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# Opportunities for Coal Repowering with Advanced Nuclear

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# Who We are

**Good Energy Collective** is a progressive think-tank that delivers policy and leadership on nuclear energy.



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# Our Interest in Coal-to-Nuclear Repowering

- “Just Transition” is key to progressive energy vision
- Study by UCS & UWWA, it would cost \$33-\$83 billion to provide a comprehensive set of supports to transition the ~90,000 people directly employed in the US coal industry
- Complications
  - Mismatch in job location
  - Mismatch in skills or required training
  - Reduced pay, benefits, or ability to join a union
  - Piecemeal state/federal approaches to sourcing new energy jobs

Jeremy Richardson and Lee Anderson. Supporting the Nation’s Coal Workers and Communities in a Changing Energy Landscape. Union of Concerned Scientists (2021).

# A good option for retiring coal plants?



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## **Opportunities for Coal Communities Through Nuclear Energy: An Early Look**

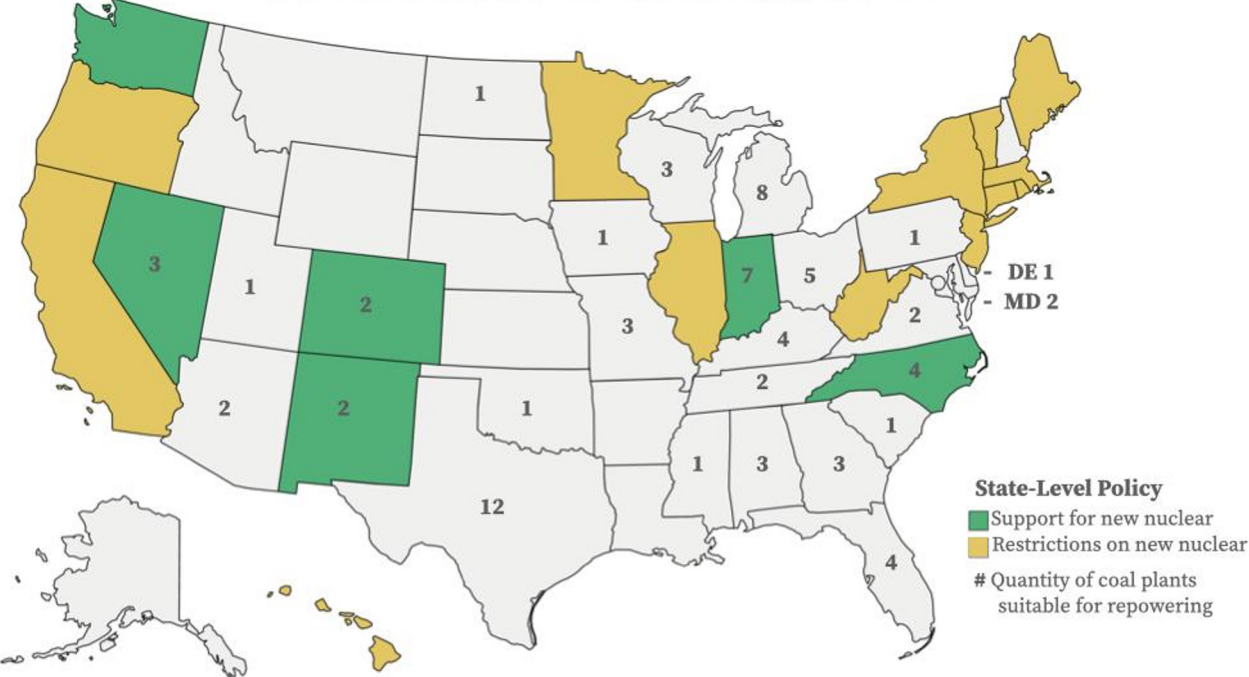
Prepared for the Walker Foundation

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# Methodology

- Fastest Path to Zero (FPtZ) database of 304 coal plants retired since 2010 or retiring before 2045
- Filtered out:
  - Active state policy restrictions against new nuclear plants
  - Safety hazards identified by FPTZ
  - Total nameplate capacity of less than 300 MWe; nameplate capacity per unit of greater than 1000 MWe

### Coal Plants Suitable for Repowering by an SMR



# Recommendations

## Role for SMR vendors

- **Start early**
- Continue engaging with **NRC**
- Engage with the **utility, municipality,** or other owner/operator
- Identify local technical/community **colleges and universities**
- Identify whether a **community workforce organization** exists in the area
- Identify **state or local business councils** and **economic development groups**

## Role for coal-closure communities

- **Start early**
- Identify potential **utility partners**
- Exploring whether and where possibilities may already exist to facilitate **transitional training**