

Council of Canadians statement on nuclear power and uranium mining

The Council of Canadians rejects nuclear power because it poses an unacceptable risk to people and the environment. It is neither clean, safe, peaceful, nor economic. We are opposed to the further expansion of nuclear power in our country. Faced with climate change and diminishing energy resources globally, we recognize the need for a just transition away from a fossil fuel and nuclear dependent society, while ensuring Canadians access to basic energy needs, to sustainable, publicly funded and publicly delivered energy alternatives that benefit both workers and their communities. We support renewable, non-invasive energy sources (such as solar and wind power), energy efficiency and conservation.

Nuclear power also requires uranium – the mining of which creates toxic tailings, poses water contamination and other environmental risks and health hazards. The Council of Canadians calls for a ban on all uranium exploration and mining; strengthening of legislation to ensure that any exploration or mining of other materials does not disturb or uncover uranium deposits; and fair, just transition programs for all communities and workers involved in the uranium mining industry.

Adopted by the Board of Directors, October 31, 2008