



# REPUBLICANS AND INDEPENDENTS SUPPORT ACTION TO PROMOTE CLEAN ENERGY & COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

## CRES FORUM 2023 CLEAN ENERGY AND CLIMATE POLLING

### INTRODUCTION

The following memo outlines the findings from a 2023 national survey of Republican and Independent voters, conducted on behalf of CRES Forum, with insights on attitudes toward climate change action, clean energy development in the United States, and America's competitive advantage.

While the results vary based primarily on age, concerns about climate change cross the political spectrum. Comprehensive messaging to promote responsible energy solutions that support energy affordability and reliability targeted at non-Democrats will not fall on deaf ears.

### REPUBLICANS AND INDEPENDENTS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

Significant percentages of both Republicans and Independents are concerned about climate change and believe action needs to be taken to address it, as well as accelerate the development and use of clean energy here at home.

- **63%** of Republicans (**81%** of young Republicans ages 18-44) and **78%** of Independents believe climate change is a threat we must address
- **40%** of Republicans and **50%** of Independents have become more concerned about climate change in the past few years
- **61%** of Republicans and **81%** of Independents support the federal government taking action to accelerate U.S. clean energy

### VOTERS WANT CONGRESS TO ACT

Majorities of Republicans and Independents want their Member of Congress working to address climate change and want to see the federal government developing more clean energy here in the United States.

- **59%** of Republicans and **79%** of Independents support their Member of Congress working to address climate change
- **61%** of Republicans and **82%** of Independents support their Member of Congress working to expand the use of clean energy in the United States

## REPUBLICANS AND INDEPENDENTS SUPPORT “AMERICA FIRST” AND DOMESTIC ENERGY

Republicans and Independents favor “America First” when it comes to energy production and incentivizing clean energy projects, especially when it comes to China. The same goes for policies to address climate change: if it makes America more competitive against countries like China, then they are for all it.

They want an all-of-the-above energy approach and prefer that it’s done in America vs. Russia or China because we do it cleaner. They feel the same about manufacturing vital products like steel, cement, iron, and chemicals.

- **85%** of Republicans and **81%** of Independents support an all-of-the-above energy approach that includes sources such as nuclear, natural gas, wind, solar, and hydropower
- **84%** of Republicans and **78%** of Independents believe U.S. energy policies should reward carbon-efficient manufacturers and penalize major polluters like China and Russia
- **89%** of Republicans and **80%** of Independents support developing American natural gas because it is 41% cleaner than Russia
- **87%** of Republicans and **91%** of Independents support the development of new, innovative technologies like clean steel to make U.S. manufacturing even cleaner, more affordable, and more competitive
- **68%** of Republicans and **69%** of Independents support investing in technologies to expand domestic manufacturing because China produces three times the global emissions producing the same products

## VOTERS SUPPORT CLEAN ENERGY IN THEIR BACK YARDS

Republican and Independent voters support a variety of clean energy resources, but support for these resources grows among those who live next to power generation facilities.

	Republicans (Net Favorable)	Republicans Near Facilities (Net Favorable)	Independents (Net Favorable)	Independents Near Facilities (Net Favorable)
Hydropower	+79%	<b>+96%</b>	+77%	<b>+89%</b>
Solar power	+67%	<b>+78</b>	+81%	<b>+89%</b>
Natural gas	+73%	<b>+81</b>	+50%	<b>+63%</b>
Wind power	+50%	<b>+64</b>	+74%	<b>+81%</b>
Nuclear power	+27%	<b>+73</b>	+20%	<b>+50%</b>

### METHODOLOGY

The CRES Forum survey was conducted March 8-9, 2023, by Moore Information Group. A total of 1,000 online interviews were conducted among a nationwide representative sample of self-identifying Republican and Independent voters. The potential sampling error is plus or minus 3% at the 95% confidence level.