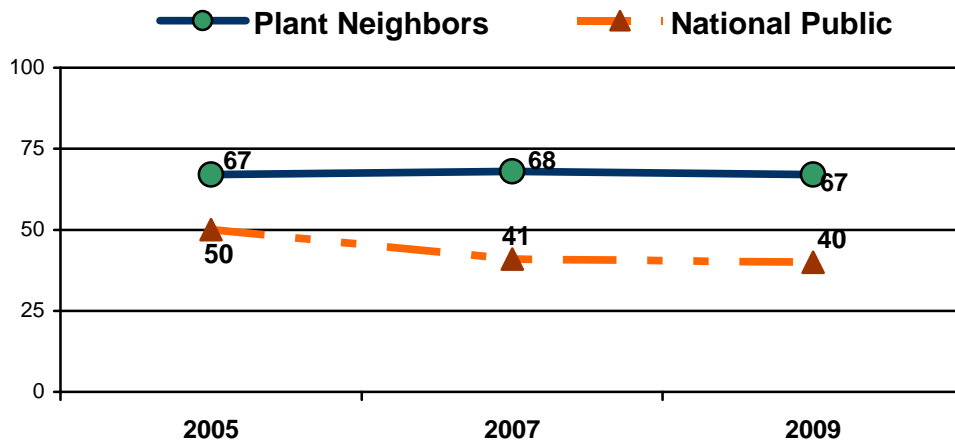
**Importance of Nuclear Energy for Meeting Future Electricity Needs  
From 2005 to 2009, by Important and Very Important**



**Percent Agree Nuclear Energy "Very or Somewhat Important" For  
Meeting Future Electricity Needs  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**



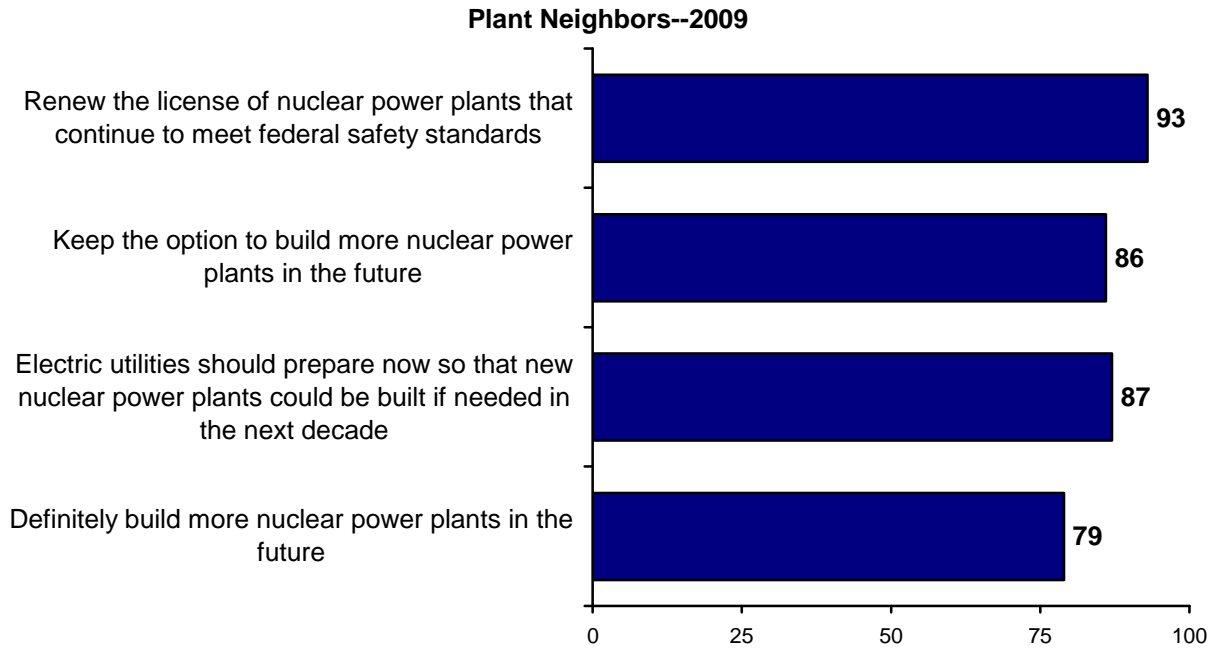
**Percent Agree Nuclear Energy "Very Important" For  
Meeting Future Electricity Needs  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**



## Support for License Renewal and New Plants

“Please tell me if you personally strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements. How about...”

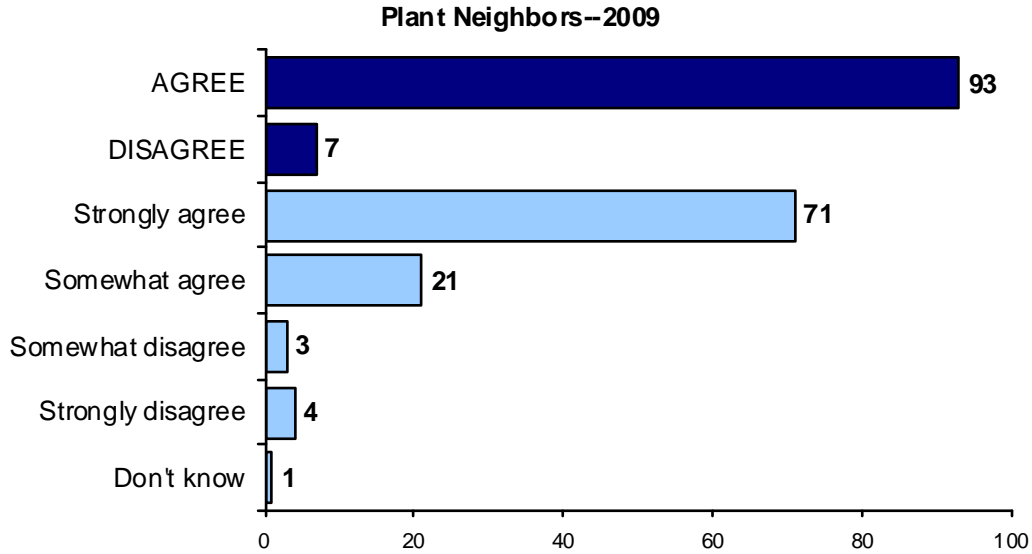
*Percent Agree*



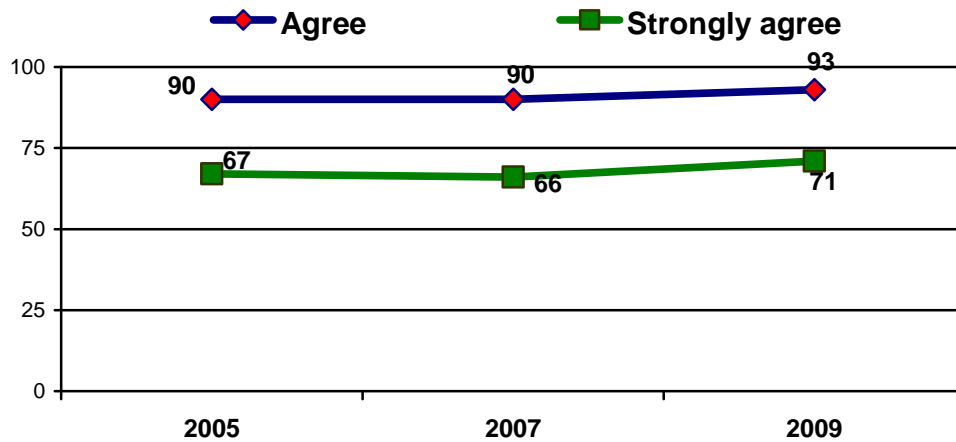
## License Renewal

“Please tell me if you personally strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: When their original operating license expires, we should renew the license of nuclear power plants that continue to meet federal safety standards.”

Percentages

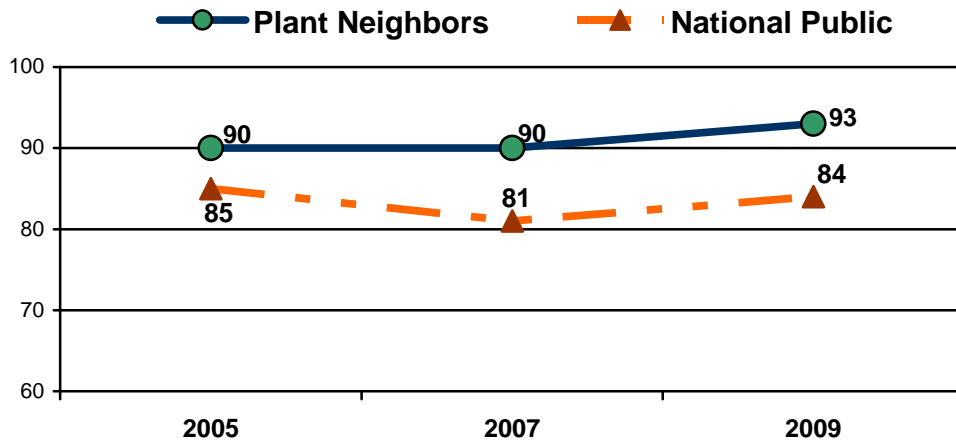


**Percent Agree and Strongly Agree: License Renewal  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors**

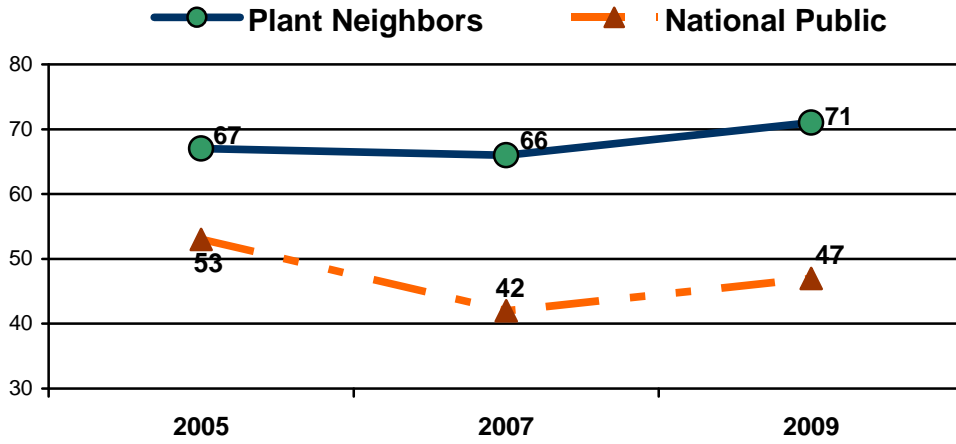




**Percent Agree: License Renewal  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**



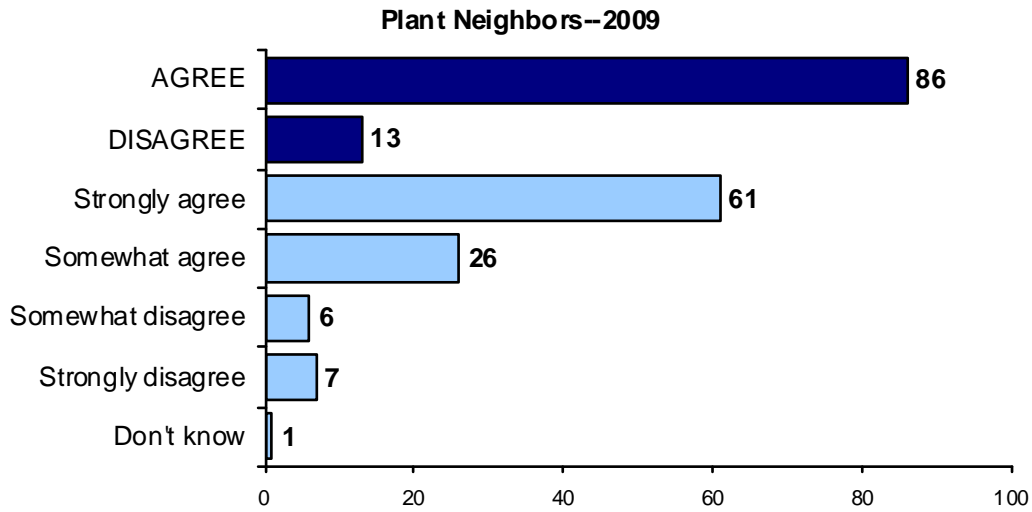
**Percent Strongly Agree: License Renewal  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**



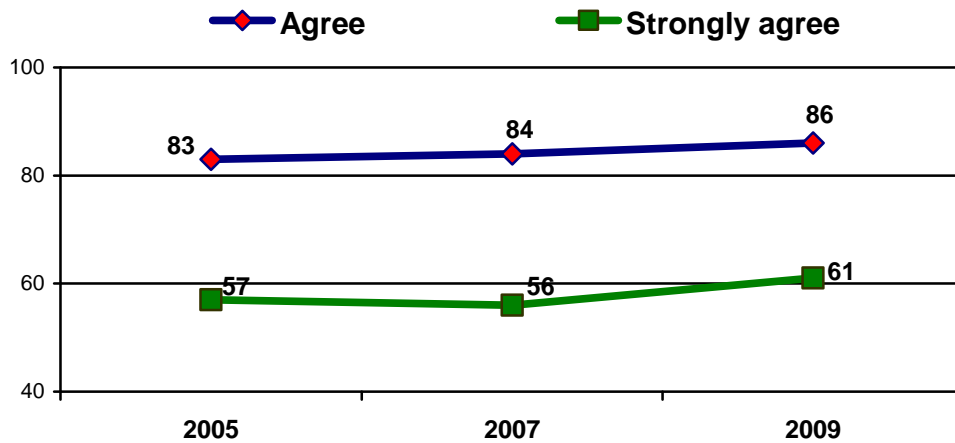
## Option to Build

“Please tell me if you personally strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: We should keep the option to build more nuclear power plants in the future.”

*Percentages*



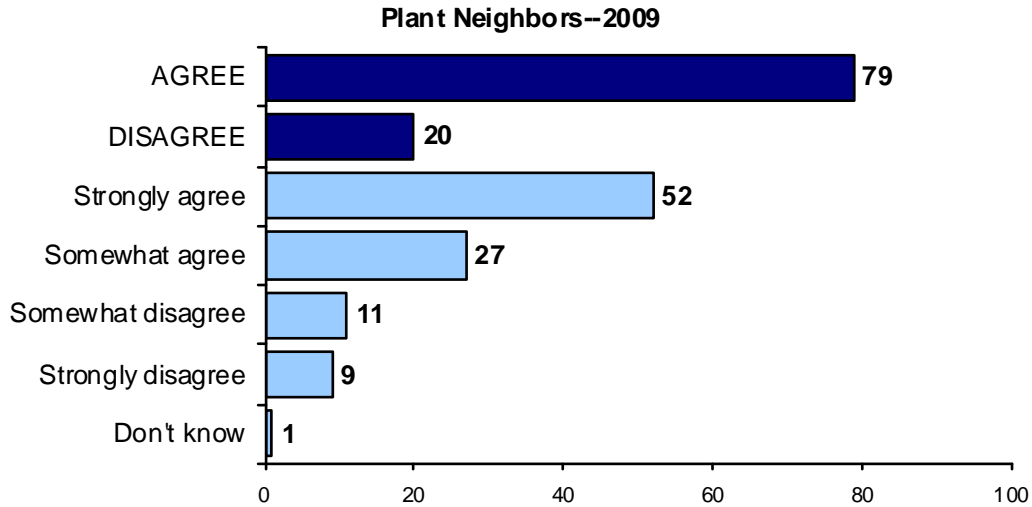
**Percent Agree and Strongly Agree: Keep Option to Build  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors**



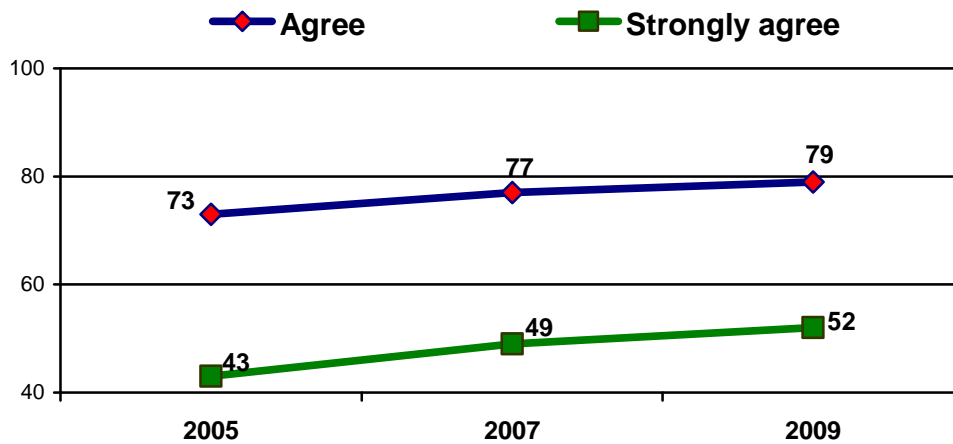
## Definitely Build

“Please tell me if you personally strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: We should definitely build more nuclear power plants in the future.”

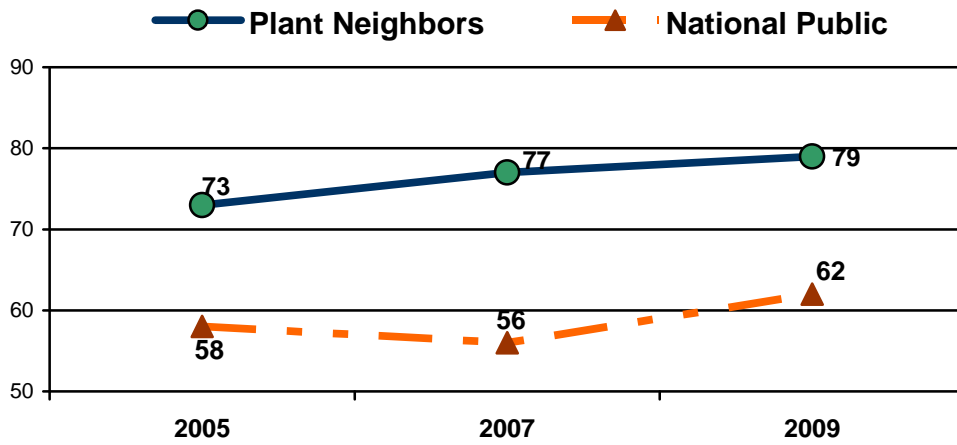
*Percentages*



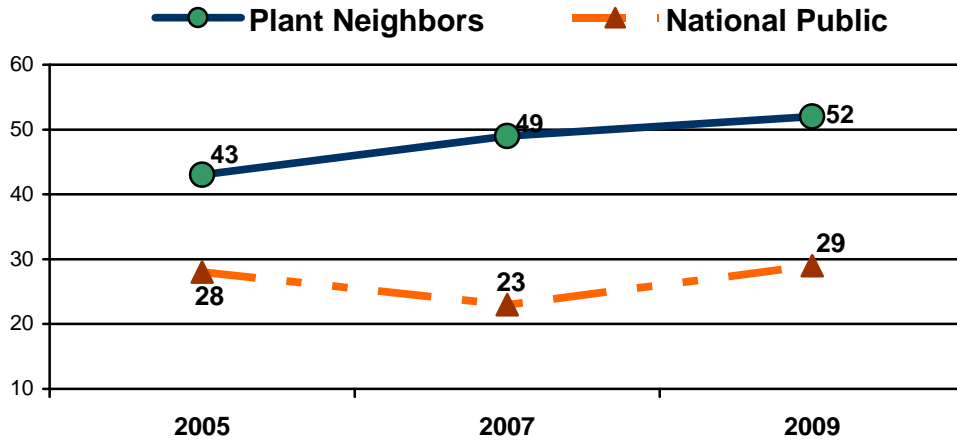
### Percent Agree and Strongly Agree: Definitely Build From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors



**Percent Agree: Definitely Build**  
**From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**



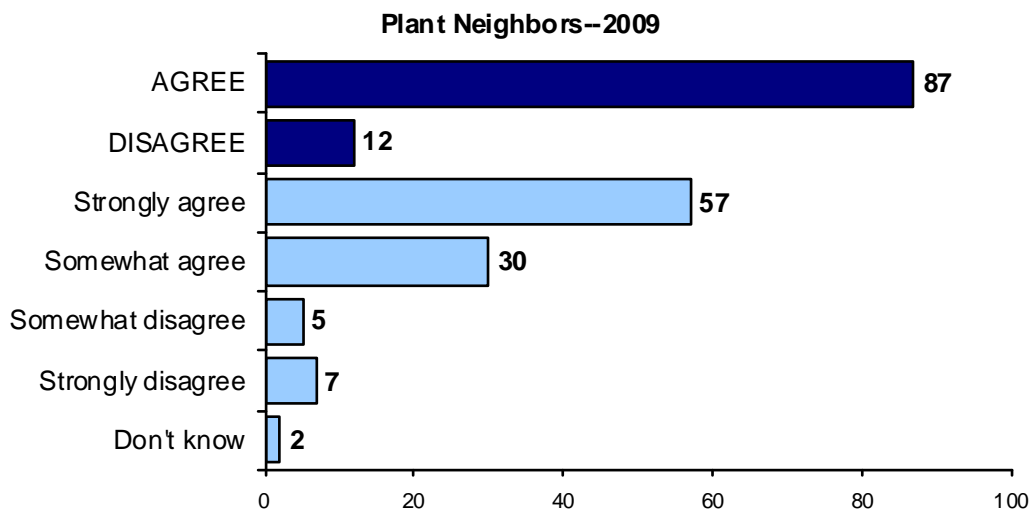
**Percent Strongly Agree: Definitely Build**  
**From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**



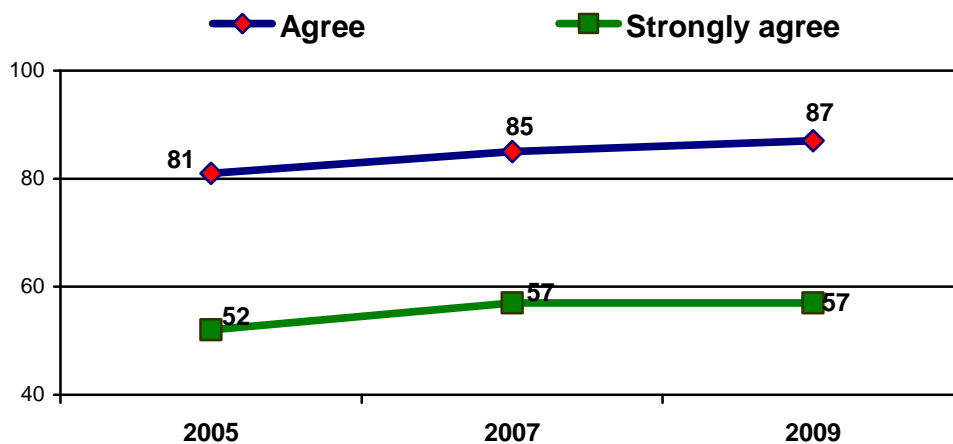
## Electric Utilities Should Prepare Now

“Please tell me if you personally strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: Electric utilities should prepare now so that new nuclear power plants could be built if needed in the next decade.”

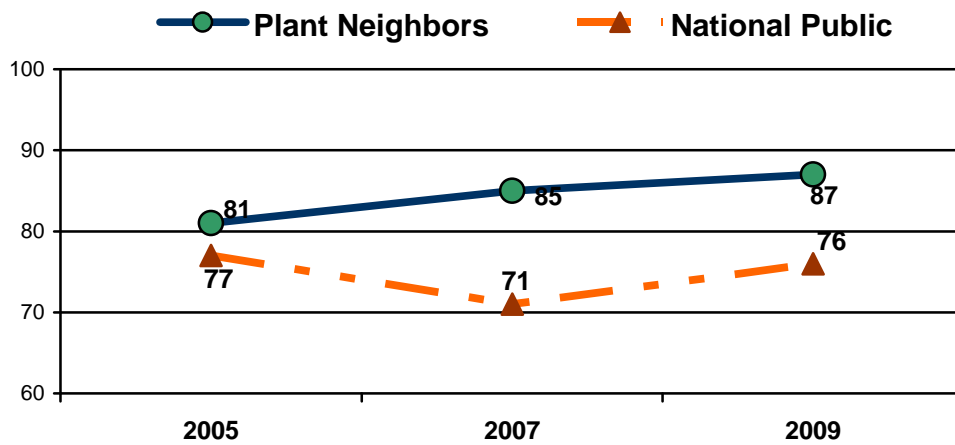
*Percentages*



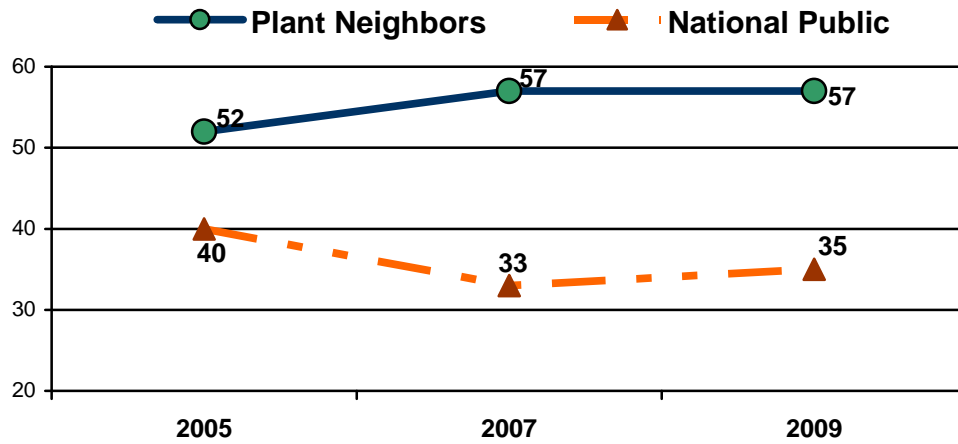
**Percent Agree and Strongly Agree: Electric Utilities Should Prepare Now  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors**



**Percent Agree: Electric Utilities Should Prepare Now  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**



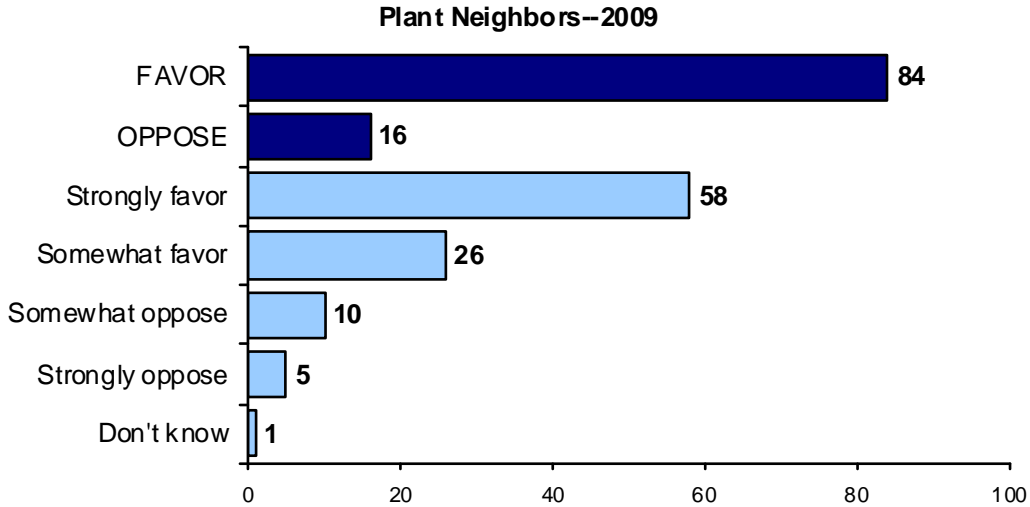
**Percent Strongly Agree: Electric Utilities Should Prepare Now  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**



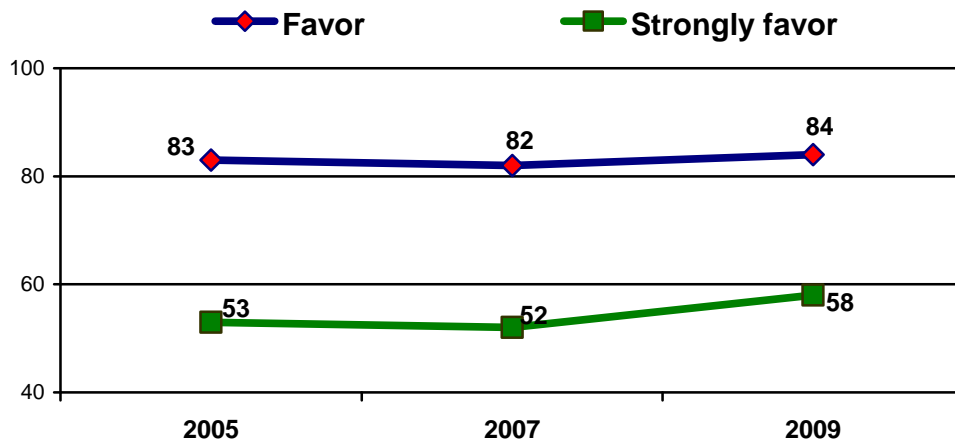
## Favorability to Nuclear Energy

“Overall, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the use of nuclear energy as one of the ways to provide electricity in the United States.”

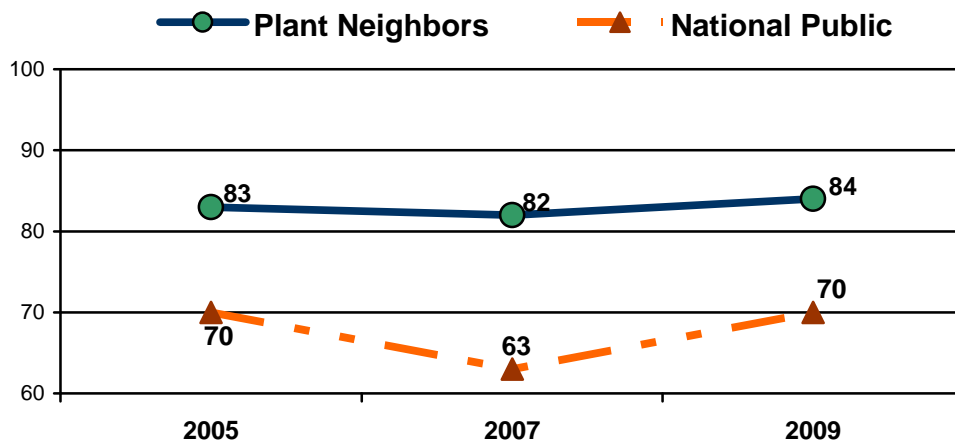
*Percentages*



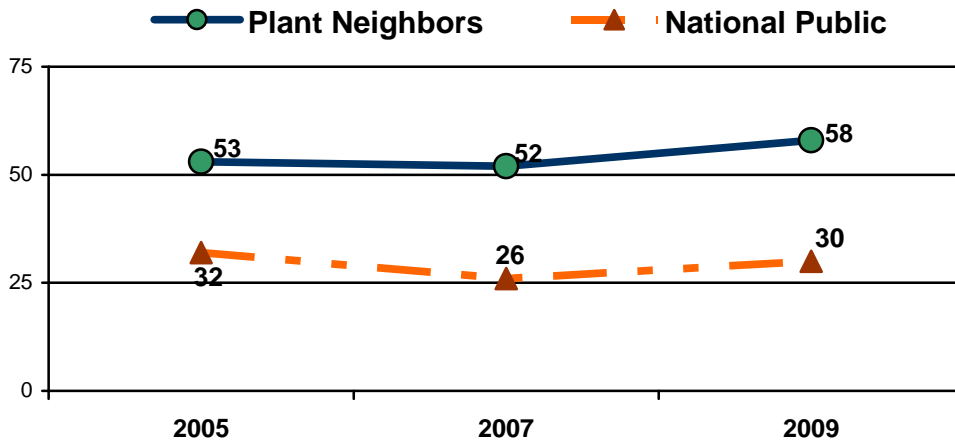
**Percent Favor and Strongly Favor the Use of Nuclear Energy  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors**



**Percent Favor Nuclear Energy  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**



**Percent Strongly Favor Nuclear Energy  
From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**





## Impression of the Local Nuclear Power Plant

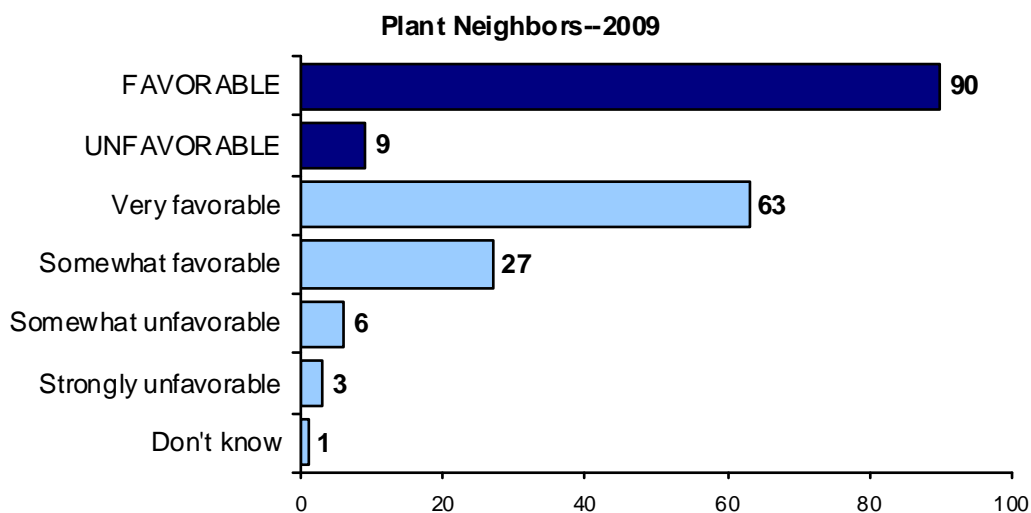
Plant neighbors are overwhelmingly favorable to the nuclear power plant, and most rate its safety high.

- 90 percent have a favorable impression of the nearby nuclear power plant – 63 percent are very favorable.
- 78 percent think that the majority of people in their community have a favorable impression of the plant – thus, community support is widely recognized.
- 88 percent rated the safety of the nearby plant high (5 to 7 on a 1 to 7 scale) – 73 percent gave a rating of 6 or 7.
- 90 percent agree that the plant helps the local economy – 66 percent strongly agree.
- 89 percent agree that there are good jobs for local people at the plant and in local businesses that provide services to the plant.

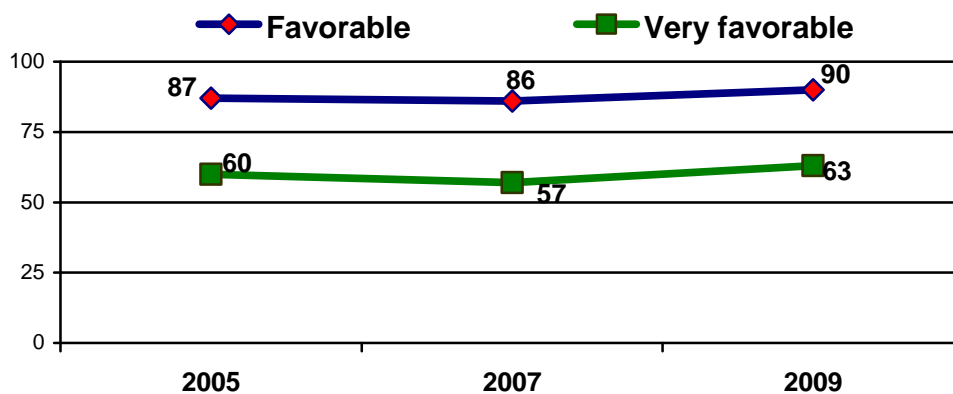
### General Impression of Closest Nuclear Power Plant

“Thinking of the nuclear power plant closest to where you live, would you describe your general impression of this plant and the way it has operated recently as very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?”

*Percentages*

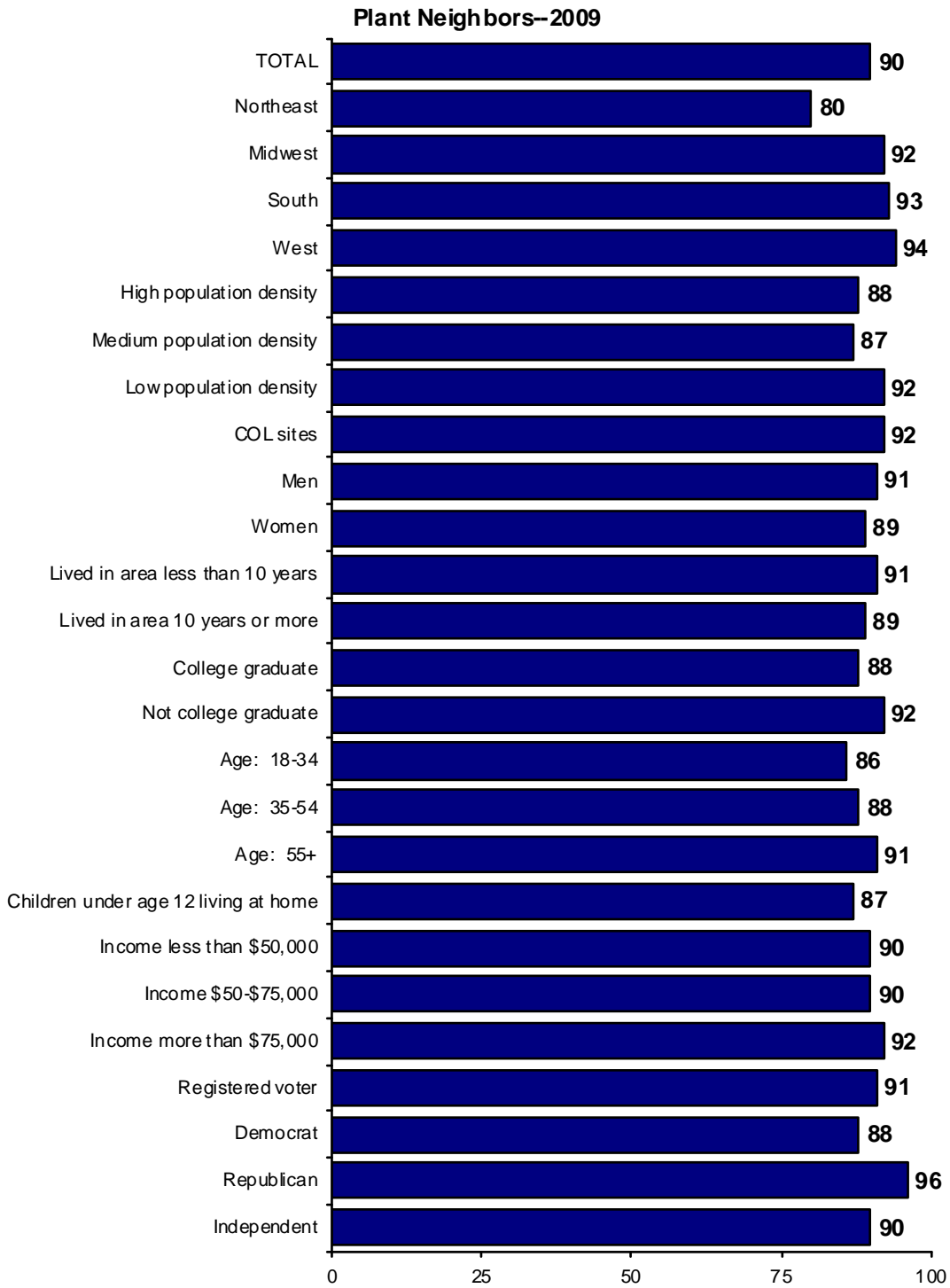


### Percent Favorable to the Closest Nuclear Power Plant From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors



## Percent Have Favorable Impression of Nearest Nuclear Power Plant

“Thinking of the nuclear power plant closest to where you live, would you describe your general impression of this plant and the way it has operated recently as very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?”



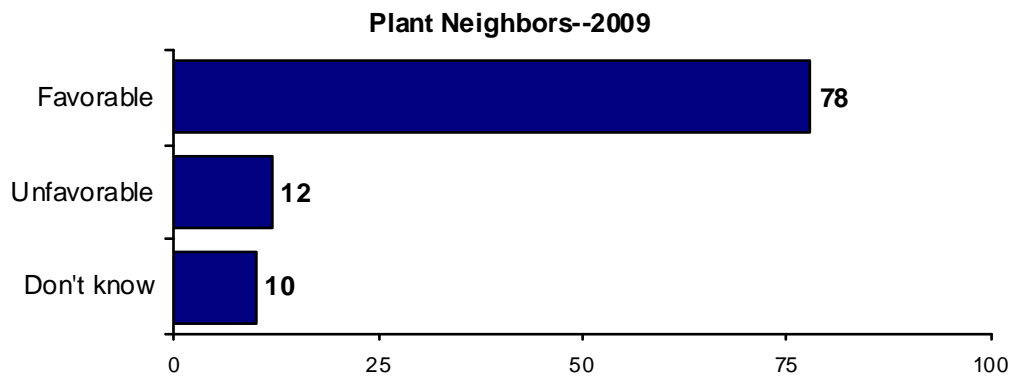
## Perception of Community's Impression of the Local Nuclear Power Plant

Plant neighbors overwhelmingly recognize that the community supports the local plant; 78 percent perceive that the majority of people in their community are favorable to nuclear energy. That recognition is quite different from the perception gap observed in polls of the general national public; large numbers of the general public personally favor nuclear energy but believe that others do not.

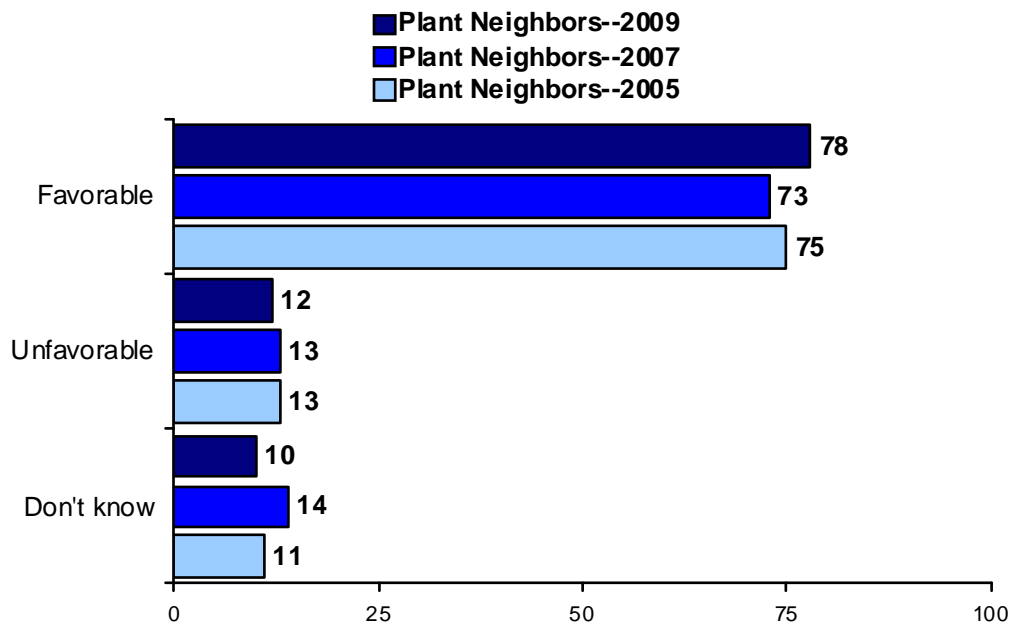
### Perception of Community's Impression of Local Nuclear Power Plant

"Do you think that the majority of people in your community have a favorable or unfavorable impression of this plant?"

*Percentages*



*Percentages*



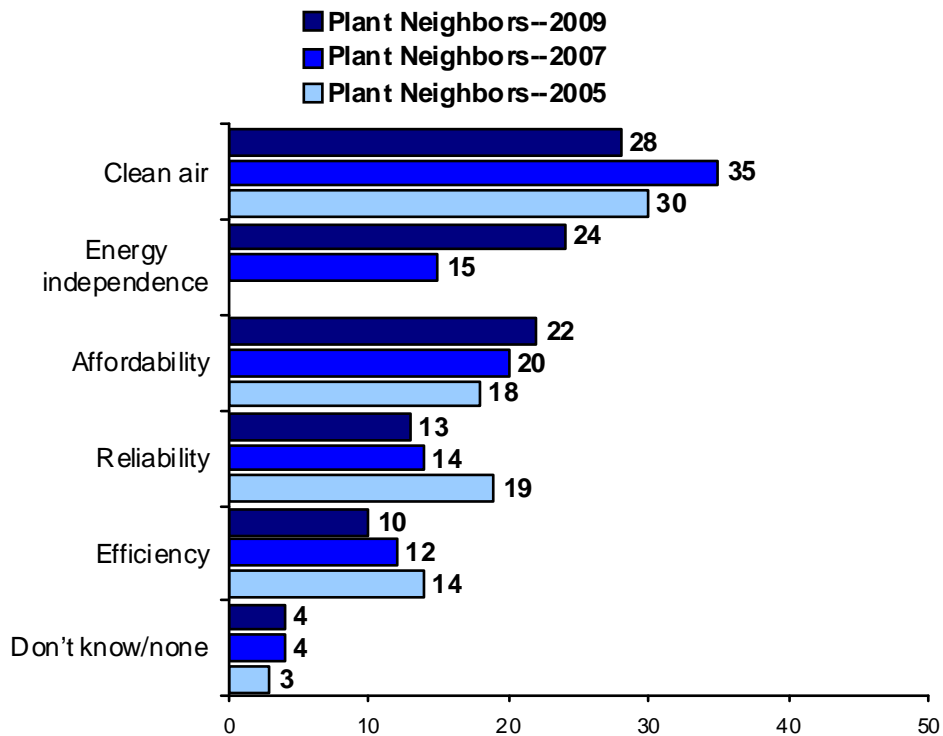
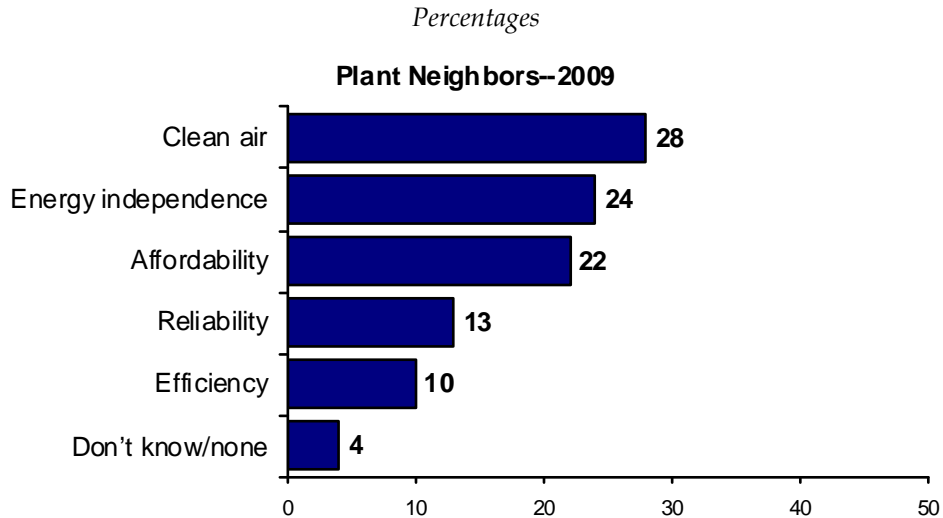
## Branding Metrics

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Plant neighbor selected clean air, energy independence, and affordability as the three top considerations for the way electricity is produced. Energy independence was not included in the 2005 survey. It has become a much larger issue for plant neighbors between 2007 and 2009.

### Most Important Consideration for Electricity Production

“I am going to read to you five considerations for the way electricity is produced and I’d like you to tell me which one is most important to you. Here are the five considerations...”

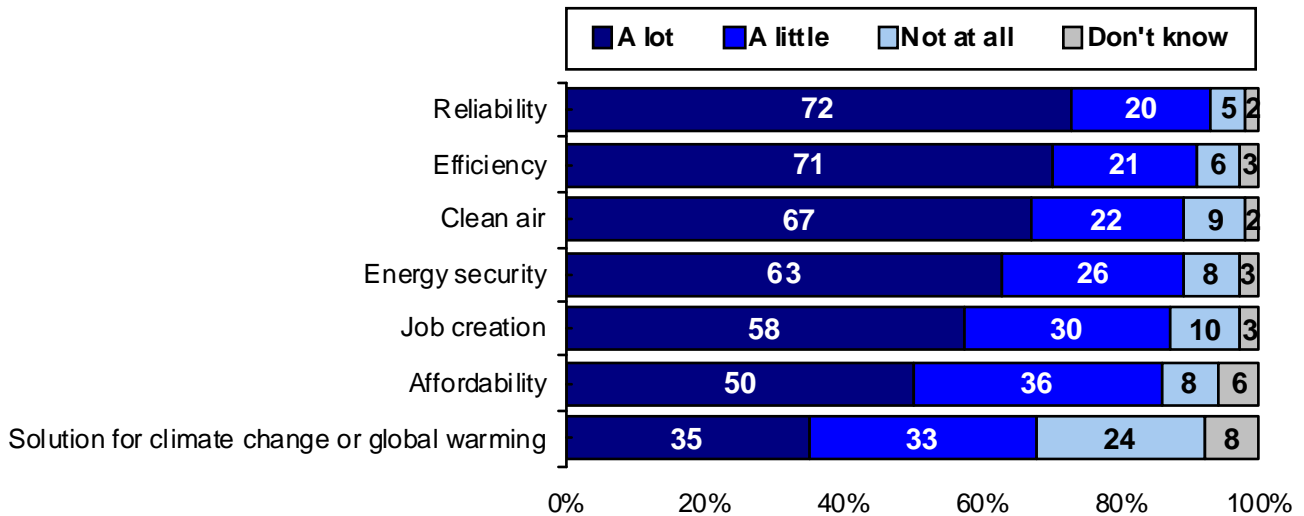


Associations of branding attributes with nuclear energy remain positive but largely unchanged. However, reliability is increasingly becoming a salient attribute of nuclear energy. In 2009, 72 percent said they associate nuclear energy “a lot” with reliability – up from 65 percent in 2007.

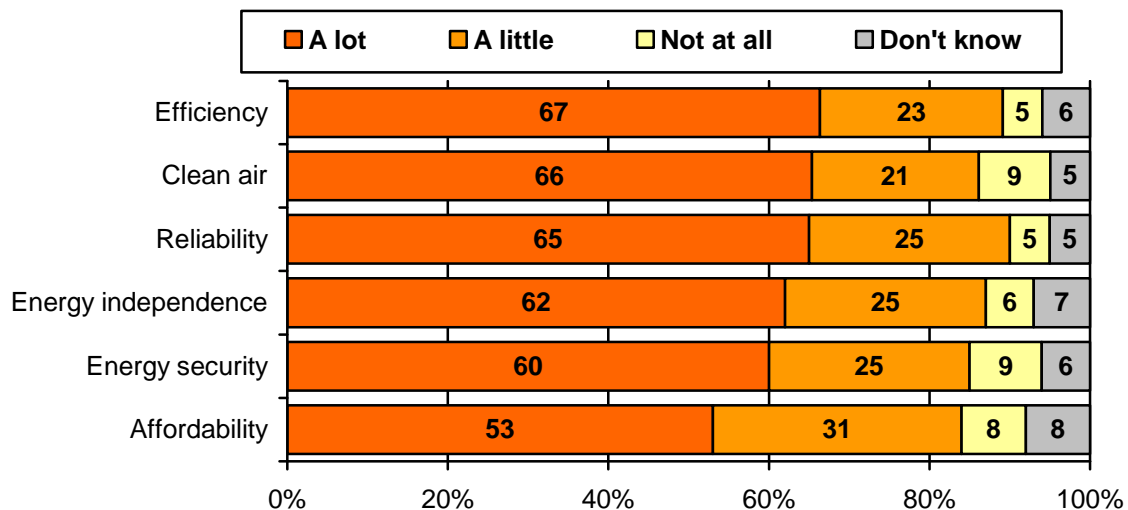
### Association of Benefits with Nuclear Energy

“Do you associate nuclear energy a lot, a little, or not at all with...”

Plant Neighbors – 2009



Plant Neighbors--2007



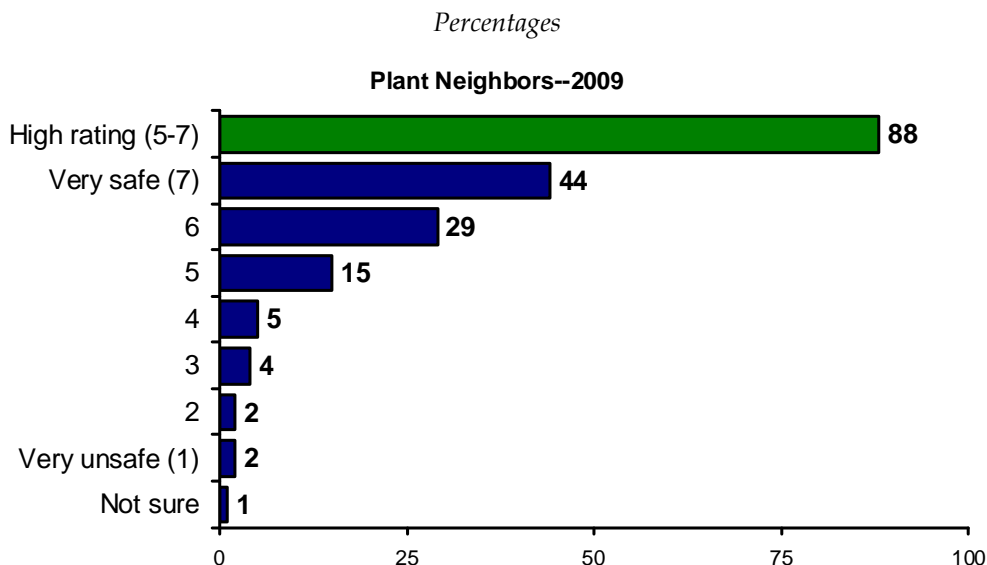
## Plant Safety

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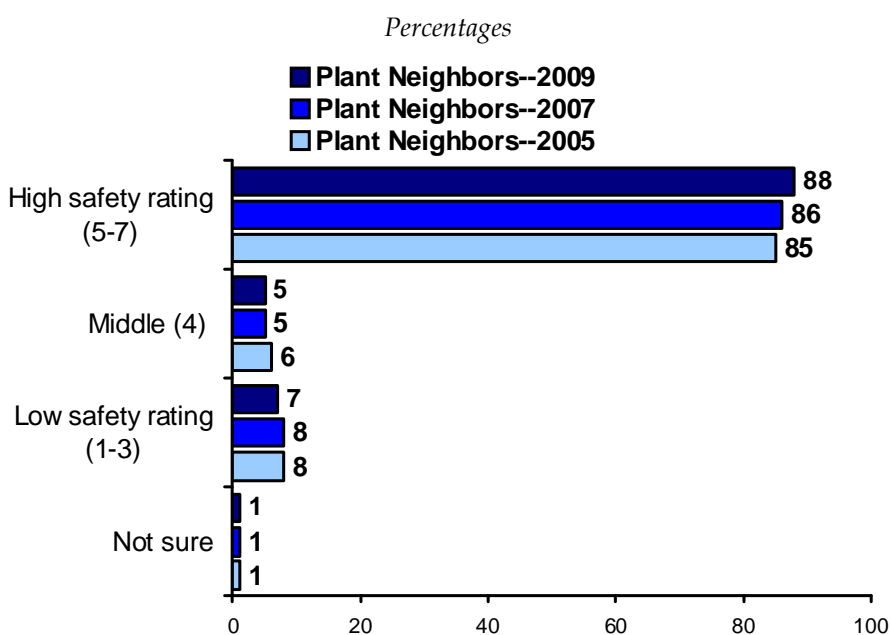
Safety ratings of the nearby nuclear power plant are favorable and stable; 88 percent rated the safety of the nearby plant high (5 to 7 on a 1 to 7 scale) – 73 percent gave a rating of 6 or 7.

### Rating Safety of Nearest Nuclear Power Plant

“Thinking about the nuclear power plant that is nearest to where you live, how safe do you regard this plant? Please think of a scale from “1” to “7,” where “1” means “very unsafe” and “7” means “very safe.” The safer you think it is, the higher the number you would give.”



### Rating Safety of Nearest Nuclear Power Plant



## Confidence in the Company that Operates the Nuclear Power Plant

---

Most give high marks to the company that operates the plant. Attitudes to this company have become more favorable since 2007 (change since 2007 shown in parentheses).

- 91 percent are confident in the company’s ability to operate a nuclear power plant safely (+4).
- 86 percent believe that the company is doing a good job of protecting the environment (+5).
- 83 percent believe that the company is involved in the community (+6).

### Opinions about the Company that Operates the Nuclear Power Plant

“Now, I’d like to ask you about the company that operates the nuclear power plant nearest to you. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements about this company.”

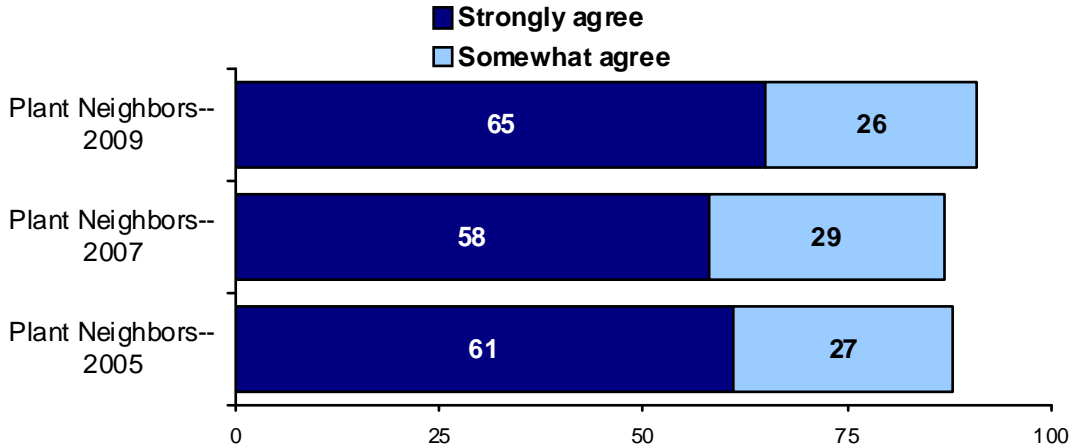
#### Plant Neighbors – 2009

	TOTAL AGREE	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	(Don’t Know)
I am confident in this company’s ability to operate a nuclear power plant safely.	91	65	26	4	3	2
The plant helps the local economy	90	66	24	5	3	2
There are good jobs for local people at the plant and in local businesses that provide services to the plant	89	61	28	5	3	3
This company is doing a good job of protecting the environment.	86	52	33	5	4	5
This company is involved in the community.	83	50	33	6	4	7

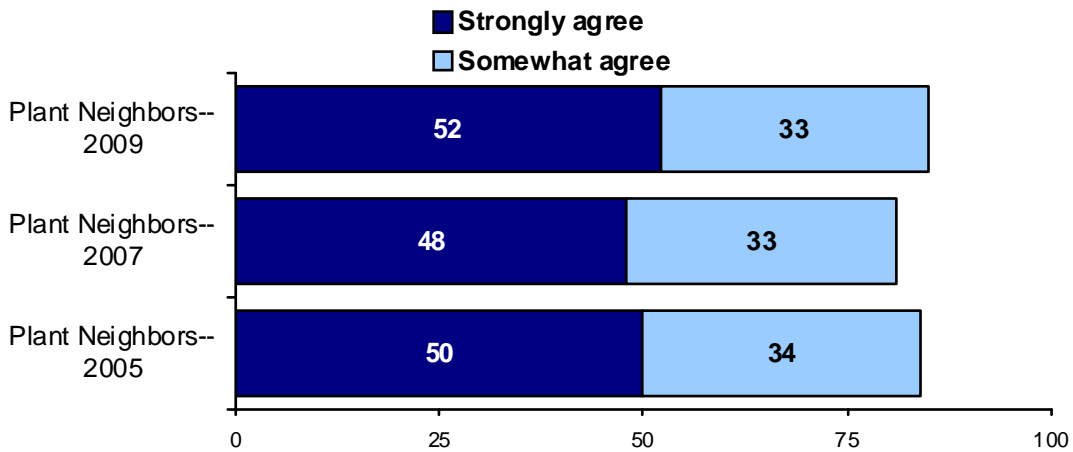
## Opinions about the Company that Operates the Nuclear Power Plant

“Now, I’d like to ask you about the company that operates the nuclear power plant nearest to you. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements about this company.”

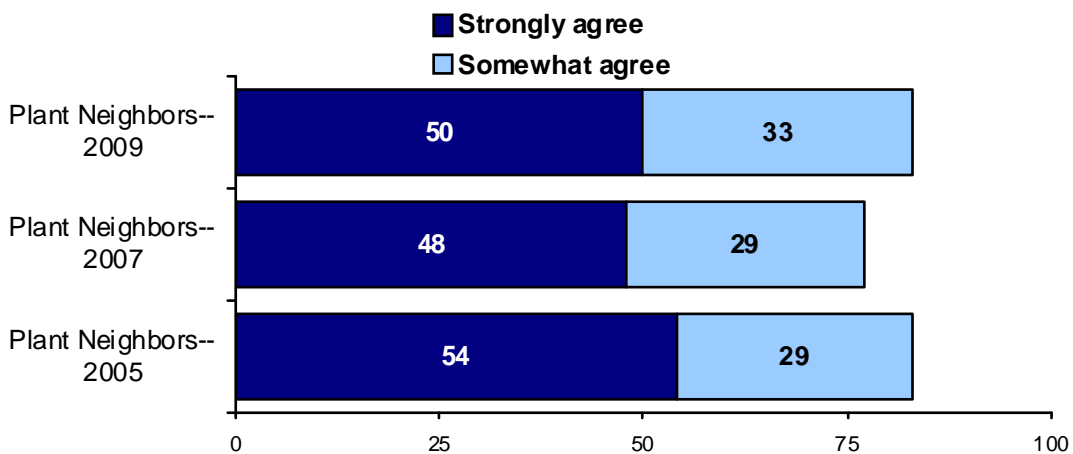
- I am confident in this company’s ability to operate a nuclear power plant safely.



- This company is doing a good job of protecting the environment.



- This company is involved in the community.



\*2005 survey included the wording “as a good citizen.”



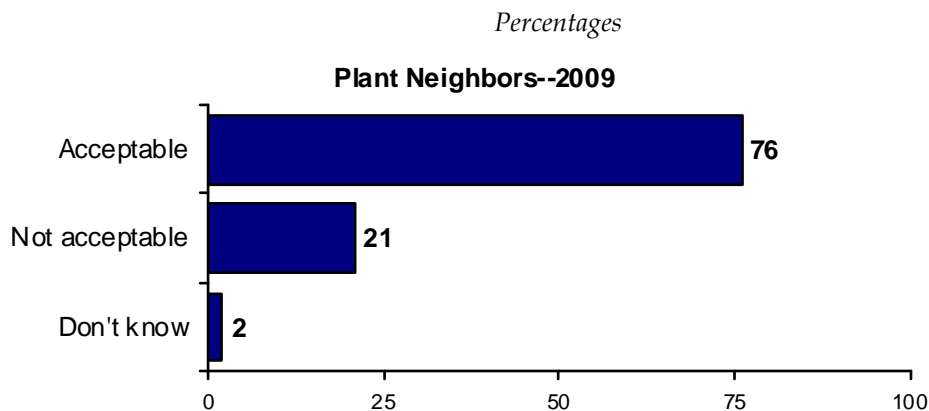
## New Reactor

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Three-fourths would find it acceptable to add a new reactor at the nearest nuclear power plant site. The numbers have returned to 2005 levels both nationally and in plant communities.

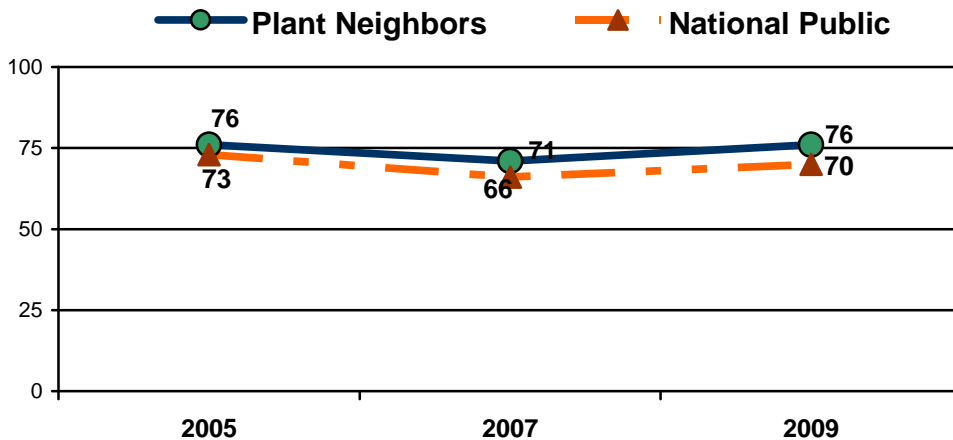
### Acceptability of a New Reactor at Nearest Nuclear Power Plant Site

“If a new power plant were needed to supply electricity, would it be acceptable to you or not acceptable to you to add a new nuclear reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant?”<sup>3</sup>



*Percentages*

### Percent Say Acceptable to Add a New Reactor at Nearest Nuclear Power Plant Site From 2005 to 2009: Plant Neighbors vs. National Public



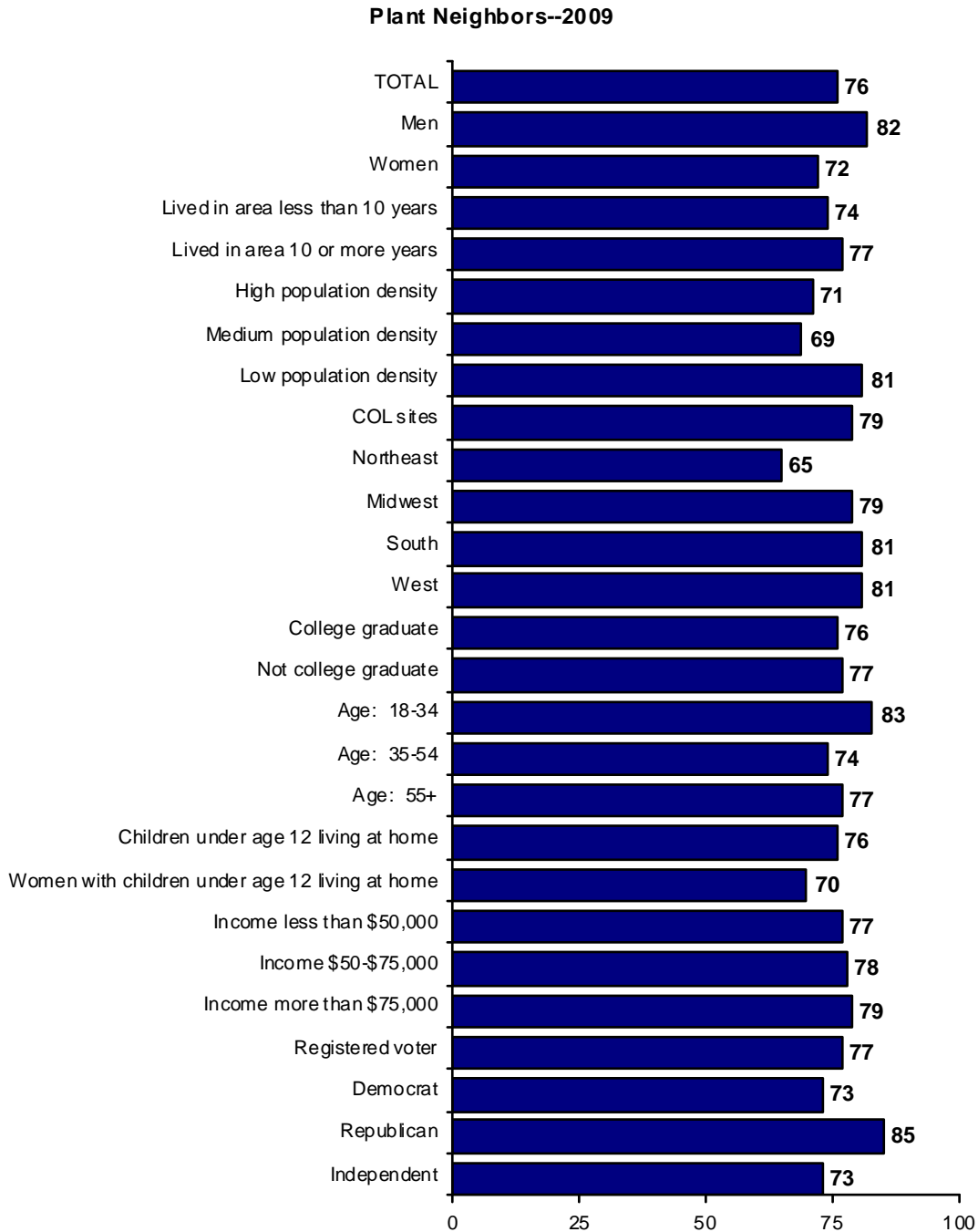

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<sup>3</sup> Wording for All U.S. surveys: “If a new power plant were needed to supply electricity, would it be acceptable to you or not acceptable to you to add a new reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant that is already operating?”

## New Reactor: Subgroups

Acceptability of a new reactor at the nearby plant is lower in the Northeast (65 percent) than in the Midwest (79 percent), South (81 percent), and West (81 percent). Acceptability is highest in low population density areas (81 percent). Also, fewer women (72 percent) than men (82 percent) would find a new reactor acceptable.

### Percent Saying a New Reactor at the Nearest Nuclear Power Plant Site Would be Acceptable: Subgroups



## Messages for Decision to Add a New Reactor at Nearby Nuclear Power Plant Site

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Eight messages to increase support for a new reactor all proved very persuasive. Each made a majority feel more inclined to accept a decision by the electric company to add a new reactor at the nearby plant site. These messages speak of energy independence, safety, planning for reliable and affordable sources, jobs, clean air, and infrastructure.

### Messages in Support of a New Reactor at the Nearest Nuclear Power Plant Site

Let's imagine that more electricity is needed in your area sometime in the future and an electric company wants to add a new reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant that is already operating. Please tell me if each of the following points would make you much more inclined, somewhat more inclined, or no more inclined to support a decision to add a new reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant. How about... (READ LIST. RANDOMIZE. CHECK ONLY ONE RESPONSE FOR EACH.)

	<b>Plant Neighbors--2009</b>			
	<i>Percentages</i>			
	<b>Much More Inclined</b>	<b>Somewhat More Inclined</b>	<b>No More Inclined</b>	<b>(Don't Know)</b>
Nuclear energy helps reduce America's dependence on foreign energy sources.	66	22	11	1
The independent Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspects and monitors each nuclear power plant daily. If a nuclear power plant is not operating safely, the regulator will shut it down until it improves its safety practices.	65	23	11	1
Every nuclear power plant has multiple back-up safety systems, including an automatic safe shutdown mechanism, and new plants have more automatic safety systems.	63	25	11	1
We should plan for our energy future so we are not caught unprepared. As our economy and population grow, reliable and affordable sources of electricity like nuclear energy will be needed.	60	26	13	1
Each new reactor adds hundreds of good jobs and careers, and the company will train local people for careers there.	60	26	14	1
Nuclear energy provides 70 percent of America's carbon-free energy and produces electricity 24 hours a day every day.	59	28	11	2
The electric company uses a mix of low-carbon energy sources including nuclear energy and renewables like solar and wind energy.	56	27	14	3
A new reactor will add millions of dollars to the tax base that can be used to improve local infrastructure like roads and schools.	55	26	17	2

**Percent Saying Messages Make Me Much More Inclined to Support a Decision to Add a  
New Reactor at the Nearest Nuclear Power Plant Site: Men Age Groups**

	<b>Plant Neighbors – 2009</b>			
	<b>Men: TOTAL</b>	<b>Men: 18-34</b>	<b>Men: 35-54</b>	<b>Men: 55+</b>
Nuclear energy helps reduce America’s dependence on foreign energy sources.	70	63	69	73
Every nuclear power plant has multiple back-up safety systems, including an automatic safe shutdown mechanism, and new plants have more automatic safety systems.	67	63	65	70
The independent Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspects and monitors each nuclear power plant daily. If a nuclear power plant is not operating safely, the regulator will shut it down until it improves its safety practices.	66	60	65	68
We should plan for our energy future so we are not caught unprepared. As our economy and population grow, reliable and affordable sources of electricity like nuclear energy will be needed.	66	57	63	69
Nuclear energy provides 70 percent of America’s carbon-free energy and produces electricity 24 hours a day every day.	64	63	63	65
Each new reactor adds hundreds of good jobs and careers, and the company will train local people for careers there.	64	69	66	62
A new reactor will add millions of dollars to the tax base that can be used to improve local infrastructure like roads and schools.	61	66	61	61
The electric company uses a mix of low-carbon energy sources including nuclear energy and renewables like solar and wind energy.	57	63	61	55

## Percent Saying Messages Make Me Much More Inclined to Support a Decision to Add a New Reactor at the Nearest Nuclear Power Plant Site: Women Age Groups

	Plant Neighbors – 2009			
	Women: TOTAL	Women: 18-34	Women: 35-54	Women: 55+
The independent Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspects and monitors each nuclear power plant daily. If a nuclear power plant is not operating safely, the regulator will shut it down until it improves its safety practices.	63	62	62	64
Nuclear energy helps reduce America’s dependence on foreign energy sources.	63	67	63	63
Every nuclear power plant has multiple back-up safety systems, including an automatic safe shutdown mechanism, and new plants have more automatic safety systems.	60	71	58	60
Each new reactor adds hundreds of good jobs and careers, and the company will train local people for careers there.	57	67	56	57
We should plan for our energy future so we are not caught unprepared. As our economy and population grow, reliable and affordable sources of electricity like nuclear energy will be needed.	56	62	54	56
The electric company uses a mix of low-carbon energy sources including nuclear energy and renewables like solar and wind energy.	56	69	54	56
Nuclear energy provides 70 percent of America’s carbon-free energy and produces electricity 24 hours a day every day.	55	62	54	55
A new reactor will add millions of dollars to the tax base that can be used to improve local infrastructure like roads and schools.	51	64	50	50

## Messages for Opinion Groups

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	Those Who Said:	
	Would Find New Reactor Acceptable (880)	Would <u>Not</u> Find New Reactor Acceptable (272)
<b><u>Confident in company's ability to operate a nuclear power plant safely:</u></b>		
Strongly	78	25
Strongly or somewhat	97	72
Feel <u>very well informed</u> (self-description):		
About the nearest nuclear power plant	45	21
About what to do in case of plant emergency	54	38
<u>Clean air</u> number one consideration for electricity	23	43
Associate nuclear energy "a lot" with <u>clean air</u>	76	39
Percent saying statement makes them more inclined to accept a new reactor at the plant site:		
The independent Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspects and monitors each nuclear power plant daily. If a nuclear power plant is not operating safely, the regulator will shut it down until it improves its safety practices.	95	65
Every nuclear power plant has multiple back-up safety systems, including an automatic safe shutdown mechanism, and new plants have more automatic safety systems.	96	61
Nuclear energy helps reduce America's dependence on foreign energy sources.	95	64
We should plan for our energy future so we are not caught unprepared. As our economy and population grow, reliable and affordable sources of electricity like nuclear energy will be needed.	97	53
The electric company uses a mix of low-carbon energy sources including nuclear energy and renewables like solar and wind energy.	89	66
Nuclear energy provides 70 percent of America's carbon-free energy and produces electricity 24 hours a day every day.	95	59
Each new reactor adds hundreds of good jobs and careers, and the company will train local people for careers there.	95	55
A new reactor will add millions of dollars to the tax base that can be used to improve local infrastructure like roads and schools.	92	46

## Information Heard or Read in the Past Year

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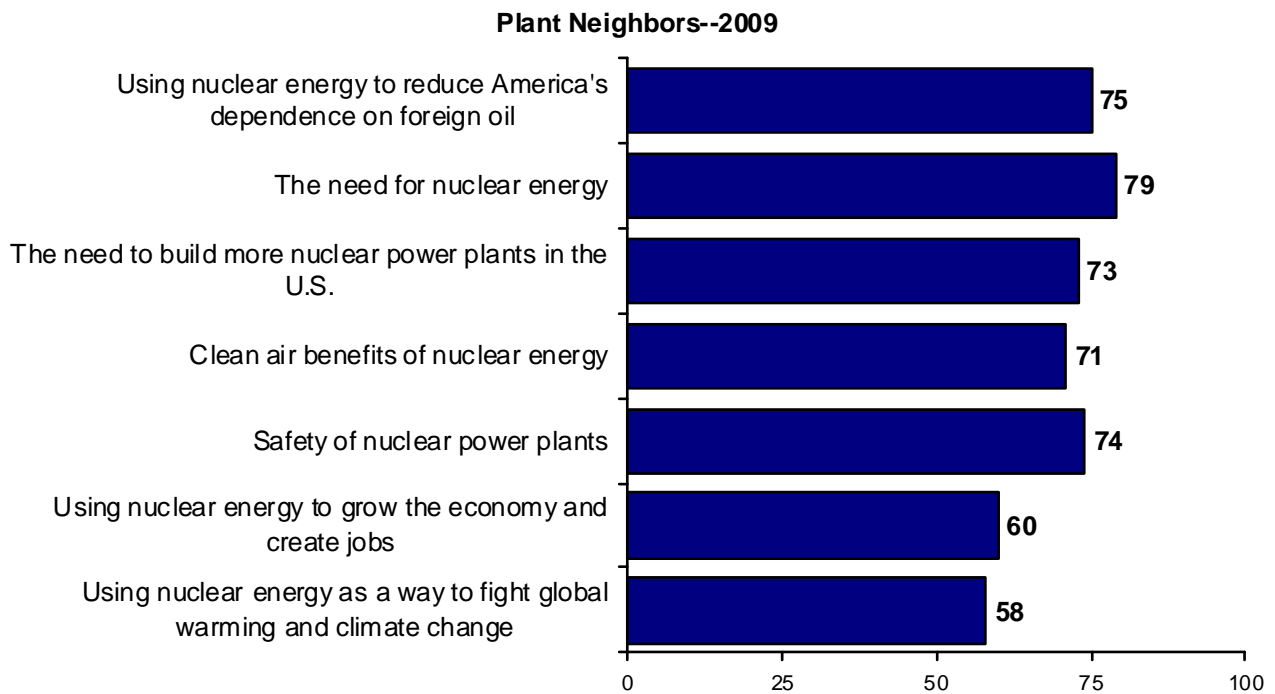
Large majorities of plant neighbors said they heard or read information about the need for and benefits of nuclear energy in the past year, as well as plant safety:

- Need for nuclear energy – 79 percent.
- Using nuclear energy to reduce America’s dependence on foreign oil – 75 percent.
- Safety of nuclear power plants – 74 percent.
- Using nuclear energy to grow the economy and create jobs – 60 percent.

### Information Heard or Read in the Past Year on Benefits of Nuclear Energy and Need for More Plants

“I’ll read some topics about nuclear energy. Please tell me if you have heard or read any information on the topic in the past year.”

*Percentages*

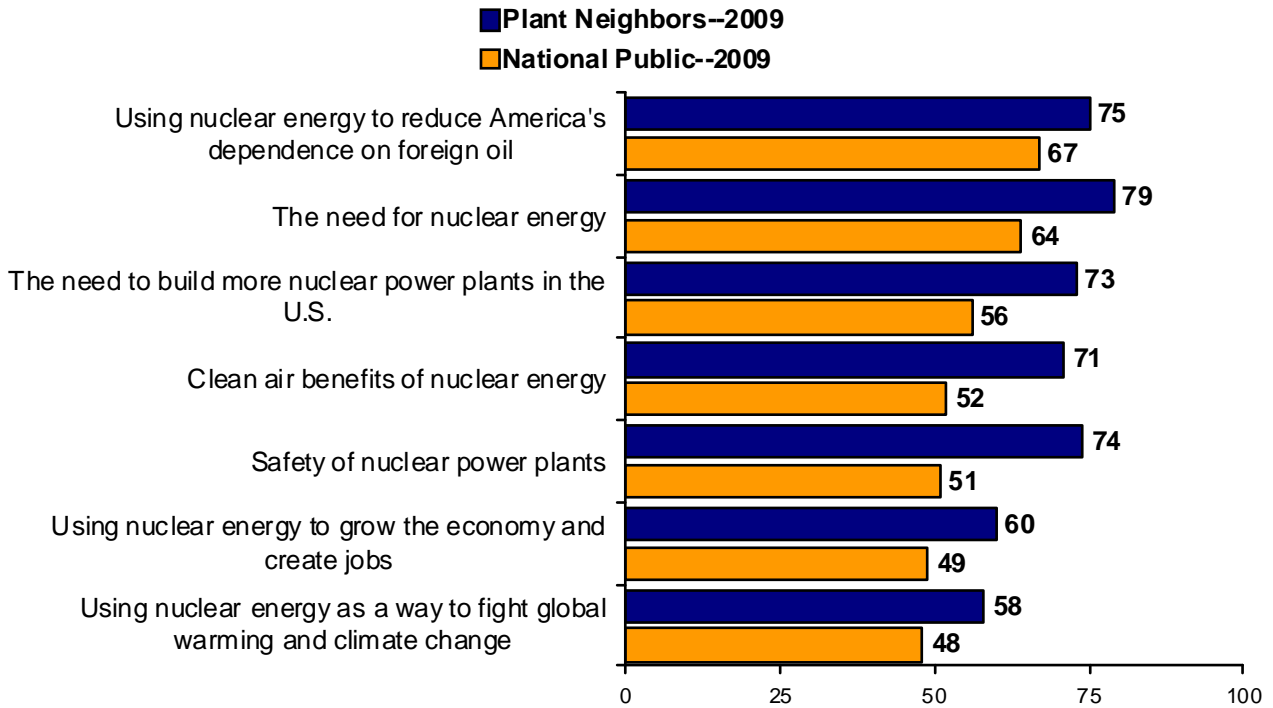


Awareness of hearing about topics that were included in both 2007 and 2009 surveys increased by 10 percentage points:

- Need to build more nuclear power plants in the U.S. – 73 percent, up from 63 percent in 2007.
- Clean air benefits of nuclear energy – 71 percent, up from 61 percent.
- Using nuclear energy as a way to fight global warming and climate change – 58 percent, up from 48 percent.

Plant neighbors are much more aware of hearing about these topics, especially clean air benefits and safety, than the general public.

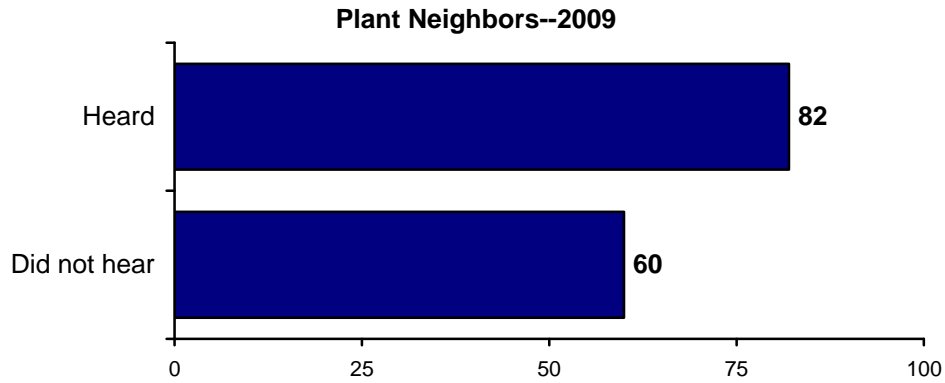
**Information Heard or Read in the Past Year on  
Benefits of Nuclear Energy and Need for More Plants:  
Plant Neighbors vs. National Public**



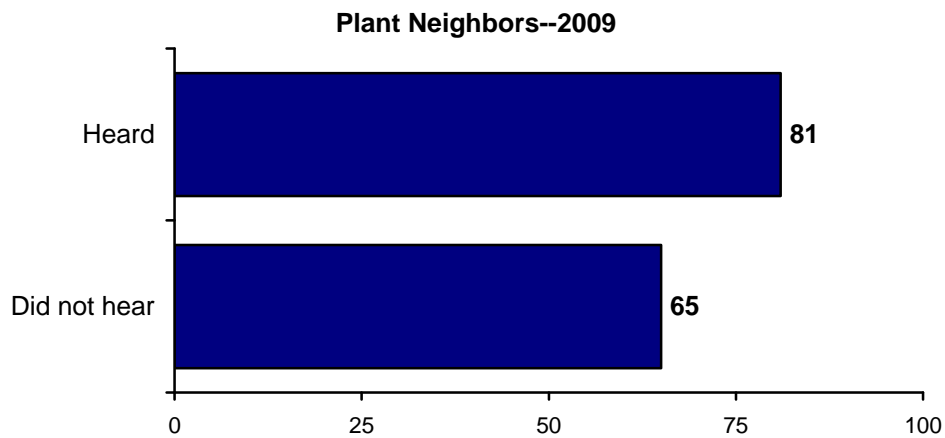
Information makes a big difference. As the graphs on the next page show, those who heard information on these topics during the past year are much more accepting of a new reactor at the plant than are those who did not hear this information.



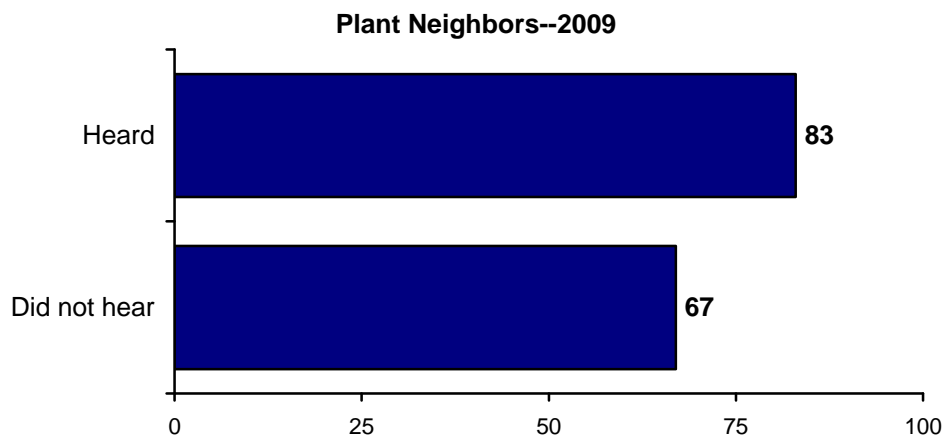
**Percent Find a New Reactor Acceptable by  
Heard/Did Not Hear about Need to Build More Nuclear Power Plants**



**Percent Find a New Reactor Acceptable by  
Heard/Did Not Hear about Clean Air Benefits**



**Percent Find a New Reactor Acceptable by Heard/Did Not Hear about  
Using Nuclear Energy to Grow Economy and Create Jobs**



## Feeling of Being Informed About the Nuclear Power Plant

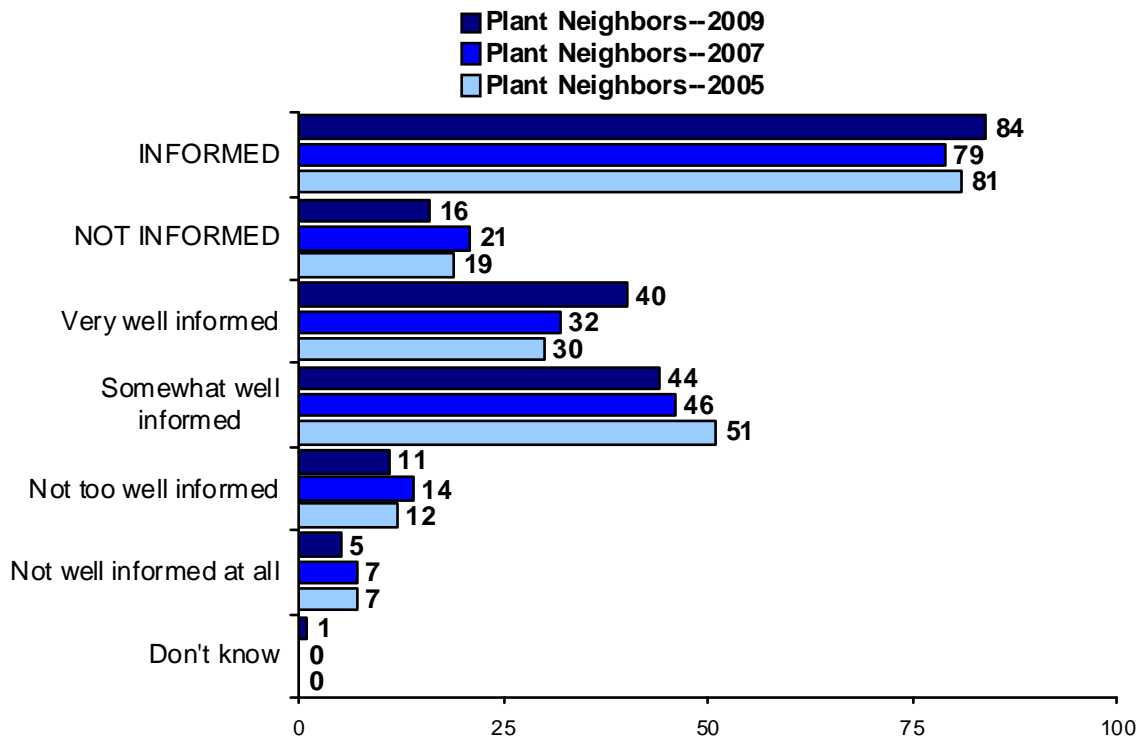
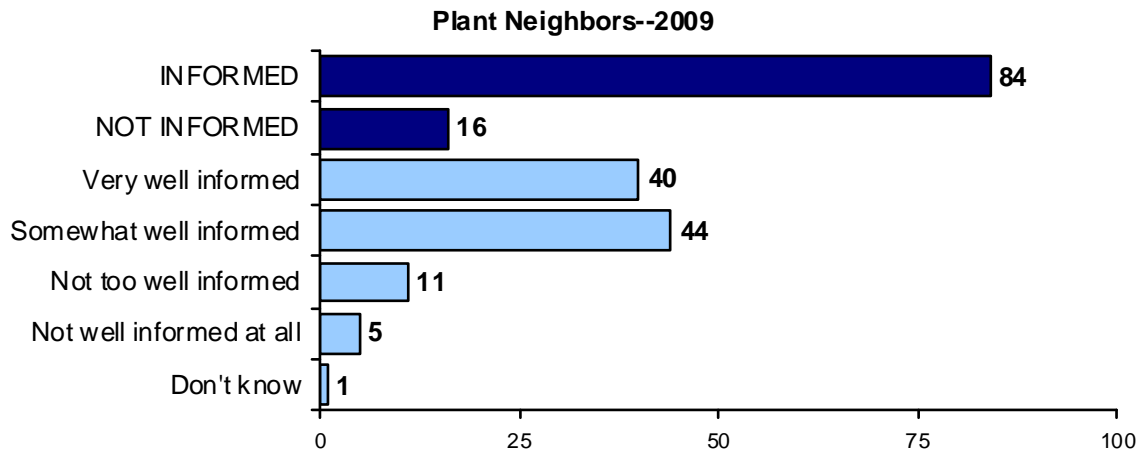
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Most plant neighbors feel at least somewhat well informed about the nuclear power plant near their home. Those feeling very well informed increased 10 percentage points – from 30 percent to 40 percent – from 2005 to 2009.

### Informed about the Nearest Nuclear Power Plant

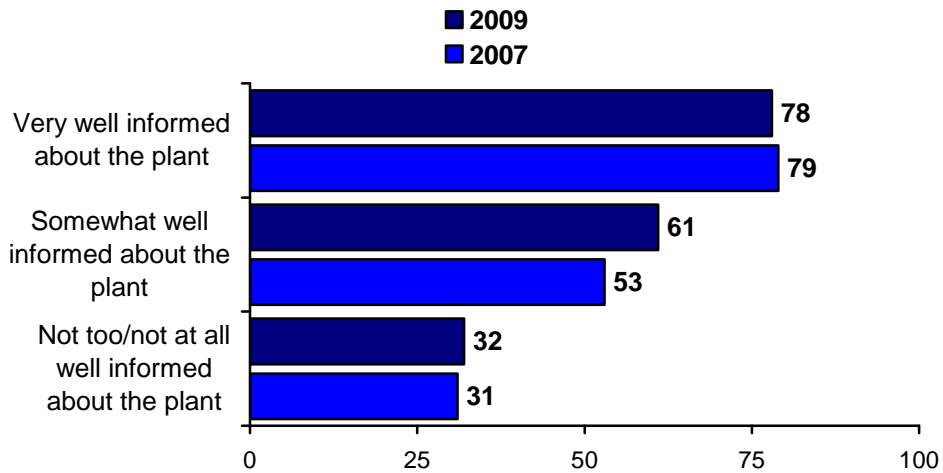
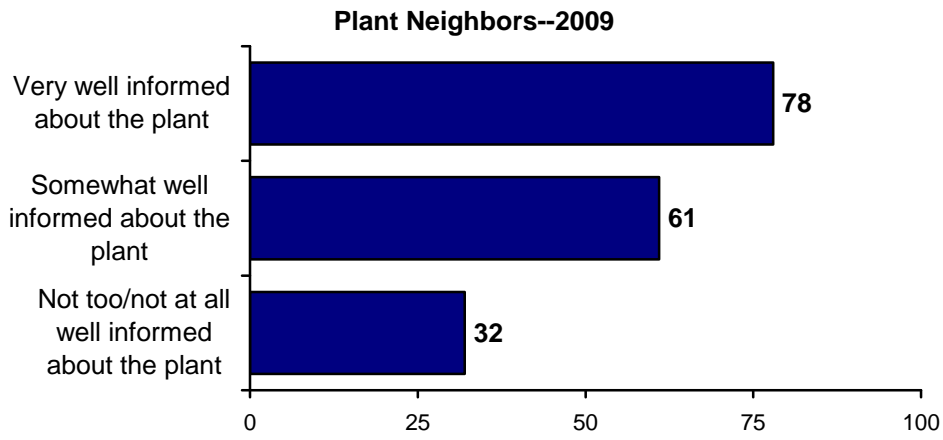
“Do you feel very well informed, somewhat well informed, not too well informed, or not well informed at all about the nuclear power plant nearest to where you live?”

*Percentages*



There is a close relationship between feeling informed about the plant and viewing the plant favorably.

**Percent Very Favorable Impression of Nearby Nuclear Power Plant,  
By Level of Feeling Informed about the Plant**



## Feeling of Being Informed About the Nuclear Power Plant: Subgroups

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All subgroups examined feel informed about the plant. More men than women feel very well informed.

### How Informed About the Nuclear Power Plant: Subgroups

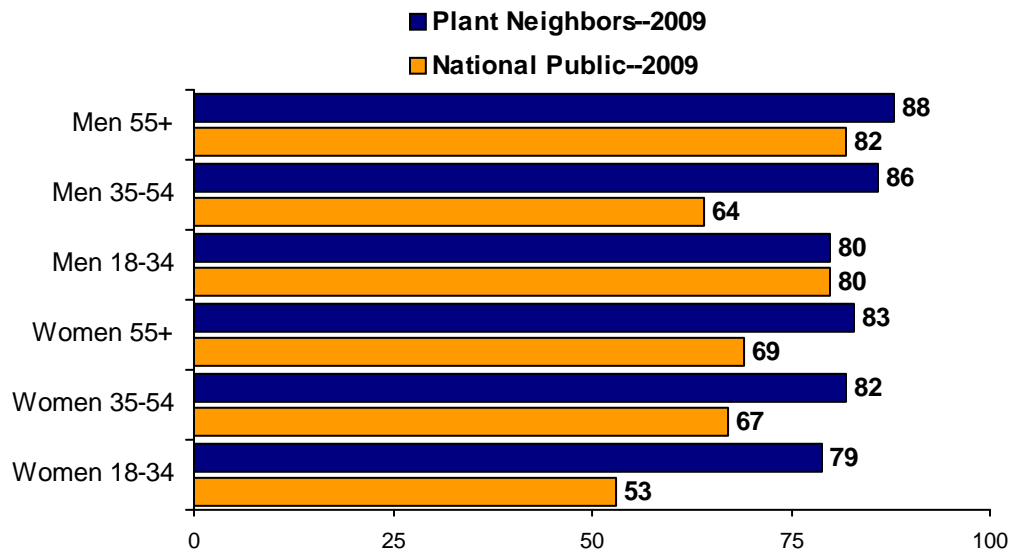
“Do you feel very well informed, somewhat well informed, not too well informed, or not well informed at all about the nuclear power plant nearest to where you live?”

	Percent Very/Somewhat Informed			Percent Very Well Informed		
	2005	2007	2009	2005	2007	2009
<b><u>Total Sample</u></b>	<b><u>81</u></b>	<b><u>79</u></b>	<b><u>84</u></b>	<b><u>30</u></b>	<b><u>32</u></b>	<b><u>40</u></b>
Northeast	81	72	79	25	27	35
Midwest	81	75	83	28	32	36
South	81	85	85	33	35	42
West	81	83	90	36	36	47
Population density:						
High	80	82	79	29	29	33
Medium	75	76	84	24	29	39
Low	84	78	86	33	35	43
COL sites	84	81	83	45	34	40
Men	85	88	87	37	42	46
Women	78	72	81	25	25	34
Years lived in the area:						
Less than 10	76	70	85	27	24	39
10 or more years	83	81	84	32	35	40
College graduate	84	78	87	29	30	41
Not college graduate	79	79	82	31	34	39
Age:						
18-34	72	63	81	24	25	38
35-54	78	79	83	26	29	39
55+	88	81	85	36	36	41
Men:						
18-34	76	76	77	26	31	40
35-54	83	86	86	30	40	46
55+	91	91	89	47	45	48
Women:						
18-34	68	51	83	22	18	36
35-54	74	73	81	23	20	33
55+	85	74	82	28	29	35
Children under age 12 living at home	73	72	81	22	27	37
Registered voter:						
Democrat	78	79	79	28	32	36
Republican	86	82	90	35	37	46
Independent	80	81	85	27	31	40

## Women and Younger Audiences

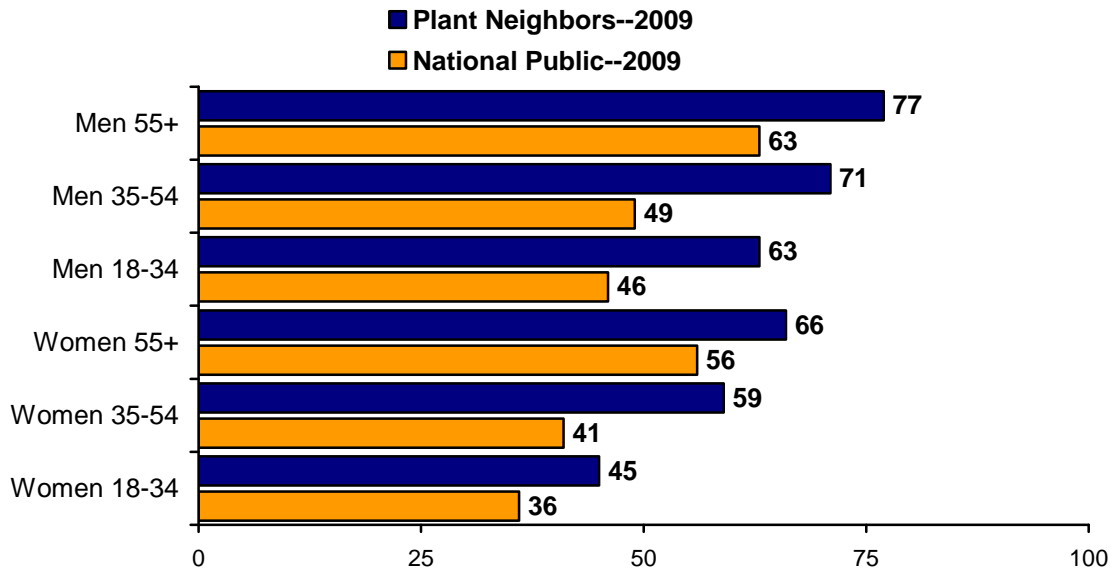
Surveys among the national general public find young women less favorable to nuclear energy and less aware of its clean air benefits than other groups. Among plant neighbors, women under age 34 associate nuclear energy less with clean air than other groups do. However, gender and age differences in favorability to nuclear energy are much less notable among plant neighbors than among the general public.

**Percent Favor Nuclear Energy, By Age and Gender<sup>4</sup>**



**Percent Associate Clean Air "A Lot" with Nuclear Energy,**

"Do you associate nuclear energy a lot, a little, or not at all with clean air?"

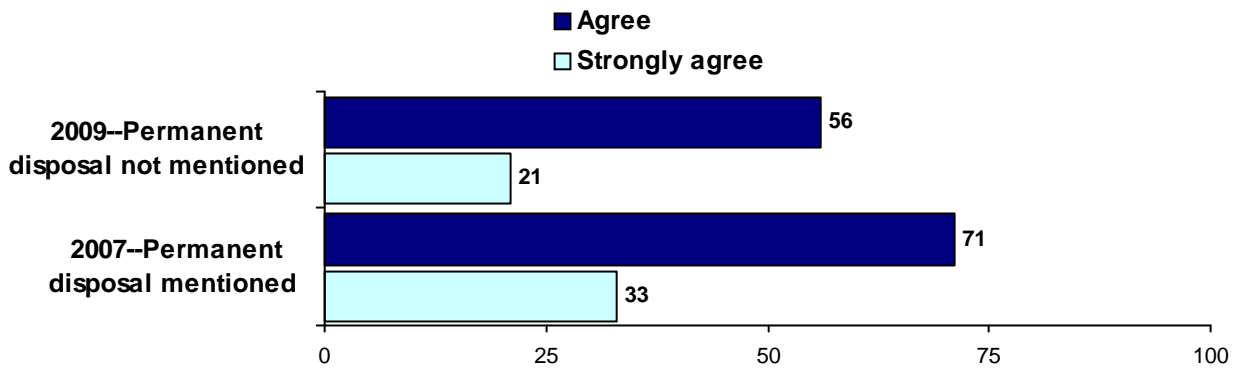


<sup>4</sup> The age breaks for the All U.S. Adults survey are: 18-34, 35- 49, and 50+

## Used Fuel Management

Following the federal government’s decision to terminate the Yucca Mountain project, plant neighbors expressed more clearly than ever that they do not want waste to stay at the plant sites and prefer centralized storage options. Now, 56 percent agree that nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site, and 21 percent strongly agree. In 2007, 71 percent agreed that nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site until it is moved to a permanent disposal facility, and 31 percent agreed strongly. This difference between the two years could reflect a greater confidence in the safety of waste storage at the plant when that storage is temporary.

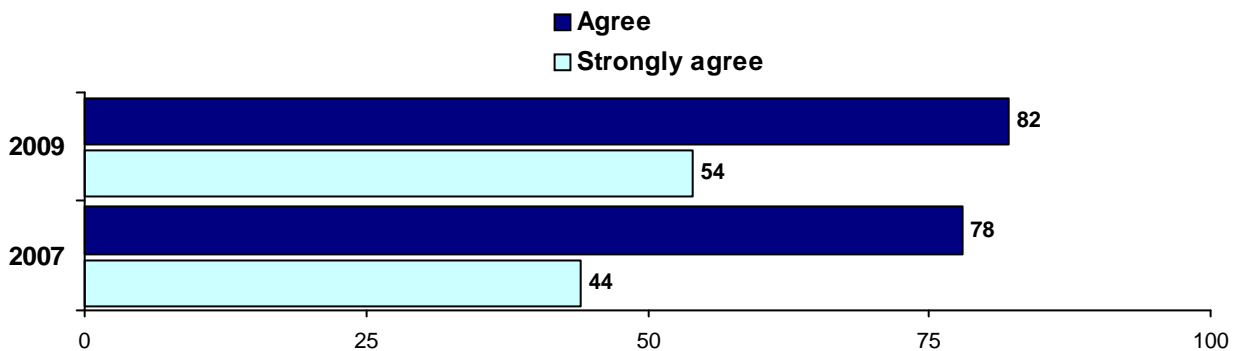
**Percent Agree and Strongly Agree that Nuclear Waste Can be Stored Safely at the Plant Site: Plant Neighbors 2007 and 2009: Different Wording**



Two centralized storage options make sense to plant neighbors:

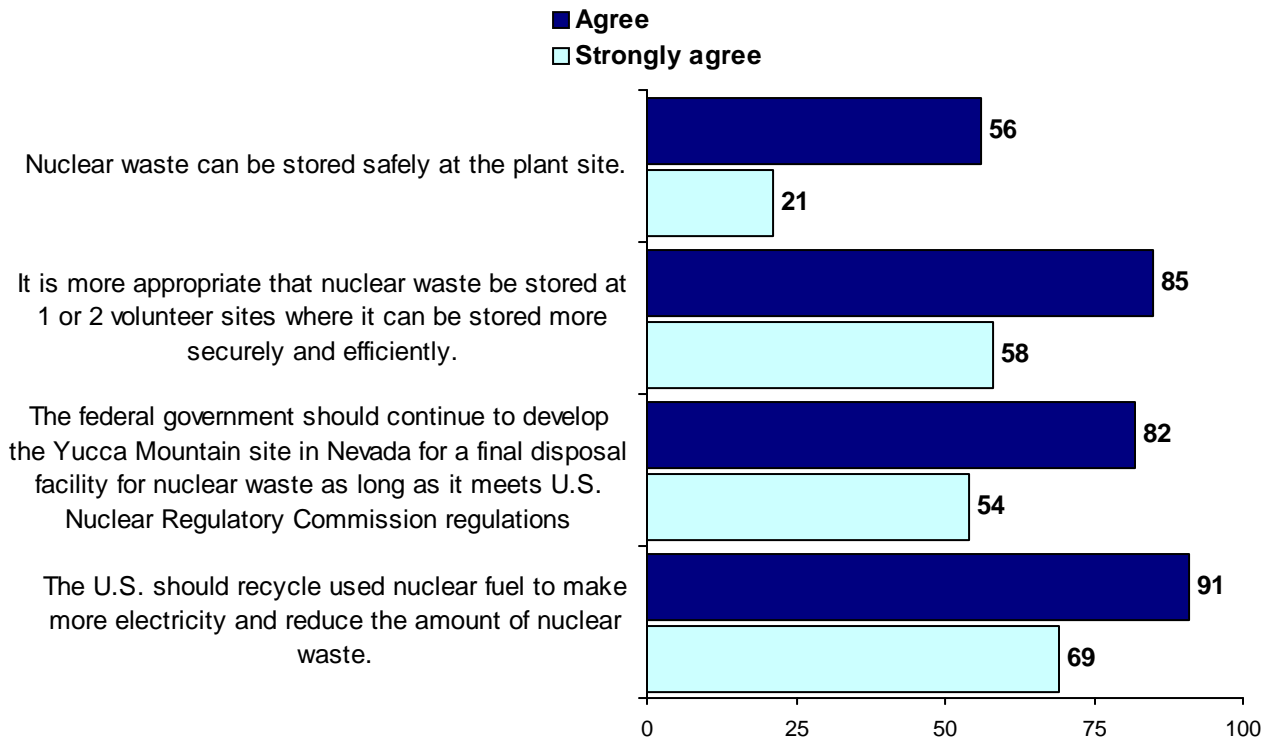
- 85 percent in 2009 think that it is more appropriate that nuclear waste be stored at 1 or 2 volunteer sites where it can be stored more securely and efficiently (not asked in previous surveys). *Note that this question was always asked after the question about the safety of storage at the plant site and so did not influence the opinions about plant site storage.*
- 82 percent in 2009 agree that the federal government should continue to develop the Yucca Mountain site for a national disposal facility for nuclear waste as long as it meets NRC regulations – up from 78 percent in 2007. And 54 percent agree strongly – up from 44 percent in 2007 (+ 10 percentage points).

**Percent Agree and Strongly Agree that the Federal Government Should Continue to Develop Yucca Mountain: Plant Neighbors 2007 and 2009**



Most (91 percent) believe that the U.S. should recycle used nuclear fuel to make more electricity and reduce the amount of nuclear waste. Surveys of plant neighbors and the general public consistently find that the recycling concept has wide appeal.

**Percent Agree and Strongly Agree with Statements about Used Fuel Management:  
Plant Neighbors 2009**



**Agreement with Statements about Used Fuel Management:  
Plant Neighbors 2009**

“Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements about nuclear waste management.” *Percentages*

	TOTAL AGREE	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
Nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site.	56	21	35	15	22	7
It is more appropriate that nuclear waste be stored at 1 or 2 volunteer sites where it can be stored more securely and efficiently.	85	58	27	5	6	5
The federal government should continue to develop the Yucca Mountain site in Nevada for a final disposal facility for nuclear waste as long as it meets U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations.	82	54	28	5	6	7
The U.S. should recycle used nuclear fuel to make more electricity and reduce the amount of nuclear waste.	91	69	22	1	3	4

**Subgroups (See Next Page)**

There are some significant subgroup differences, especially by region; plant neighbors in the Northeast are least confident that nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site.

However, the similarities among the subgroups are more remarkable than the differences.



## Used Fuel Management: Subgroup Attitudes

Subgroup differences on these used fuel management topics are minimal.

### Percent Agree and Strongly Agree with Statements about Nuclear Waste: Subgroups

	U.S. Should Recycle Used Nuclear Fuel		Store at Volunteer Sites		Continue To Develop Yucca Mtn.		Waste Can Be Safely Stored At Plant Site	
	Strongly		Strongly		Strongly		Strongly	
	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree
<b>Total Sample</b>	<u>91</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>21</u>
Northeast	88	67	80	52	79	52	45	18
Midwest	93	70	87	61	81	54	57	20
South	92	69	86	60	84	54	58	23
West	92	73	87	56	83	57	63	21
Population density:								
High	90	66	81	54	81	51	51	17
Medium	89	68	87	58	82	51	52	21
Low	93	71	86	59	82	57	59	23
COL sites	91	67	84	59	81	56	52	19
Men	93	75	87	62	85	62	58	24
Women	90	65	83	54	80	48	54	19
Years lived in the area:								
Less than 10 years	92	70	84	56	80	53	57	19
10 years or more	91	69	85	58	82	54	55	21
College graduate	92	71	84	57	81	55	55	21
Not college graduate	91	69	86	58	83	53	56	21
Age:								
18-34	92	64	87	56	84	48	70	22
35-54	94	72	86	55	77	49	59	24
55+	90	69	84	60	84	58	53	19
Men:								
18-34	97	69	91	60	89	54	69	23
35-54	96	77	87	61	80	58	58	25
55+	91	74	86	63	87	66	57	23
Women:								
18-34	88	60	83	52	81	43	71	21
35-54	92	68	84	50	76	43	59	24
55+	89	64	83	57	82	51	49	16
Children under age 12 living at home	93	67	88	59	81	52	64	23
Women with children under 12 at home	91	59	88	58	78	45	62	17
Income:								
Less than \$50,000	90	66	86	57	82	54	57	19
\$50-\$75,000	92	71	85	58	83	56	53	23
More than \$75,000	93	73	87	60	83	56	60	21
Registered voter:								
Democrat	91	67	85	57	78	48	54	17
Republican	94	68	88	63	88	64	64	29
Independent	93	74	84	55	82	53	53	18

## Emergency Preparedness

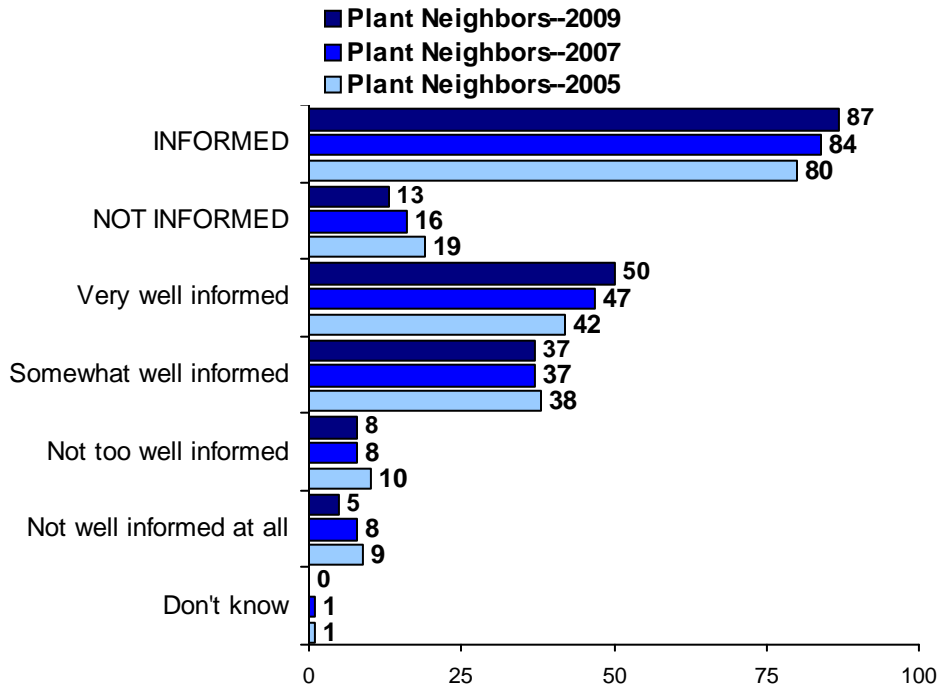
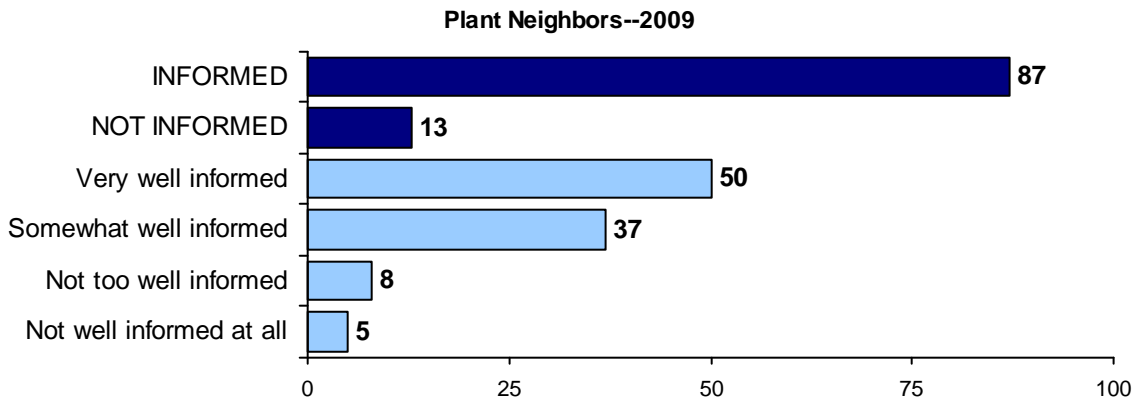
Most plant neighbors (87 percent) feel at least somewhat well informed about what to do in case of an emergency at the nuclear power plant. The numbers on this measure improved steadily from 2005 to 2009.

At the time of an emergency, most would refer to the radio or TV to find out about the situation and what they should do. Although most would not turn to written materials at that time, three-fourths recall receiving and reading them.

### How Well Informed about First Thing to Do In Case of an Emergency

“Do you feel very well informed, somewhat well informed, not too well informed, or not well informed at all about what is the first thing to do in case of an emergency at the nuclear power plant nearest to where you live?”

*Percentages*



## Where to Get Information about the Situation and What Local Residents Should Do In Case of an Emergency at the Plant

“In the event of an emergency at the nuclear power plant, where or how would you get information about the situation at the plant and what, if anything, local residents should do?”

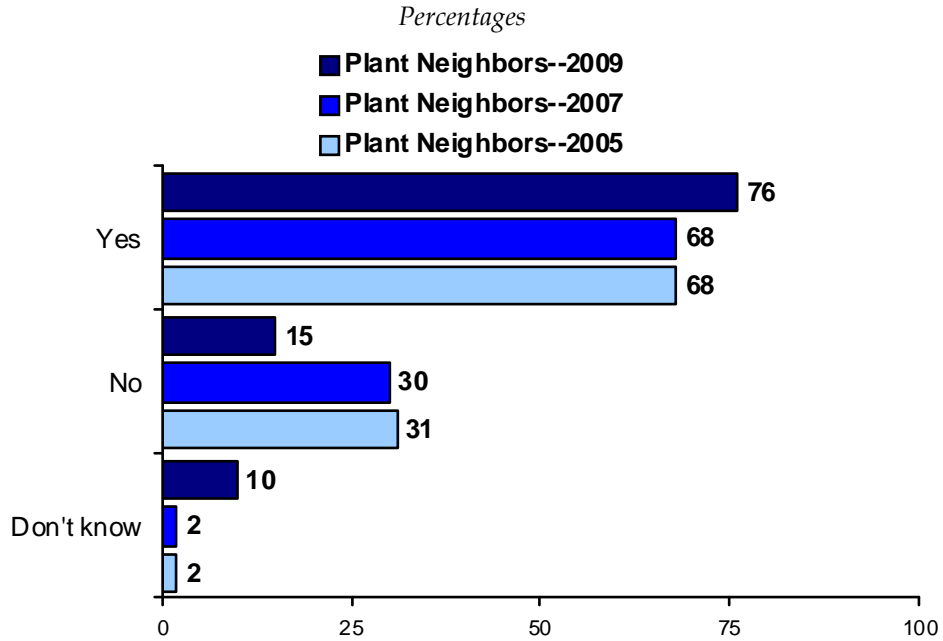
*Percentages*

	<b>Plant Neighbors--2009</b>
<b>Information:</b>	
Radio	61
TV	42
Information, information they sent me	9
Booklet or brochure	6
Calendar	2
Telephone Monitoring System	2
<b>What residents should do:</b>	
Listen for siren	28
Follow evacuation orders/plans	6
Leave/evacuate	4
Call police/fire department	3
Internet	3
Close windows and doors, stay inside	1
Contact/go to emergency center	1
Contact school	1
Doesn't matter, won't live	1
Take the pill supplied by the nuclear plant	1
Other	1
Don't know	5

## Attentiveness to Materials from the Utility, Nuclear Power Plant, or a Government Agency And What to Do In Case of an Emergency at That Plant

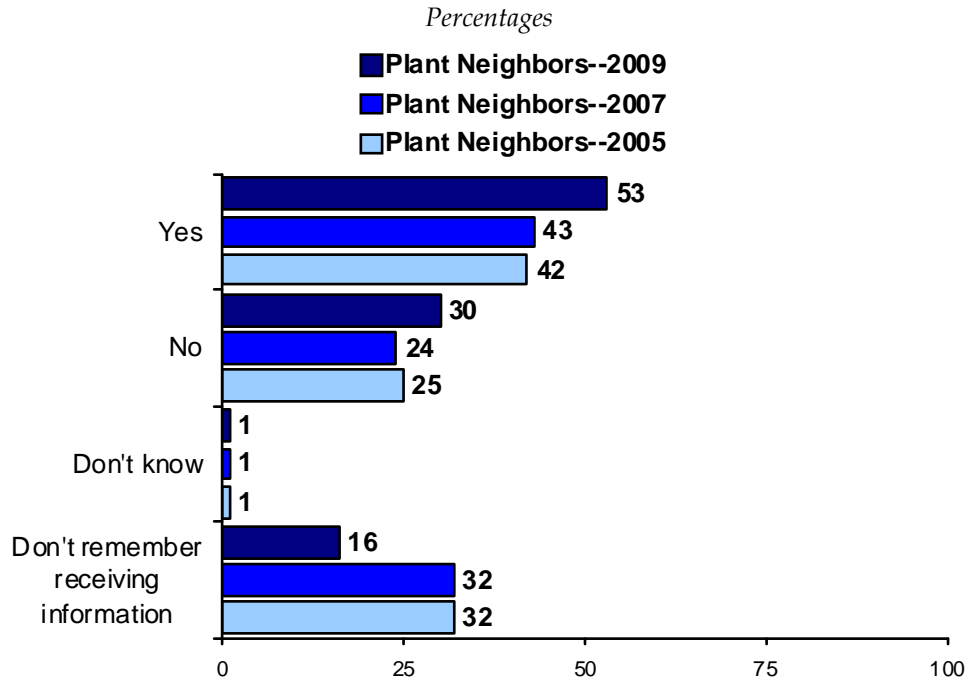
"Have you ever received any information from the utility, the nuclear power plant, or a government agency about what to do in case of an emergency at that plant?"

**Wording slightly different in 2005 and 2007:** "Have you received any materials from the nuclear power plant with information about what to do in case of an emergency at that plant?"



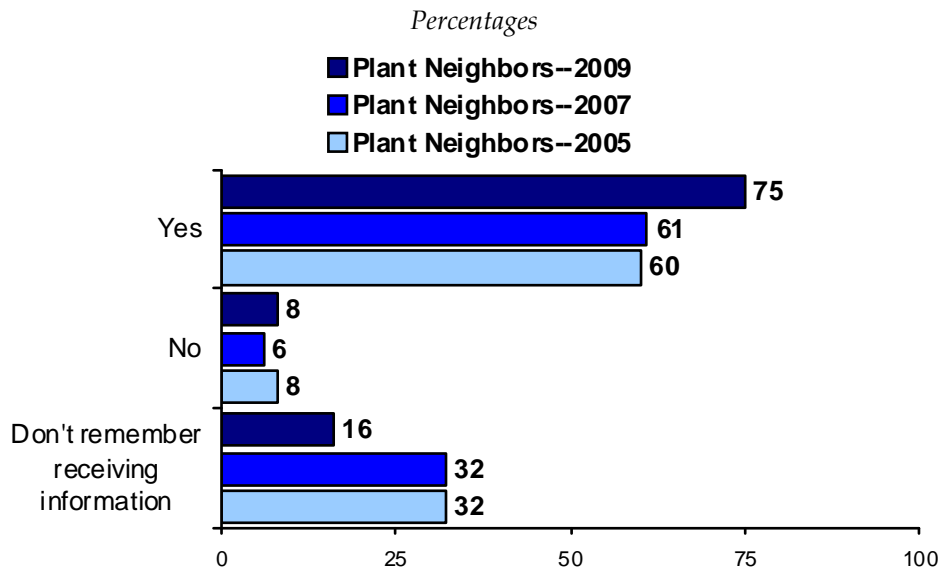
## Ability to Find Materials Easily

“Do you keep this information in a place where you can find it easily?”



## Reading of the Materials

“Have you read this information?”



## **Preferred Information Source in the Event of a Crime at the Nuclear Plant**

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The survey asked plant neighbors whom they'd like to hear from first in case of a crime involving the plant. A large majority, 59 percent, preferred to hear from someone from the plant—especially the person responsible for emergency management at the plant. Only 16 percent would like to hear first from the head of the FBI on the scene.

### **Preferred Information Source in the Event of a Crime at the Nuclear Plant**

In the case of a crime involving a nuclear power plant, the police and possibly the FBI would be on the scene. In that case, which one of the following would you like to hear from first with information about the situation at the plant? RANDOMIZE. READ LIST SLOWLY.

	%
The person responsible for emergency management at the nuclear power plant	31
The person responsible for security at the nuclear power plant	14
The nuclear power plant manager	14
<b>(Total, someone from the plant</b>	<b>59)</b>
The head FBI agent on the scene	16
The head of the local police	16
The top elected official in your local community	5
Any of the above	1
None of the above	1
(Don't know)	4

## Information Sources

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The main sources of information about the nuclear power plant are the news media and plant sources: booklets or brochures from the plant, people who work at the plant, and visits to the plant or information center. A new item, the Internet, was included in 2009; just under half rated the Internet useful.

### Rating Usefulness of Sources of Information about The Nearest Nuclear Power Plant

“How useful has each of the following been as a source of information about the nuclear power plant nearest to you – very useful, somewhat useful, not too useful, or not useful at all?”

*Percentages*

	<b>Plant Neighbors--2009</b>					
	<b>Total USEFUL</b>	<b>Very Useful</b>	<b>Somewhat Useful</b>	<b>Not Too Useful</b>	<b>Not Useful At All</b>	<b>(Don't Know/Not Applicable)</b>
Local news media	79	35	44	9	11	1
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	78	43	36	7	10	5
People who work at the plant	67	37	30	10	15	8
General word of mouth in the community	59	22	37	19	20	2
Visits to the plant or information center	53	28	25	11	22	14
Local elected officials	49	17	32	22	27	3
The Internet	46	20	26	13	23	19
Antinuclear organizations	30	9	21	19	41	10

The most highly rated sources for accurate and reliable information about the nuclear power plant also are plant sources:

- Safety, radiation, and environmental experts at the local plant
- Booklets or brochures from the local plant
- “People you know” who work at the local plant

Those findings are unchanged from previous years.

Antinuclear organizations again were rated least useful, and 74 percent rated them a fair or poor choice for accurate information about nuclear energy, mostly poor.

### Rating Sources for Accurate and Reliable Information about Nuclear Energy

“Please tell me if you think each of the following would be an excellent, good, fair, or poor source of accurate and reliable information about nuclear energy?”

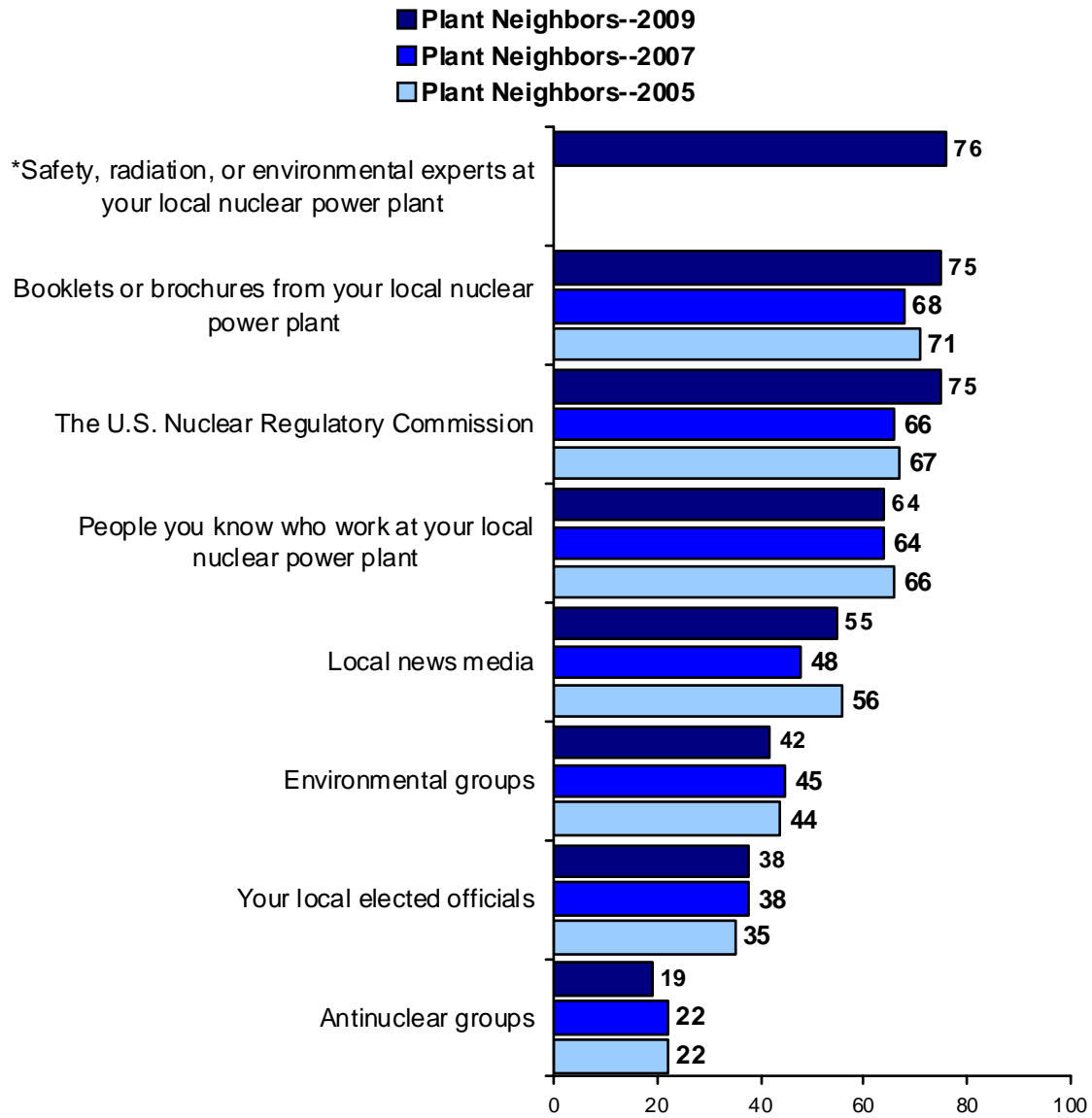
*Percentages*

	Excellent & Good	Plant Neighbors--2009				(Don't Know)
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	
Safety, radiation, or environmental experts at your local nuclear power plant	76	40	36	15	5	3
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	75	33	42	17	7	2
The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	75	36	39	15	6	3
People you know who work at your local nuclear power plant	64	32	33	19	8	9
Local news media	55	17	38	32	12	1
Environmental groups	42	12	30	31	24	4
Your local elected officials	38	10	28	37	24	2
Antinuclear groups	19	6	14	27	47	6



## Rating Sources for Accurate and Reliable Information

*Percent Who Said "Excellent or Good"*



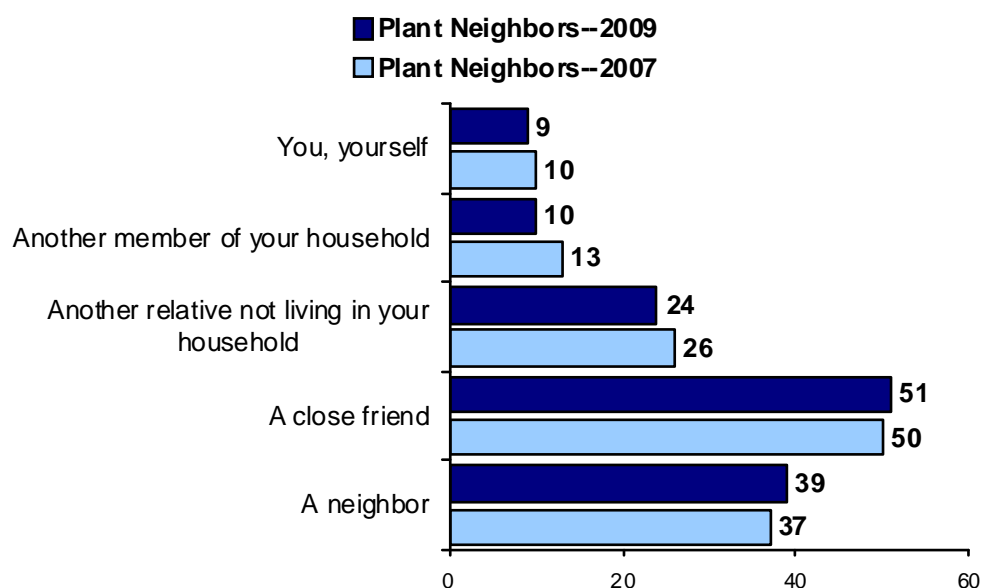
\*This source of information was not asked in previous surveys.

## Familiarity

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Familiarity with people who work at the plant is a major factor in the high level of support found in plant communities. Households with people who are employed by an electric company were not included in this survey. However, 19 percent said that either they or someone from their household had worked at a nuclear power plant, and half reported that a close friend works or worked at a nuclear power plant. These persons could include contractors or service providers. Altogether, 67 percent know someone who works or worked at a nuclear power plant. Most are highly favorable to the plant.

### Percent Who Said that People They Know Work or Have Worked At a Nuclear Power Plant



### Attitudes and Familiarity (Percentages)

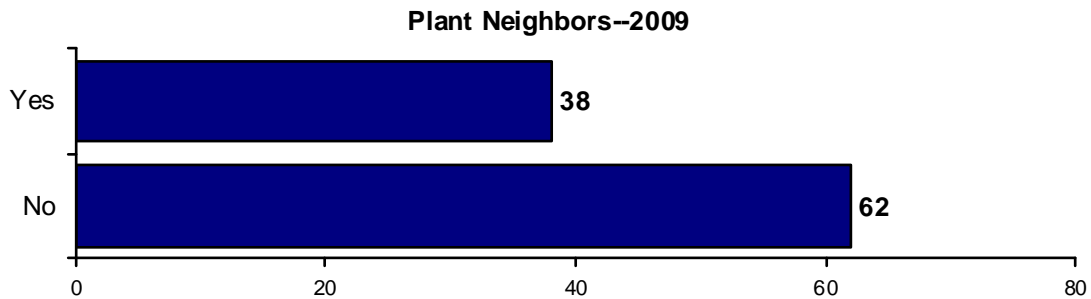
	Know Someone Who Worked at Plant	Know Someone Who Worked at Plant
Favorable impression of plant	94	91
Very favorable impression	79	68
New reactor acceptable	89	81

## Energy Education Center Visits

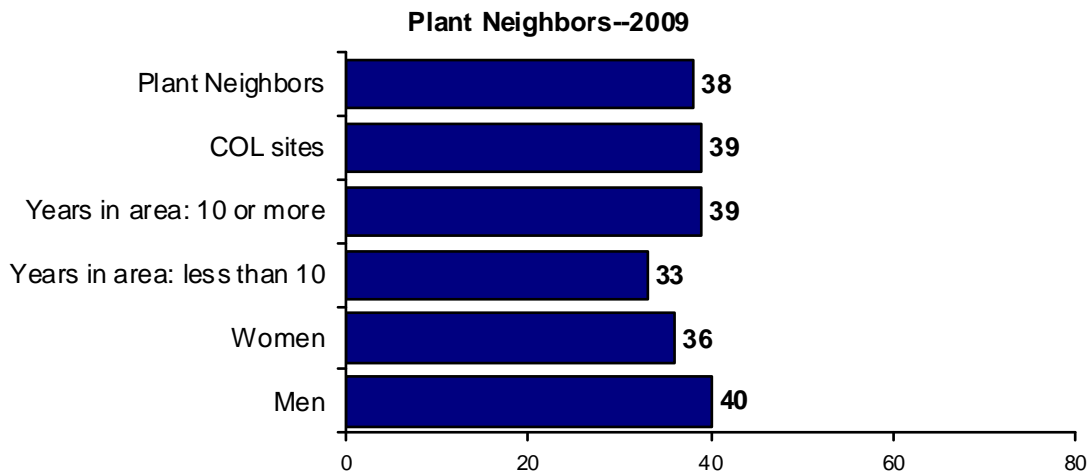
In the 2009 survey, one goal was to gain plant neighbor input for naming the center where people go to see exhibits and learn more about energy, nuclear energy, and the local nuclear power plant. Therefore, this place was initially described by function and not named. A total of 38 percent said they had visited such a place, and two-thirds of those who had made a visit said that the experience made them more favorable to nuclear energy. Thus, one-fourth of all plant neighbors became more favorable to nuclear energy as a result of visiting one of these centers.

### Visit to an Energy Education Center

“Some nuclear power plants have a place where people can go to see exhibits and learn more about energy, nuclear energy, and the local nuclear power plant. Have you ever visited a place like that?”



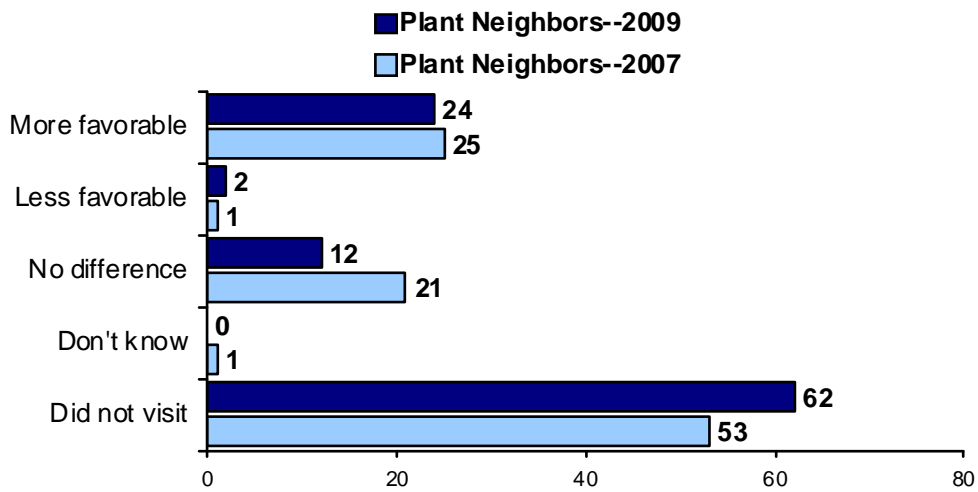
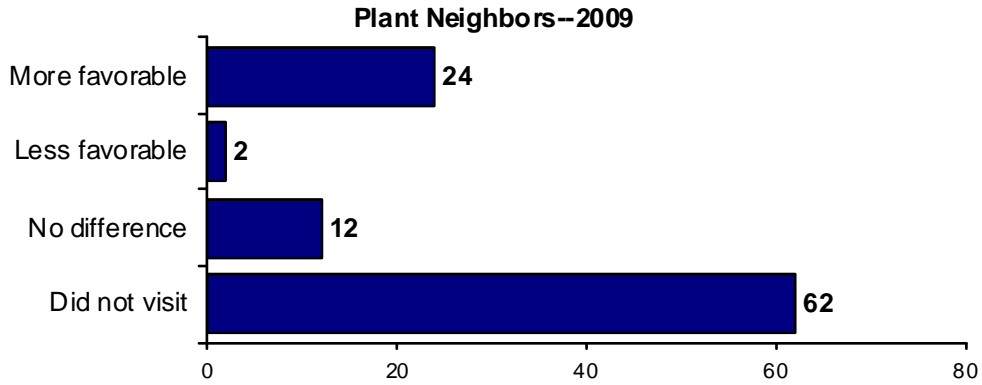
### Percent Who Visited an Energy Education Center



## Impact of Visit to Energy Education Center

“Did that visit give you a more favorable impression of nuclear energy than you had before, a less favorable impression, or did it not make any difference?”

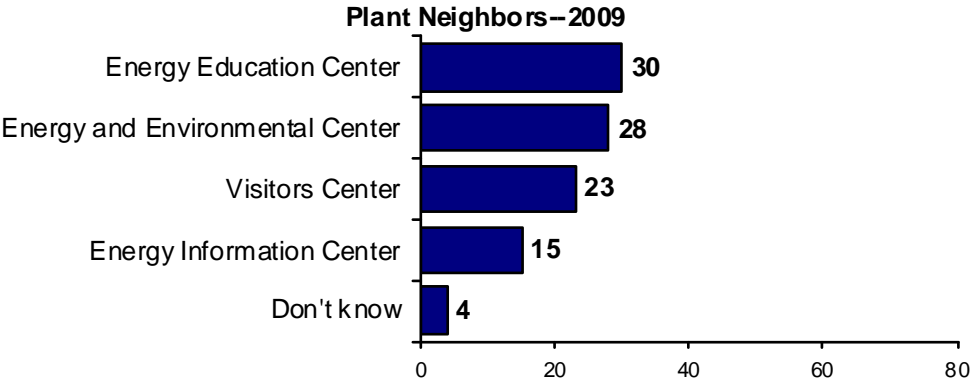
*Percentages*



The survey asked about the best name for what has typically been referred to as an energy information center. Energy Education Center and Energy and Environmental Center were preferred. The traditional term, Energy Information Center, was liked least.

### Name that Would Attract Most Visitors

“In your opinion, which one of the following names would attract the most visitors to a place with exhibits about energy, nuclear energy, and the local nuclear power plant?”



FINDINGS AT A GLANCE:  
SUMMARY TABLES AND  
QUESTIONNAIRE WITH  
DATA

## SUMMARY: PLANT NEIGHBORS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC

*Percentages*

	Plant Neighbors			All U.S. Adults		
	2005	2007	2009	2005	2007	2009
Nuclear energy will be important	89	91	92	83	80	84
Agree with:						
Renew license of nuclear power plants that continue to meet federal safety standards	90	90	93	85	81	84
Keep the option to build more nuclear plants	83	84	86	74	72	n/a
Electric utilities should prepare now so new nuclear plants could be built if needed in next decade	81	85	87	77	71	76
Definitely build more nuclear plants	73	77	79	58	56	62
Favor use of nuclear energy	83	82	84	70	63	70
Strongly favor	53	52	58	32	26	30
Favorable impression of nearest nuclear power plant and how it has operated recently	87	86	90	n/a	n/a	n/a
Very favorable	60	57	63	n/a	n/a	n/a
Perceive that majority in community have favorable impression of nearest nuclear power plant	75	73	78	n/a	n/a	n/a
Associate nuclear energy with:						
Reliability	92	90	92	77	77	n/a
Efficiency	89	90	92	78	76	83
Clean air	85	87	89	75	68	79
Energy security	85	85	89	73	68	n/a
Affordability	80	84	86	72	67	n/a
Job creation	n/a	n/a	88	n/a	n/a	n/a
Solution for climate change or global warming	n/a	n/a	68			n/a
Sustainability	85	n/a	n/a	75	72	n/a
Energy independence	n/a	87	n/a	n/a	72	82
Associate nuclear energy "a lot" with:						
Reliability	67	65	72	50	45	n/a
Efficiency	68	67	71	51	45	50
Clean air	66	66	67	55	42	49
Energy security	56	60	63	40	33	n/a
Job creation	n/a	n/a	58	n/a	n/a	n/a
Affordability	50	53	50	42	31	n/a
Solution for climate change or global warming	n/a	n/a	35	n/a	n/a	n/a
Energy independence	n/a	62	n/a	n/a	42	52
Sustainability	59	n/a	n/a	42	39	n/a
Consider (nearest*) nuclear power plant safe (Unsafe)	85* (8)	86* (8)	88* (7)	66 (16)	54 (24)	65 (20)
Confident in this company's ability to operate a nuclear power plant safely	88	87	91	n/a	n/a	n/a
This company is doing a good job of protecting the environment	84	81	86	n/a	n/a	n/a
This company is involved in the community (as a good citizen*)	83*	77	83	n/a	n/a	n/a
The plant helps the local economy	n/a	n/a	90	n/a	n/a	n/a
There are good jobs for local people at the plant and in local businesses that provide services to the plant	n/a	n/a	89	n/a	n/a	n/a
Acceptable to add a new nuclear reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant	76	71	76	73	66	70

*Continues*

	Plant Neighbors			All U.S. Adults		
	2005	2007	2009	2005	2007	2009
Heard or read about:						
Using nuclear energy to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil	n/a	n/a	75	n/a	n/a	n/a
The need for nuclear energy	n/a	n/a	79	n/a	57	64
Need to build more nuclear power plants in the U.S.	63	63	73	n/a	48	56
Clean air benefits of nuclear energy	61	61	71	n/a	46	52
Safety of nuclear power plants	n/a	n/a	74	n/a	n/a	51
Using nuclear energy to fuel (*grow) the economy and create jobs	n/a	n/a	60	n/a	n/a	*49
Using nuclear energy as a way to fight (*solution) global warming and climate change	n/a	*48	58	n/a	*39	48
Reliability of nuclear power plants	60	65	n/a	n/a	43	n/a
Efficiency of nuclear power plants	62	62	n/a	n/a	45	n/a
Development of a federal nuclear waste disposal facility at Yucca Mountain	54	54	n/a	n/a	42	n/a
Transportation of nuclear waste to an isolated disposal facility at Yucca Mountain	54	53	n/a	n/a	42	n/a
Agree that nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site (*until it is moved to a permanent disposal facility)	*72	*71	56	n/a	*53	*63
Agree that the federal government should continue to develop the Yucca Mountain site (*in Nevada) as long as it continues to meet U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations	83	78	*82	n/a	66	*77
It is more appropriate that nuclear waste be stored at 1 or 2 volunteer sites where it can be stored more securely and efficiently	n/a	n/a	85	n/a	n/a	80
The U.S. should recycle used nuclear fuel to make more electricity and reduce the amount of nuclear waste	n/a	n/a	91	n/a	n/a	n/a
Feel <u>informed</u> about:						
Nearest nuclear power plant	81	79	84	n/a	n/a	n/a
The first thing to do in case of an emergency at the nearest nuclear power plant	80	84	87	n/a	n/a	n/a
Feel <u>very well informed</u> about:						
Nearest nuclear power plant	30	32	40	n/a	n/a	n/a
The first thing to do in case of an emergency at the nearest nuclear power plant	42	47	50	n/a	n/a	n/a
Accurate and reliable source of information about nuclear energy:						
Safety, radiation, or environmental experts at your local nuclear power plant	n/a	n/a	76	n/a	n/a	n/a
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	71	68	75	n/a	n/a	n/a
The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	67	66	75	n/a	n/a	n/a
People you know who work at your local nuclear power plant	66	64	64	n/a	n/a	n/a
Local news media	56	48	55	n/a	n/a	n/a
Environmental groups	44	45	42	n/a	n/a	n/a
Your local elected officials	35	38	38	n/a	n/a	n/a
Antinuclear groups	22	22	19	n/a	n/a	n/a



## SUMMARY PLANT NEIGHBORS 2009: REGIONS, POPULATION DENSITY, AND COL SITES

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*Regions: Percentages*

	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Nuclear energy will be important	90	94	94	92
Agree with:				
Renew license of nuclear power plants that continue to meet federal safety standards	87	95	94	94
Keep the option to build more nuclear plants	79	86	90	90
Electric utilities should prepare now so new nuclear plants could be built if needed in next decade	81	89	90	88
Definitely build more nuclear plants	72	78	83	85
Favor use of nuclear energy	77	85	86	87
Strongly favor	50	53	64	64
Favorable impression of nearest nuclear power plant and how it has operated recently	80	92	93	94
Very favorable	48	60	71	75
Perceive that majority in community have favorable impression of nearest nuclear power plant	65	80	84	82
Associate nuclear energy with:				
Reliability	91	92	94	93
Efficiency	88	90	94	94
Clean air	83	89	92	91
Energy security	84	91	90	92
Job creation	82	88	90	90
Affordability	83	87	88	88
Solution for climate change or global warming	63	73	70	65
Associate nuclear energy "a lot" with:				
Reliability	65	70	78	76
Efficiency	62	69	77	76
Clean air	61	65	72	72
Energy security	59	60	65	70
Job creation	51	56	61	63
Affordability	43	49	56	52
Solution for climate change or global warming	34	35	38	33
Consider nearest nuclear power plant safe	78	89	92	92
(Unsafe)	(14)	(4)	(4)	(5)
Confident in this company's ability to operate a nuclear power plant safely	82	94	94	94
This company is doing a good job of protecting the environment	75	88	89	92
This company is involved in the community	69	83	90	88
The plant helps the local economy	85	92	91	92
There are good jobs for local people at the plant and in local businesses that provide services to the plant	83	90	91	94
Acceptable to add a new nuclear reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant	65	79	81	81

*Continues*

Regions: Percentages

	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
Heard or read about:				
Using nuclear energy to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil	73	70	77	80
The need for nuclear energy	73	76	82	84
Need to build more nuclear power plants in the U.S.	69	69	76	79
Clean air benefits of nuclear energy	69	64	74	79
Safety of nuclear power plants	72	71	73	81
Using nuclear energy to grow the economy and create jobs	56	58	63	60
Using nuclear energy as a way to fight global warming and climate change	59	52	59	62
Agree that nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site	45	57	58	63
Agree it is more appropriate that nuclear waste be stored at 1 or 2 volunteer sites where it can be stored more securely and efficiently	80	87	86	87
Agree that the federal government should continue to develop the Yucca Mountain site in Nevada as long as it continues to meet U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations	79	81	84	83
The U.S. should recycle used nuclear fuel to make more electricity and reduce the amount of nuclear waste	88	93	92	92
Feel <u>informed</u> about:				
Nearest nuclear power plant	79	83	85	90
The first thing to do in case of an emergency at the nearest nuclear power plant	85	87	89	87
Feel <u>very well informed</u> about:				
Nearest nuclear power plant	35	36	42	47
The first thing to do in case of an emergency at the nearest nuclear power plant	48	47	53	54
Useful source of information about the nearest nuclear power plant:				
Local news media	75	78	83	78
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	70	82	80	82
General word of mouth in the community	55	57	61	61
People who work at the plant	54	71	71	73
Visits to the plant of information center	45	52	54	61
Local elected officials	43	45	52	57
The Internet	43	43	47	51
Antinuclear organizations	37	26	29	30
Accurate and reliable source of information about nuclear energy:				
Safety, radiation, or environmental experts at your local nuclear power plant	70	76	80	80
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	64	76	79	81
The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	73	75	75	78
People you know who work at your local nuclear power plant	57	65	65	70
Local news media	50	55	59	56
Environmental groups	44	41	43	36
Your local elected officials	34	34	40	44
Antinuclear groups	21	19	18	20

*Population Density: Percentages*

	<b>High Population Density</b>	<b>Medium Population Density</b>	<b>Low Population Density</b>
Nuclear energy will be important	90	92	94
Agree with:			
Renew license of nuclear power plants that continue to meet federal safety standards	90	89	94
Keep the option to build more nuclear plants	85	82	88
Electric utilities should prepare now so new nuclear plants could be built if needed in next decade	84	86	89
Definitely build more nuclear plants	75	76	82
Favor use of nuclear energy	80	81	86
Strongly favor	55	54	60
Favorable impression of nearest nuclear power plant and how it has operated recently	88	87	92
Very favorable	58	61	66
Perceive that majority in community have favorable impression of nearest nuclear power plant	72	70	83
Associate nuclear energy with:			
Reliability	90	94	93
Efficiency	91	89	93
Clean air	86	91	90
Energy security	89	88	90
Job creation	81	84	91
Affordability	84	88	87
Solution for climate change or global warming	68	76	65
Associate nuclear energy "a lot" with:			
Reliability	69	69	75
Efficiency	70	66	73
Clean air	63	68	69
Energy security	60	63	64
Job creation	48	53	64
Affordability	49	49	52
Solution for climate change or global warming	38	35	34
Consider nearest nuclear power plant safe (Unsafe)	85 (10)	86 (7)	90 (5)
Confident in this company's ability to operate a nuclear power plant safely	86	90	94
This company is doing a good job of protecting the environment	77	89	89
This company is involved in the community	74	81	88
The plant helps the local economy	87	89	92
There are good jobs for local people at the plant and in local businesses that provide services to the plant	85	88	91
Acceptable to add a new nuclear reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant	71	69	81

*Continues*

Population Density: Percentages

	High Population Density	Medium Population Density	Low Population Density
Heard or read about:			
Using nuclear energy to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil	75	78	74
The need for nuclear energy	74	81	80
Need to build more nuclear power plants in the U.S.	68	76	74
Clean air benefits of nuclear energy	67	69	74
Safety of nuclear power plants	68	70	78
Using nuclear energy to grow the economy and create jobs	54	54	64
Using nuclear energy as a way to fight global warming and climate change	55	59	58
Agree that nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site	51	52	59
Agree it is more appropriate that nuclear waste be stored at 1 or 2 volunteer sites where it can be stored more securely and efficiently	81	87	86
Agree that the federal government should continue to develop the Yucca Mountain site in Nevada as long as it continues to meet U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations	81	82	82
The U.S. should recycle used nuclear fuel to make more electricity and reduce the amount of nuclear waste	90	89	93
Feel <u>informed</u> about:			
Nearest nuclear power plant	79	84	86
The first thing to do in case of an emergency at the nearest nuclear power plant	85	85	89
Feel <u>very well informed</u> about:			
Nearest nuclear power plant	33	39	43
The first thing to do in case of an emergency at the nearest nuclear power plant	42	48	55
Useful source of information about the nearest nuclear power plant:			
Local news media	78	78	79
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	77	74	81
General word of mouth in the community	55	50	63
People who work at the plant	60	57	73
Visits to the plant of information center	49	57	53
Local elected officials	44	44	53
The Internet	49	45	44
Antinuclear organizations	30	31	30
Accurate and reliable source of information about nuclear energy:			
Safety, radiation, or environmental experts at your local nuclear power plant	75	74	78
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	72	69	78
The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	75	73	76
People you know who work at your local nuclear power plant	59	57	69
Local news media	54	54	56
Environmental groups	42	44	40
Your local elected officials	35	34	40
Antinuclear groups	18	20	20

	<b>COL Sites</b>
Nuclear energy will be important	93
Agree with:	
Renew license of nuclear power plants that continue to meet federal safety standards	93
Keep the option to build more nuclear plants	87
Electric utilities should prepare now so new nuclear plants could be built if needed in next decade	87
Definitely build more nuclear plants	81
Favor use of nuclear energy	86
Strongly favor	61
Favorable impression of nearest nuclear power plant and how it has operated recently	92
Very favorable	66
Perceive that majority in community have favorable impression of nearest nuclear power plant	80
Associate nuclear energy with:	
Reliability	91
Efficiency	92
Clean air	88
Energy security	88
Job creation	88
Affordability	87
Solution for climate change or global warming	64
Associate nuclear energy "a lot" with:	
Reliability	70
Efficiency	71
Clean air	65
Energy security	64
Job creation	58
Affordability	51
Solution for climate change or global warming	32
Consider nearest nuclear power plant safe	91
(Unsafe)	(5)
Confident in this company's ability to operate a nuclear power plant safely	93
This company is doing a good job of protecting the environment	89
This company is involved in the community	85
The plant helps the local economy	88
There are good jobs for local people at the plant and in local businesses that provide services to the plant	90
Acceptable to add a new nuclear reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant	79

Continues

	<b>COL Sites</b>
Heard or read about:	
Using nuclear energy to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil	75
The need for nuclear energy	79
Need to build more nuclear power plants in the U.S.	76
Clean air benefits of nuclear energy	71
Safety of nuclear power plants	76
Using nuclear energy to grow the economy and create jobs	64
Using nuclear energy as a way to fight global warming and climate change	56
Agree that nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site	52
Agree it is more appropriate that nuclear waste be stored at 1 or 2 volunteer sites where it can be stored more securely and efficiently	84
Agree that the federal government should continue to develop the Yucca Mountain site in Nevada as long as it continues to meet U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations	81
The U.S. should recycle used nuclear fuel to make more electricity and reduce the amount of nuclear waste	91
Feel <u>informed</u> about:	
Nearest nuclear power plant	83
The first thing to do in case of an emergency at the nearest nuclear power plant	85
Feel <u>very well informed</u> about:	
Nearest nuclear power plant	40
The first thing to do in case of an emergency at the nearest nuclear power plant	51
Useful source of information about the nearest nuclear power plant:	
Local news media	74
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	76
General word of mouth in the community	54
People who work at the plant	66
Visits to the plant of information center	51
Local elected officials	47
The Internet	48
Antinuclear organizations	27
Accurate and reliable source of information about nuclear energy:	
Safety, radiation, or environmental experts at your local nuclear power plant	76
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	75
The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	72
People you know who work at your local nuclear power plant	64
Local news media	54
Environmental groups	38
Your local elected officials	37
Antinuclear groups	19

# QUESTIONNAIRE WITH DATA

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## NATIONAL Questionnaire for Plant Neighbor Survey: July 2009

*Sample: 1,152 adults, not employed by an electric company, living within the 10-mile radius of the nation's 64 nuclear power plant sites, interviewed by telephone July 6-18, 2009, margin of error plus or minus 3 percentage points.*

Numbers may add from 99-101 due to rounding.

### Introduction

We would like your opinions in a national public opinion survey that we are conducting in communities near nuclear power plants across the U.S.

### Screener Questions: RECORD IF TERMINATED IN X, A, AND B

#### X. NON-ENGLISH SPEAKER, UNABLE TO INTERVIEW – RECORD AND REPORT NUMBER TO BISCONTI RESEARCH

A. Are you, or is anyone in your household, an employee of an electric company?

Yes	TERMINATE	0
No		100

B. Are you a full-time resident of this area?

Yes		100
No	TERMINATE	0

C. Have you lived in this area for 10 or more years?

Yes		80
No		20

D. Is there a nuclear-powered electric generating plant in this area?

Yes		100
No	–SKIP TO Q24	0
Not sure	– SKIP TO Q24	0



- 1) How important do you think nuclear energy will be in meeting this nation's electricity needs in the years ahead? Do you think nuclear energy will be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all? (CHECK ONLY ONE RESPONSE.)

<b>Important</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Not important</b>	<b>7</b>
Very important	67
Somewhat important	25
Not too important	4
Not important at all	3
(Don't know)	1

- 2) Please tell me if you personally strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements. How about... (READ LIST. DO NOT ROTATE. CHECK ONLY ONE RESPONSE FOR EACH.) REPEAT AS NEEDED: Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with that statement?

	<b>Total AGREE</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>DK/ NA</b>
When their original operating license expires, we should renew the license of nuclear power plants that continue to meet federal safety standards	93	71	21	3	4	1
We should keep the option to build more nuclear power plants in the future	86	61	26	6	7	1
Electric utilities should prepare now so that new nuclear power plants could be built if needed in the next decade	87	57	30	5	7	2
We should definitely build more nuclear power plants in the future	79	52	27	11	9	1

- 3) Overall, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the use of nuclear energy as one of the ways to provide electricity in the United States?

<b>Favor</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Oppose</b>	<b>16</b>
Strongly favor	58
Somewhat favor	26
Somewhat oppose	10
Strongly oppose	5
(Don't know)	1

- 4) Thinking of the nuclear power plant closest to where you live, would you describe your general impression of this plant and the way it has operated recently as very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

<b>Favorable</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Unfavorable</b>	<b>9</b>
Very favorable	63
Somewhat favorable	27
Somewhat unfavorable	6
Very unfavorable	3
(Don't know)	1

- 5) Do you think that the majority of people in your community have a favorable or unfavorable impression of this plant?

Favorable	78
Unfavorable	12
(Don't know)	10

- 6) I am going to read to you five considerations for the way electricity is produced, and I'd like you to tell me which one is most important to you. ... (READ LIST SLOWLY. RANDOMIZE. CHECK ONLY ONE RESPONSE.)

Clean air	28
Energy independence	24
Affordability	22
Reliability	13
Efficiency	10
(None)	1
(Don't know)	3

- 7) Do you associate nuclear energy a lot, a little, or not at all with... (REPEAT QUESTION FOR EACH CONSIDERATION. RANDOMIZE. CHECK ONLY ONE RESPONSE FOR EACH.)

	<b>A Lot</b>	<b>A Little</b>	<b>Not At All</b>	<b>(Don't Know)</b>
Reliability	72	20	5	2
Efficiency	71	21	6	3
Clean air	67	22	9	2
Energy security	63	26	8	3
Job creation	58	30	10	3
Affordability	50	36	8	6
Solution for climate change or global warming	35	33	24	8

- 8) Thinking about the nuclear power plant that is nearest to where you live, how safe do you regard this plant? Please think of a scale from "1" to "7," where "1" means very unsafe and "7" means very safe. The safer you think it is, the higher the number you would give. (DO NOT READ LIST. CHECK ONLY ONE RESPONSE.)

<b>High safety rating (5-7)</b>	<b>88</b>
7	44
6	29
5	15
<b>Middle (4)</b>	<b>5</b>
3	4
2	2
1	2
<b>Low safety rating (1-3)</b>	<b>7</b>
(Don't Know)	1

- 9) Now, I'd like to ask you about the company that operates the nuclear power plant nearest to you. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements about this company. (READ LIST. ROTATE. CHECK ONLY ONE RESPONSE FOR EACH.)

	<b>Total AGREE</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Agree</b>	<b>Somewhat Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>(Don't Know)</b>
I am confident in this company's ability to operate a nuclear power plant safely.	91	65	26	4	3	2
The plant helps the local economy	90	66	24	5	3	2
There are good jobs for local people at the plant and in local businesses that provide services to the plant	89	61	28	5	3	3
This company is doing a good job of protecting the environment.	86	52	33	5	4	5
This company is involved in the community	83	50	33	6	4	7

- 10) If a new power plant were needed to supply electricity, would it be acceptable to you or not acceptable to you to add a new nuclear reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant?

Acceptable	76
Not acceptable	21
(Don't know)	2

11) Let's imagine that more electricity is needed in your area sometime in the future and an electric company wants to add a new reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant that is already operating. Please tell me if each of the following points would make you much more inclined, somewhat more inclined, or no more inclined to support a decision to add a new reactor at the site of the nearest nuclear power plant. How about... (READ LIST. RANDOMIZE. CHECK ONLY ONE RESPONSE FOR EACH.)

	<b>Much More Inclined</b>	<b>Somewhat More Inclined</b>	<b>No More Inclined</b>	<b>(Don't Know)</b>
Nuclear energy helps reduce America's dependence on foreign energy sources.	66	22	11	1
The independent Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspects and monitors each nuclear power plant daily. If a nuclear power plant is not operating safely, the regulator will shut it down until it improves its safety practices.	65	23	11	1
Every nuclear power plant has multiple back-up safety systems, including an automatic safe shutdown mechanism, and new plants have more automatic safety systems.	63	25	11	1
We should plan for our energy future so we are not caught unprepared. As our economy and population grow, reliable and affordable sources of electricity like nuclear energy will be needed.	60	26	13	1
Each new reactor adds hundreds of good jobs and careers, and the company will train local people for careers there.	60	26	14	1
Nuclear energy provides 70 percent of America's carbon-free energy and produces electricity 24 hours a day every day.	59	28	11	2
The electric company uses a mix of low-carbon energy sources including nuclear energy and renewables like solar and wind energy.	56	27	14	3
A new reactor will add millions of dollars to the tax base that can be used to improve local infrastructure like roads and schools.	55	26	17	2

12) I'll read some topics about nuclear energy. Please tell me if you have heard or read any information on the topic in the past year. Just say yes or no. READ EACH TOPIC AND RECORD YES OR NO TO EACH. DO NOT ROTATE

	Yes	No	(Don't Know)
Using nuclear energy to reduce America's dependence on foreign oil	75	25	0
The need for nuclear energy	79	21	0
The need to build more nuclear power plants in the U.S.	73	27	1
Clean air benefits of nuclear energy	71	28	1
Safety of nuclear power plants	74	26	1
Using nuclear energy to grow the economy and create jobs	60	40	1
Using nuclear energy as a way to fight global warming and climate change	58	41	1

13) Do you feel very well informed, somewhat well informed, not too well informed, or not well informed at all about the nuclear power plant nearest to where you live?

<b>Informed</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Not informed</b>	<b>16</b>
Very well informed	40
Somewhat well informed	44
Not too well informed	11
Not well informed at all	5
Don't know	1

14) Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements about nuclear waste management.

	Total AGREE	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	(Don't Know)
Nuclear waste can be stored safely at the plant site.	56	21	35	15	22	7
It is more appropriate that nuclear waste be stored at 1 or 2 volunteer sites where it can be stored more securely and efficiently.	85	58	27	5	6	5
The federal government should continue to develop the Yucca Mountain site in Nevada for a final disposal facility for nuclear waste as long as it meets U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulations.	82	54	28	5	6	7
The U.S should recycle used nuclear fuel to make more electricity and reduce the amount of nuclear waste.	91	69	22	1	3	4

15) Do you feel very well informed, somewhat well informed, not too well informed, or not well informed at all about what is the first thing to do in case of an emergency at the nuclear power plant nearest to where you live?

<b>Informed</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>Not informed</b>	<b>13</b>
Very well informed	50
Somewhat well informed	37
Not too well informed	8
Not well informed at all	5
(Don't know)	0

16) In the event of an emergency at the nuclear power plant, where or how would you get information about the situation at the plant and what, if anything, local residents should do? DO NOT READ. CHECK ANSWERS BELOW AND RECORD THESE AND OTHER ANSWERS VERBATIM.

**Information:**

Radio	61
TV	42
Information, information they sent me	9
Booklet or brochure	6
Calendar	2
Telephone Monitoring System	2

**What residents should do:**

Listen for siren	28
Follow evacuation orders/plans	6
Leave/evacuate	4
Call police/fire department	3
Internet	3
Close windows and doors, stay inside	1
Contact/go to emergency center	1
Contact school	1
Doesn't matter, won't live	1
Take the pill supplied by the nuclear plant	1
Other	1
Don't know	5

17) Have you ever received any information from the utility, the nuclear power plant, or a government agency about what to do in case of an emergency at that plant?

Yes	76
No	15
(Don't know)	2
No answer	8

**If yes:**

17a. Do you keep this information in a place where you can find it easily?

Yes	53
No	30
(Don't know)	1
(Not asked)	16

17b. Have you read this information?

Yes	75
No	8
(Don't know)	0
(Not asked)	16

18) In the case of a crime involving a nuclear power plant, the police and possibly the FBI would be on the scene. In that case, which one of the following would you like to hear from first with information about the situation at the plant? RANDOMIZE. READ LIST SLOWLY.

The person responsible for emergency management at the nuclear power plant	31
The head FBI agent on the scene	16
The head of the local police	16
The person responsible for security at the nuclear power plant	14
The nuclear power plant manager	14
The top elected official in your local community	5
Any of the above	1
None of the above	1
(Don't know)	4

19) How useful has each of the following been as a source of information about the nuclear power plant nearest to you – very useful, somewhat useful, not too useful, or not useful at all? RANDOMIZE.

	<b>Total USEFUL</b>	<b>Very Useful</b>	<b>Somewhat Useful</b>	<b>Not Too Useful</b>	<b>Not Useful At All</b>	<b>(Don't Know/Not Applicable)</b>
Local news media	79	35	44	9	11	1
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	78	43	36	7	10	5
People who work at the plant	67	37	30	10	15	8
General word of mouth in the community	59	22	37	19	20	2
Visits to the plant or information center	53	28	25	11	22	14
Local elected officials	49	17	32	22	27	3
The Internet	46	20	26	13	23	19
Antinuclear organizations	30	9	21	19	41	10

20) Please tell me if you think each of the following would be an excellent, good, fair, or poor source of accurate and reliable information about nuclear energy. RANDOMIZE.

	Excellent Or Good	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know
Safety, radiation, or environmental experts at your local nuclear power plant	76	40	36	15	5	3
Booklets or brochures from your local nuclear power plant	75	33	42	17	7	2
The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission	75	36	39	15	6	3
People you know who work at your local nuclear power plant	64	32	33	19	8	9
Local news media	55	17	38	32	12	1
Environmental groups	42	12	30	31	24	4
Your local elected officials	38	10	28	37	24	2
Antinuclear groups	19	6	14	27	47	6

21) Please tell me if any of the following currently work or have worked at a nuclear power plant.

	Yes	No	(Don't Know)
You, yourself	9	91	0
Another member of your household	10	90	0
Another relative not living in your household	24	76	0
A close friend	51	49	0
A neighbor	39	61	0

22) Some nuclear power plants have a place where people can go to see exhibits and learn more about energy, nuclear energy, and the local nuclear power plant. Have you ever visited a place like that?

Yes	38
No	62

**22a. IF YES TO Q22:** Did that visit give you a more favorable impression of nuclear energy than you had before, a less favorable impression, or did it not make any difference?

More favorable	24
Less favorable	2
No difference	12
(Don't know)	0
(Not asked)	62



23) In your opinion, which one of the following names would attract the most visitors to a place with exhibits about energy, nuclear energy, and the local nuclear power plant? RANDOMIZE AND READ.

Energy Education Center	30
Energy and Environmental Center	28
Visitors Center	23
Energy Information Center	15
(Don't know)	4

**I need to ask a few quick demographic questions to be sure we have a representative sample.**

24) Do you have children under age 12 living in your home?

Yes	16
No	84
(Don't know, no answer)	0

25) What was the highest level of school you completed? (DO NOT READ)

Some grade school	3
Graduated high school	27
Technical/vocational school	3
Some college	20
Graduated college	32
Graduate school	13
(Don't know, no answer)	1

26) Is your age ...

18 to 20	1
21 to 34	6
35 to 44	12
45 to 54	21
55 to 64	24
65 or older	35
(Don't know, no answer)	1

27) To give us your best guess of the total annual income of your total household, is it...? READ.

Less than \$50,000	34
\$50-75,000	22
More than \$75,000	32
(Don't know, no answer)	12

28) Are you currently registered to vote?

Yes	94
No (THANKS & END)	5
(Don't know/refused) (THANKS & END)	1

**If yes:** Do you consider yourself...

A Democrat	25
A Republican	30
An Independent	29
Or something else WRITE IN _____	6
(Not asked)	11

**END: Thank you very much for giving us your opinions!**

**RECORD (DO NOT ASK)**

Male	45
Female	55

**RECORD** Zip code \_\_\_\_\_