

**CANB response: HB11 throws ratepayer money at already profitable nuclear corporations**  
<https://citizens-against-nuclear-bailouts.prezly.com/canb-response-hb11-throws-ratepayer-money-at-corporate-greed#embed-8523552e-d510-4d16-8039-c685e48840b2>

HARRISBURG, Pa. (March 11) – Citizens Against Nuclear Bailouts (CANB) has issued the following statement in response to the introduction of House Bill 11, a nuclear bailout proposal released today by State Rep. Tom Mehaffie.

Pennsylvania legislators must ask themselves this question: side with already profitable nuclear corporations, or oppose House Bill 11 and stand with constituents in opposition to this proposed legislation that will raise consumer electricity bills significantly?

**The lead sponsor of this bill has confirmed a price tag of at least an additional \$500 million, year after year, INDEFINITELY, in higher electricity costs, hurting Pennsylvania’s most vulnerable citizens, including seniors and those on low or fixed incomes, as well as small businesses and manufacturers.**

The notion that if we do nothing nuclear power plants will simultaneously shut down and prices will be impacted is disingenuous at best — Exelon, FirstEnergy Solutions and Talen Energy are making too much money to justify shutting down.

The PJM Interconnection Independent Market Monitor projects that Pennsylvania’s five nuclear power plants collectively netted more than \$640 million in profits in 2018, and Peach Bottom nuclear power plant recently applied to extend its license through 2054.

**What does Rep. Mehaffie know that industry experts who have all testified that competition and reliability aren’t a problem do not to justify this nuclear bailout cash grab.**

The Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard (AEPS) was intended to advance the development of new and innovative technology, not to bail out old technology developed in the 1960s that is leaving a generational legacy of nuclear waste. Furthermore, nuclear power relies largely on imported uranium from foreign interests, including Russia, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

Adding already profitable nuclear power plants to the AEPS is a bailout that would significantly increase consumer electricity prices, eliminate consumer choice and fundamentally change the way Pennsylvania’s competitive energy markets operate.

Lawmakers need to leave boardroom decisions out of legislation. We urge them to stand with Pennsylvania ratepayers to say NO to a nuclear bailout.

-Citizens Against Nuclear Bailouts

Citizens Against Nuclear Bailouts is a diverse coalition of Pennsylvania citizens’ groups, power generators, and energy, business and manufacturing associations.

## PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **PA Chamber: Nuclear Mandate Legislation Would Increase Costs, Stifle Innovation**

**Harrisburg** – Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry President and CEO Gene Barr issued the following statement regarding House Bill 11 – legislation that would alter Pennsylvania’s Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act to require electric utilities purchase 50 percent of customer demand from nuclear energy, in addition to the existing 18 percent mandate for other types of energy resources:

“This legislation – which would result in Pennsylvania immediately having the most coercive energy mandate law in the country – stands in stark contrast with our organization’s energy policy, which provides for supporting competitive markets and opposing government actions that force, subsidize or mandate energy choices. This policy was established by the PA Chamber’s board of directors, whose membership ranges across various commercial and industrial sectors. Not only would this legislation impose greater costs on Pennsylvania residents and businesses, it would also stifle private sector innovation in the energy sector and threaten the Commonwealth’s role as leader in energy production and manufacturing. Our organization opposed the original Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act out of concerns it would harm ratepayers and distort the market – which it very clearly has. As such, we must voice our opposition to this new proposal.

“By walling off nearly 70 percent of the market, Pennsylvania is in jeopardy of losing its position as the largest net exporter of power in the country. It is quite possible that the Commonwealth would end up importing power from other states with high emissions footprints, in essence negating any environmental benefits associated with preserving one at-risk nuclear facility. Imposing further mandates on utilities and ratepayers are sure to increase costs – with some estimating that families and businesses would be forced to pay more than \$1 billion a year in higher energy costs. In particular, it is estimated that Pennsylvania manufacturers in a variety of industries will see higher energy costs up to several hundred thousand dollars per year. The business climate in Pennsylvania is already challenging enough; the legislature should seriously consider whether it wants to layer another substantial cost to this sector and hamper our state’s ability to retain existing and attract new investment.

“Additionally, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission recently directed PJM to adjust its electricity auction rules out of concern for the impact of state policies distorting the market. The General Assembly must be aware of the possibility that FERC will soon direct the grid operator to deduct the value of these state subsidies out of market payments, leaving the state in an even worse position – significantly higher energy costs with no tangible benefit. To be clear, we continue to support PJM’s proposed amendments to its energy market reserve pricing rules, which address some of the challenges identified by generators over the past several years.

“Pennsylvania’s competitive energy market has helped to lower energy costs, while at the same time reducing emissions throughout the Commonwealth. Rather than imposing additional mandates that will stifle innovation in the energy space, we

are urging lawmakers to support thoughtful, durable and rational energy policy that focuses on a nationwide approach that relies on competitive markets and private sector innovation to help ensure the country's energy security while at the same reducing carbon and other pollutant emissions."

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*The Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry is the state's largest broad-based business association, with its statewide membership comprising businesses of all sizes and across all industry sectors. The PA Chamber is The Statewide Voice of Business™.*

## **Pennsylvania's environmental community: Nuclear bailout bill not the climate and clean energy solution Pennsylvanians deserve.**

Text of March 11 statement.

HARRISBURG-- Representative Thomas Mehaffie III (R-Dauphin) today introduced legislation that would prop up Pennsylvania's struggling nuclear power plants by adding a third tier for nuclear energy to the state's Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards (AEPS). Three Mile Island and Beaver Valley are expected to close in 2019 and 2021 respectively.

The following environmental and clean energy advocacy groups issued the statement below in response to the proposed legislation: Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council, Clean Air Council, PennFuture, PennEnvironment, Keystone Progress, Clean Water Action, Physicians for Social Responsibility Philadelphia/Pennsylvania, Conservation Voters of Pennsylvania and the Philadelphia Solar Energy Association.

"Pennsylvanians need and deserve a forward-thinking, long-term strategy to fight climate change and invest in a clean energy economy centered around renewable energy. This legislation does nothing to advance the deployment of renewable energy in Pennsylvania and further locks us into increasingly expensive nuclear power from old and outdated equipment.

"Pennsylvania's policymakers ought to be working to significantly scale up clean, safe and affordable renewable energy from wind, solar, geothermal and low-impact hydro power. Building a clean energy economy around renewable energy in tandem with a declining, enforceable limit on carbon pollution from power plants will reduce emissions significantly in Pennsylvania as well as create jobs and protect health and the environment.

"We urge Pennsylvania legislators to shift their focus from preserving the aging energy sources of the past and instead look ahead toward real climate solutions that will advance a clean energy future in our Commonwealth."

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## Keystone Progress Email:

If a handful of legislators get their way, Pennsylvania's public funds will be subsidizing the highly-profitable nuclear industry. Now is the time to take our stand. [Tell the "Nuclear Caucus:" No Nuke Bailout, No public money for the for-profit nuclear industry.](#)

I live less than 10 miles from Three Mile Island, site of the worst nuclear disaster in American history. And every year we get a card in the mail with evacuation instructions, just in case of another emergency. TMI is one of 5 nuclear plants in PA, and it's the only one that didn't rake in over \$150,000,000 in *profits* last year. The nuclear industry consolidates wealth into the fewest hands possible, all while creating a by-product that will be deadly for 10s of thousands of years.

The good news, if we [act now to stop the nuke bailout](#), we can send a message that the people of Pennsylvania want real investments in *clean*, renewable sources of energy. We can have energy fueled by sources that are natural, and reoccurring, AND we can ensure that everybody benefits, not just the powerful few.

Our climate is on the precipice, and once again our leaders are shilling for corporate interests.

[Now is the time to tell the legislature: No Nuke Bailouts.](#)

Together we will win,  
Dan Doubet  
For the Keystone Progress Team





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **AARP Says Nuclear Bailout Legislation Would Saddle PA Consumers with Unfair and Unnecessary Surcharge, Increasing Utility Bills**

**HARRISBURG, PA**—AARP Pennsylvania State Director Bill Johnston-Walsh said today that the organization opposes new legislation that will raise electricity rates for consumers to subsidize the state's nuclear power providers.

Johnston-Walsh said the legislation will unfairly raise rates for Pennsylvania utility customers to pay for electric power delivered to customers in 12 other states. The state's nuclear plants currently sell electricity to the regional power grid which supplies 13 states, including Pennsylvania.

He added that Pennsylvania electric utility customers should not be forced to pay higher rates to benefit corporations already making millions in profits. Four out of five nuclear power generators in Pennsylvania are profitable according to their owners – and were projected to make a profit of more than \$600 million, according to PJM Interconnection's Independent Market Monitor.

“Pennsylvania utility customers expect to pay fair and reasonable prices for electricity – and not a dollar more,” said Johnston-Walsh. “Our residents expect their elected leaders to protect their interests above the interests of already profitable nuclear power companies.”

Johnston-Walsh said AARP will continue to fight any proposed nuclear bailout legislation in the General Assembly.

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### **About AARP**

*AARP has 1.8 million members in Pennsylvania. Follow AARP Pennsylvania on Facebook at [AARPPA](#) and on Twitter @[AARPPA](#).*

*AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. With a nationwide presence and nearly 38 million members, AARP strengthens communities and advocates for what matters most to families: health security, financial stability and personal fulfillment. AARP also produces the nation's largest circulation publications: AARP The Magazine and AARP Bulletin. To learn more, visit <http://www.aarp.org> or follow @AARP and @AARPadvocates on social media.*



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