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How EXIM Can Power American Nuclear



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If "America First" actually means anything, it should mean backing American-made nuclear technology—especially when it comes to winning the global energy race. Civil nuclear exports are one of the most powerful tools the US has to create jobs, strengthen domestic supply chains, and expand overseas markets. But here's the catch: without increased Export-Import Bank (EXIM) financing specifically for nuclear exports, we're ceding that power to Russia and China. To commercialize and build US advanced nuclear at scale, we will need more federal tools to encourage more private investment and get projects across the finish line. That's where EXIM comes in—with decades of experience and the financial tools needed to unlock foreign markets, reduce risks, and accelerate deployment. Want more reactors built at home? Start by selling them abroad.

Trump voters say they want to rebuild American industry, outcompete China, and boost national security. Supporting EXIM with robust tools and capabilities does exactly that. It means more US manufacturing jobs, stronger global alliances under American leadership—not Russian or Chinese

influence—and supply chains we control. If Republicans are serious about energy independence and not just shouting slogans, they need to stop cutting spending that supports nuclear reactor deployments in the US and abroad. Let's make American nuclear flourish—EXIM is how we do it.

HOW **EXIM** CAN POWER AMERICAN NUCLEAR

Trump has an “America First” protectionist foreign policy focus. That means more onshoring, increasing US manufacturing, boosting the domestic economy, and implementing a strategy to dominate the global energy sector.

Nuclear energy exports and US financial markets will play a huge role in meeting increased energy demand and gaining competitiveness in the global energy sector.

New civil nuclear technologies like Small Modular Reactors (SMR) and Advanced Reactors are still in their demonstration phase.

In order to get from First-Of-A-Kind (FOAK) to Nth-Of-A-Kind (NOAK), major capital expenditure investments are necessary from public and private finance.

What's the problem?

1. Risk remains high, preventing more private sector investment.
2. We need more funding on top of federal programs like ARDP, tax credits, and LPO to attract more private investment and build orderbooks.

Outcomes

The more nuclear reactors deployed abroad, the faster these technologies can reach commercial maturity, enabling scaled deployment both at home and overseas.

The US also leads in innovation and competitiveness.

When US nuclear is deployed overseas, it increases US national security because of our high nonproliferation standards.

What's EXIM's role in these exports?

The US Export-Import Bank (EXIM) has provided financing for international nuclear transactions for seven decades. EXIM has proven world-class expertise to underwrite and to manage the financing risk of nuclear projects, and it has a deep and self-sustaining balance sheet to promote US exports and return a dividend to the US taxpayers.

So, the US needs overseas markets where there is high demand for nuclear energy to help fill out orderbooks faster, cheaper, and with secure supply chains.



Source: EXIM Support for Nuclear Sector Transactions.” EXIM Bank Policies, Export-Import Bank of the United States, September 2023, <https://www.exim.gov/policies/exim-support-for-nuclear-sector-transactions>. Accessed 7 May 2025.

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