

**Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 3, 2023**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3015

(Representatives Mock, Bosch, Ista, Mitskog, Nelson, Novak, Porter, Richter, Roers Jones)
(Senators Bekkedahl, Kessel, Patten)

A concurrent resolution urging the federal government to recognize natural gas and nuclear energy as environmentally sustainable economic activities.

WHEREAS, reliable, clean, and affordable energy is vital to the economic growth and overall interests of the United States; and

WHEREAS, natural gas is an essential part of America's energy mix with 50 percent of the homes in the United States using natural gas for home and water heating and 39 percent of all electricity generated in the United States being generated by natural gas; and

WHEREAS, natural gas is a renewable fuel generated from multiple sources across all regions of the United States and is the cleanest fossil fuel on earth; and

WHEREAS, the abundance of clean-burning natural gas in the United States is a source of tremendous economic benefits for our country, directly supporting thousands of jobs, improving household disposable income, and contributing to state and local revenues, giving the United States a global energy advantage; and

WHEREAS, as of July 1, 2022, 92 nuclear reactors were operating at 54 nuclear power plants in 28 states, which supply about 20 percent of total annual electricity and since 1990, the United States has been the world's largest producer of nuclear power, accounting for more than 30 percent of worldwide nuclear generation of electricity; and

WHEREAS, the absence of further lifetime extensions and new projects to extend the life of nuclear reactors could result in an additional four billion tons of carbon dioxide emissions; and

WHEREAS, plans to close existing facilities would result in approximately 25 percent of existing nuclear capacity being lost; and

WHEREAS, nuclear power is the second largest source of low-carbon electricity and the implications of fading nuclear energy are numerous, including electricity security concerns; and

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2022, the European Parliament authorized the Complementary Delegated Act, which adds natural gas and nuclear power plants to the European Union Taxonomy and labels investments in natural gas and nuclear power plants as climate-friendly;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Sixty-eighth Legislative Assembly urges the federal government to recognize natural gas and nuclear energy as environmentally sustainable economic activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate