

4131 Spicewood Springs Road  
Suite O-2  
Austin, TX 78759

Office: 512-345-9720  
Fax: 512-345-9740  
email: mikeb@baselice.com

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## Summary of Texas Statewide Voter Survey September 16-21, 2010

The following results are from a telephone survey of N=1,004 randomly selected registered voters in the state of Texas. This survey was conducted September 16-21, 2010. The margin of error to the results of this survey is +/- 3.1% at the .95 test level. Key findings from this survey are provided below.

### 1. ROLE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

When initially asked, 83% of Texas voters think that nuclear energy should play an important role in the future energy needs of our state.

Which best describes how important a role you think nuclear energy should have in meeting the future electricity needs of Texas?

83%	Important
15%	Not Important
2%	Unsure / Refused

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### 2. PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

When presented with the following statement, nearly four out of five voters (79%) favor building two additional nuclear power plants just outside of the Bay City location in South Texas.

We should plan for the future, so we are not caught unprepared. As our economy and population grow, reliable sources of electricity, like nuclear power, will be needed.

79%	Favor
18%	Oppose
3%	No Difference / Unsure

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### 3. CARBON FREE

79% of voters favor building the two additional nuclear power plants when they know it will produce no air pollution or carbon emissions.

Unlike the majority of Texas power plants, which are fueled by coal and natural gas, nuclear power plants produce virtually no air pollution or carbon emissions.

79%	Favor
16%	Oppose
2%	No Difference/ Unsure

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#### **4. STATEWIDE JOB CREATION**

78% of voters favor building the two additional nuclear power plants when they know it will help associated businesses and create jobs, not just in South Texas, but statewide.

The building of these two nuclear power plants will help create and develop associated businesses and jobs not just in South Texas but also throughout the state to supply the resurgence of nuclear power.

78% Favor  
18% Oppose  
4% No Difference / Unsure

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#### **5. STABLE PRICE**

78% of Texas voters favor building the two additional units when they hear that nuclear power is reliable and the price stays stable.

Nuclear power plants generate reliable electric power at a stable price?

78% Favor  
17% Oppose  
5% No Difference / Unsure

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#### **6. SOUTH TEXAS PROJECT EXPANSION**

After hearing informative statements, 72% of Texas voters favor the building of two additional nuclear power plants outside of Bay City in South Texas.

Would you favor or oppose the building of two additional nuclear power plants outside of Bay City in South Texas?

72% Favor  
23% Oppose  
4% No Difference / Unsure

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#### **7. INDEPENDENT ENERGY**

When presented with the following statement, 79% of Texans favor expanding the Bay City power plant.

It's good to have energy from several sources, including nuclear power plants, to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and energy from politically unstable parts of the world.

79% Favor  
18% Oppose  
4% No Difference / Unsure

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Opinion Research for Decision Making  
in Politics and Public Affairs

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**TEXAS STATEWIDE VOTER SURVEY**

BASELICE & ASSOCIATES, INC.  
CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT

STUDY # 10529NRG.Q%Nuclear  
n equals 1,004 voters respondents

Hello, I am \_\_\_\_\_ of Baselice & Associates, a national survey research firm, and we're listening to people in your area today to get their opinions and advice on issues facing us all. We would like to include your responses to this survey, which will be kept confidential, with the responses of several hundred other voters such as yourself.

In developing a national energy policy, should the President and Congress give high, medium or low priority to each of the following goals? **(Randomize questions)**

	<u>HIGH</u>	<u>MEDIUM</u>	<u>LOW</u>	<u>UNSURE</u>
A Assuring a reliable energy source	74%	16%	8%	2%
B Becoming less dependent on foreign sources of energy	76%	15%	8%	2%
C Protecting the environment	55%	31%	13%	1%
D Improving air quality	52%	33%	13%	1%
E Stabilizing prices	51%	28%	19%	3%
F Promoting competition among energy suppliers	47%	30%	19%	4%
G Economic development and job creation	79%	11%	9%	1%

Now focusing on Texas, from which of the following sources do you think most of Texas' electricity is produced?

<u>QA</u>	<u>QB</u>	<u>Total</u>	
<u>Most</u>	<u>Next</u>		
31%	21%	52%	Coal
45%	28%	74%	Natural gas
6%	15%	22%	Nuclear
8%	15%	23%	Wind
4%	9%	13%	Solar power
*	1%	1%	Other (vol)
6%	4%	10%	Unsure (vol) (to next Q)
	6%	6%	Not asked

Which best describes how important a role you think nuclear energy should have in meeting the future electricity needs of Texas?  
**(Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top)**

44% Very important  
39% Somewhat important  
83% TOTAL IMPORTANT  
  
10% Not too important  
5% Not important at all  
15% TOTAL UNIMPORTANT  
  
2% Unsure/ refuse (vol)

Summary Q 1

In general, do favor or oppose the use of nuclear power plants to generate electricity in Texas? **If choice made, ask:** Is that strongly or somewhat (favor / oppose)?

33% Favor / Strongly  
30% Favor / Somewhat  
63% TOTAL FAVOR

15% Oppose / Somewhat  
15% Oppose / Strongly  
30% TOTAL OPPOSE

1% Depends on where **(vol)**  
1% Depends on cost / other factors **(vol)**  
5% Unsure/ refused **(vol)**

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Now I would like to ask you about a specific nuclear project. There are two nuclear power plants generating electricity just outside of Bay City in South Texas. Would you favor or oppose the building of two additional nuclear power plants at the same location? **If choice made, ask:** Is that strongly or somewhat (favor / oppose)?

25% Favor / Strongly  
25% Favor / Somewhat  
50% TOTAL FAVOR

13% Oppose / Somewhat  
23% Oppose / Strongly  
36% TOTAL OPPOSE

2% Depends on where **(vol)**  
3% Depends on cost / other factors **(vol)**  
10% Unsure/ refused **(vol)**

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I'll read you some pairs of words or phrases, and I'd like for you to tell me the word or phrase that best describes your impression of nuclear power. Would you describe nuclear power as... **(Randomize next four questions)**

CATI TO ROTATE: Reliable or Unreliable

82% Reliable  
13% Unreliable  
6% Unsure (vol)

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CATI TO ROTATE: Safe or Unsafe

63% Safe  
31% Safe  
6% Unsure

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CATI TO ROTATE: Clean or Dirty

72% Clean  
21% Dirty  
7% Unsure

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CATI TO ROTATE: Improving or Not Improving

67% Improving  
22% Not Improving  
11% Unsure

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If a nuclear power plant that generates electricity were to be built near your community, please tell me which one of the following areas of public interest you would most want the company that operates such a nuclear power plant to address? **(Randomize choices) If choice made, ask:** And which is the next most?

QA	QB		
<u>Most</u>	<u>Next</u> <u>Most</u>	<u>Total</u>	
33%	24%	57%	Public education
4%	8%	12%	Charity
6%	8%	13%	Sponsorships and grants
24%	22%	46%	Health care services
17%	20%	37%	Police and firefighters
3%	4%	6%	Recreation
4%	3%	7%	Other (vol)
10%	2%	12%	Unsure (vol) (to next Q)
	10%	10%	Not asked

For each item I read, please tell me if that information makes you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the building of two additional nuclear power plants just outside of the Bay City location in South Texas. Here is the first statement... **(Randomize questions)**

	<u>Strong</u>	<b>FAVOR</b> <u>Smwht</u>	<b>Total</b>	<u>Smwht</u>	<b>OPPOSE</b> <u>Strong</u>	<b>Total</b>	<u>No</u> <u>Diff.</u>	<u>Unsure</u>	<u>Net</u> <u>Impact</u>
It's good to have energy from several sources, including nuclear power plants, to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and energy from politically unstable parts of the world.									
<b>Summary Q 7</b>	54%	25%	<b>79%</b>	7%	11%	<b>18%</b>	2%	2%	+61%
The building of these two nuclear power plants will help create and develop associated businesses and jobs not just in South Texas but throughout the state to supply the resurgence of nuclear power.									
<b>Summary Q 4</b>	50%	28%	<b>78%</b>	7%	11%	<b>18%</b>	2%	2%	+60%
We should plan for the future, so we are not caught unprepared. As our economy and population grow, reliable sources of electricity, like nuclear power, will be needed.									
<b>Summary Q 2</b>	52%	27%	<b>79%</b>	7%	11%	<b>18%</b>	2%	1%	+61%
Every day, safety experts inspect and monitor the nuclear power plants in South Texas. If a nuclear power plant is not operating safely, the inspector will shut it down until it is safe.									
	65%	19%	<b>84%</b>	4%	10%	<b>13%</b>	1%	1%	+70%
The existing facility has an excellent safety record of zero accidents and has operated the past two years without a single lost-time injury.									
	51%	26%	<b>77%</b>	6%	9%	<b>15%</b>	3%	4%	+62%
Building the two new nuclear power plants would provide six thousand construction jobs to Texas residents.									
	59%	22%	<b>80%</b>	5%	10%	<b>15%</b>	2%	2%	+65%
Now is the time to build these nuclear power plants because the federal government will help pay for some of the construction costs and this will help keep									
	47%	27%	<b>74%</b>	6%	15%	<b>21%</b>	3%	2%	+53%

our electric bills down.

With other electricity generators outside of Texas competing for the funds and approval to build nuclear power plants, Texas may lose the chance to add six thousand jobs if the two additional nuclear power plants are not built in South Texas.

39% 25% **64%** 11% 17% **29%** 4% 4% +35%

The two additional nuclear power plants are fully endorsed by the county where they are planned to be built.

45% 26% **71%** 7% 14% **21%** 5% 4% +50%

Nuclear power plants generate reliable electric power at a stable price.

**Summary Q 5**

50% 28% **78%** 6% 11% **17%** 2% 3% +62%

Historically, electricity prices generated from natural gas go up and down more than electricity made from other sources, but nuclear power costs are more stable and this means more stable electric prices for customers.

51% 27% **77%** 7% 10% **17%** 2% 7% +61%

Unlike the majority of Texas power plants, which are fueled by coal and natural gas, nuclear power plants produce virtually no air pollution or carbon emissions.

**Summary Q 3**

55% 25% **79%** 7% 10% **16%** 2% 2% +63%

Because electricity generated from nuclear power is cleaner than electricity generated from coal or natural gas, these two additional plants will help reduce our state's carbon footprint.

51% 27% **78%** 7% 11% **18%** 2% 2% +60%

The two existing nuclear power plants near Bay City have generated electricity at a good value for customers in many parts of Texas.

47% 29% **76%** 8% 10% **17%** 3% 4% +59%

In order to keep up with its growing population and demands for electricity, Texas will need to generate electricity in ways other than coal and natural gas plants, and like solar and wind power, nuclear generated power is a clean, safe solution to our energy needs.

51% 27% **77%** 7% 11% **19%** 2% 2% +59%

The by-product of a nuclear powered generation plant is unspent radioactive fuel that remains at the plant site for years before it might be stored somewhere else in Texas.

24% 26% **49%** 17% 26% **42%** 3% 5% +7%

Nuclear power plants withdraw thousands of gallons of water per minute from a river or lake to use as part of the plant cooling process before the water is returned to the source from which it came.

29% 27% **57%** 15% 19% **33%** 4% 6% +24%

Many people consider nuclear power plants to be the targets of terrorists, and therefore bring increased risks to the communities in which they operate.

23% 20% **43%** 20% 26% **47%** 7% 4% -4%

Having heard more about it, (**rotate next two questions**) Would you favor or oppose the building of two additional nuclear power plants outside of Bay City in South Texas?

**If choice made, ask:** Is that strongly or somewhat (favor / oppose)?

46% Favor / Strongly  
25% Favor / Somewhat  
72% TOTAL FAVOR

### Summary Q 6

7% Oppose / Somewhat  
16% Oppose / Strongly  
23% TOTAL OPPOSE

1% Depends on where (**vol**)  
1% Depends on cost / other factors (**vol**)  
4% Unsure/ refused (**vol**)

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And now which best describes how important a role you think nuclear energy should have in meeting the future electricity needs of Texas? (**Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top**)

56% Very important  
31% Somewhat important  
87% TOTAL IMPORTANT

5% Not too important  
7% Not important at all  
12% TOTAL UNIMPORTANT

1% Unsure/ refuse (**vol**)

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