

ACTIVITY 2 Nuclear Energy Podcast

What role might nuclear energy play in our future?

One of the first steps towards establishing nuclear policy is to review what research has been done and what paths have been charted for the future.

Listen to a podcast from [Scientific American](#) of an interview with MIT physicist Ernest Moniz, as he discusses the future of nuclear energy.

After listening to the podcast, answer the following questions. Use the space provided to write or type your responses. **Provide sufficient explanations, and use evidence to support your responses.** Refer to the attached rubric for guidance in how this assignment will be graded.

1. What are the major challenges to enable nuclear power to be a significant contributor in the U.S.?
2. How would the fuel leasing concept work?
3. What is included in the Research and Development plan?

4. Why is nuclear energy suddenly being looked at with more scrutiny?

5. Why are many utilities becoming interested in nuclear power?

6. How has the attitude about nuclear changed in the last 10 years?

Podcast Rubric

Total Possible Score: 30 points
(5 points per question)

Question Score	Content	Quality
5	Response clearly addresses the question, and uses strong evidence from the podcast to support the response.	Response provides clear and logical explanation .
4	Response clearly addresses the question and uses somewhat strong evidence from the podcast to support the response.	Response provides clear and logical explanation .
3	Response somewhat addresses the question and uses weak evidence from the podcast to support the response.	Response provides somewhat clear and logical explanation .
2	Response does not address the question and uses weak evidence from the podcast to support the response.	Response provides poor explanation .
1	Response does not address the question and uses no evidence from the podcast to support the response.	Response provides no explanation .
0	Response is incomplete or left blank .	