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**COUNCIL APPLAUDS INCREASES IN FY 08 REQUEST;  
ADVANCEMENT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY BUILDS AN EFFECTIVE  
ENERGY FUTURE FOR U.S.**

*Washington, D.C.* — The American Council on Global Nuclear Competitiveness (Council) today applauded the diverse goals and ambitious strategies outlined in the administration's \$24.3 billion Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 budget request for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), including significant funding priorities to strengthen and maintain America's energy security through nuclear power.

"Congress and the Administration have clearly recognized the prominent role nuclear energy must play in helping to secure America's energy independence for future generations, and we are pleased to see this increased commitment to nuclear energy program funding," said Scott L. Campbell, Council President. "Nuclear energy is one of the most abundant emissions-free, safe, reliable sources of energy for the U.S. and increased research funding will only strengthen the development efforts on new technologies and advance American competitiveness in energy supply, diversity and security."

More than \$800 million was requested for DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy, including \$395 million activities which support the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) to advance nuclear fuel recycling technology. An additional \$10 million elsewhere in the DOE budget is dedicated to GNEP's non-proliferation goals. The request for GNEP funding is about a \$150 million increase from the FY 07 request. The Nuclear Power 2010 initiative also received a boost, more than doubling the FY 07 request. This important program will help get the U.S. back in the business of building new nuclear power plants and will provide the energy needed to grow America's economy without adding to concerns about global warming.

In an effort to increase America's energy independence, the Advanced Energy and the American Competitiveness initiatives, both outlined in the 2007 State of the Union address, also received a large boost in the FY 08 funding request.

"We support the vision embodied in the Advanced Energy Initiative and the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership which supports an extensive role for nuclear energy in the future of U.S. energy production," Campbell said. "We look forward to building a bi-partisan consensus to ensure the implementation of these vital policies across administrations."

Increased nuclear development can be translated into billions of dollars of revenue and the creation of roughly one million new jobs in nuclear design, manufacture, supply, and related industries. Through spearheading industry-wide research and development efforts such as promoting advanced nuclear fuel recycling technologies, the Council believes the U.S. can reclaim its role as the principal global nuclear energy supplier and innovator.

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*Formed in 2005, the American Council on Global Nuclear Competitiveness is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which seeks the return of American nuclear leadership to the world through the emergence of an U.S.-led global nuclear enterprise. The Council educates key audiences on the policies and technologies of an American nuclear renaissance, and summons public and private sector leadership to organize and promote such a transformation. For more information, visit [www.nuclearcompetitiveness.org](http://www.nuclearcompetitiveness.org)*