

## TEXAS REGIONAL NUCLEAR ENERGY SURVEY

BASELICE & ASSOCIATES, INC.  
CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT  
n=601 in Victoria and Refugio Counties

STUDY # 08264Vic.Q%

Hello, I am \_\_\_\_\_ of Baselice & Associates, a national survey research firm, and we're listening to people in your area today to get their opinions and advice on issues facing us all. We would like to include your responses to this survey, which will be kept confidential, with the responses of several hundred other people such as yourself.

- A. Are you an adult resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County?  
**If No, ask:** Is there someone else at home who is an adult resident of \_\_\_\_\_ County?  
**(If Yes, ask: May I speak with him/her? And return to introduction)**

Yes **(continue)**  
No **(thank & terminate)**

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- B. Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed in the news media, a market research firm, are you an elected or local government official, or actively involved with political campaigns?

Yes **(thank & terminate)**  
No **(continue)**

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NOTE: ALL CLOSE-ENDED RESULTS ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST WHOLE PERCENTAGE  
\* DENOTES LESS THAN ONE-HALF PERCENT

**CATI TO SPLIT SAMPLE THE FOLLOWING QUESTION**

1.X In your own words, what is the most important thing you think your community needs? **(Probe: Please tell me more about that.)**

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>STORES/RESTAURANT</b>		
A Walgreen's/another grocery store	2	.7%
More stores/a Mall/retail	<u>1</u>	<u>.3%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	3	1.0%
<b>AMENITIES</b>		
Family entertainment places/activities	3	1.1%
A cleaner looking town/cleaner plants/revitalization	5	1.6%
Play areas for children/parks/places for teens/activities	<u>16</u>	<u>5.3%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	24	8.0%
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>		
Better roads/streets	29	9.5%
New water system	1	.3%
Keep SA from taking our water/more secure water supply	1	.3%
Stricter clean air controls/cleaner environment	2	.6%
Reliable/stable utilities/more electricity	1	.4%
A desalinization plant/need fresh water	3	1.0%
Good public transportation/better/more efficient	1	.4%
Better housing/apartments/more	5	1.6%
Traffic control	1	.4%
More flood protection/repairs to the Levee	2	.8%
Stop the Trans Texas Corridor	2	.6%
More culture/art/museums/theaters	1	.3%
Airline service	1	.3%
Gambling establishments	<u>1</u>	<u>.4%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	51	16.9%
<b>JOBS/WAGES</b>		
More industry/businesses	3	.9%
More jobs/employment	25	8.1%
Higher wages	2	.7%
Need more growth/expansion	5	1.7%
More help for the working man	<u>1</u>	<u>.3%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	36	11.7%
<b>TAXES/ECONOMIC</b>		
Cheaper electricity/lower bills	1	.4%
More revenue/income/money/economic development	6	2.0%
Lower gas and grocery prices/keep the price of gas down	17	5.6%
Home appraisals raising property taxes/lower prop taxes	1	.3%
Lower taxes	2	.6%
Better use of taxpayer money/stop wasteful spending	<u>2</u>	<u>.8%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	29	9.6%
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
Better schools/improve level of education/more control	36	11.7%
Need a new high school	1	.4%
Better educated people/college graduates	<u>3</u>	<u>1.0%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	40	13.1%

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>SOCIAL ISSUES</b>		
More common goals among our populace	1	.4%
More community support/participation	2	.7%
More/stronger churches/Christian values/prayer in schools	7	2.4%
Better drs/more medical facilities/affordable health care	6	1.9%
Control the numbers of illegal aliens/immigration reform	3	.9%
Funding/help for poor/below poverty line/homeless	3	1.1%
Reduce welfare rolls/put people to work	1	.3%
Available/affordable health insurance	<u>1</u>	<u>.4%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	25	8.2%
<b>CRIME CONTROL</b>		
Stop the increase of crime/drug use/stealing/gangs	19	6.2%
More police/better/more pay/more safety	<u>23</u>	<u>7.5%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	41	13.7%
<b>IMPROVED GOVERNMENT</b>		
More unity among city leaders/better leaders/more honest	<u>14</u>	<u>4.6%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	14	4.6%
<b>OTHER</b>		
More people	1	.3%
It needs everything/needs so much it's hard to be specific	2	.7%
I oppose the Nuclear Power Plant	1	.3%
Affordable housing	1	.3%
City shouldn't take property from people	<u>2</u>	<u>.7%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	7	2.3%
<b>NOTHING</b>		
Our community is fine as is	<u>8</u>	<u>2.8%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	8	2.8%
<b>UNSURE</b>		
Don't know/no answer	<u>24</u>	<u>8.0%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	24	8.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	302	100.0%

1.Y In your own words, what is the one thing about your community you would change if you could? (**Probe: Please tell me more about that.**)

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>STORES/RESTAURANT</b>		
More shopping/retail/malls/another grocery store	<u>3</u>	<u>.9%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	3	.9%
<b>AMENITIES</b>		
A community center for teens/Boys/Girls clubs/more activity	7	2.3%
More trees/green space/parks & trails/esthetics/looks old	7	2.2%
Entertainment/interesting things/theatre/bowling/concerts	<u>7</u>	<u>2.5%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	21	7.0%

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>		
Better city services/utilities/Internet access	2	.6%
Need public transportation/run at night	3	1.0%
Better rds/streets/bridges/fix potholes/curbs/gutters/lights	36	12.0%
Less Pollution/cleaner neighborhood/litter/junky houses	13	4.3%
Better housing/more/less expensive	3	.9%
Change the zoning laws/tighter restrictions	2	.6%
Re-route big trucks & trains to go around town/traffic flow	2	.8%
Better drainage & sewage systems	<u>3</u>	<u>.9%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	63	21.1%
<b>JOBS/WAGES</b>		
Better job opportunities/more jobs	10	3.2%
Better economic opportunities/business	6	2.1%
Slow our growth/too much crime/noise/traffic	<u>4</u>	<u>1.2%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	20	6.6%
<b>TAXES/ECONOMIC</b>		
Need more growth/development/be more progressive	4	1.5%
Reduce the taxes/lower property taxes	4	1.5%
Better use of taxpayer money	2	.7%
Lower gasoline and grocery prices	20	6.6%
Get rid of NAFTA	<u>1</u>	<u>.3%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	31	10.5%
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
Better education/more schools/control in schools	24	8.2%
Better educated people/more competent work force	1	.3%
We need a four year college/university	1	.3%
Update old school buildings/build small ones instead of new	<u>2</u>	<u>.8%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	29	9.6%
<b>SOCIAL ISSUES</b>		
Get rid of people that are preventing growth	2	.7%
Too much drug use/buying/selling/crime/gangs	24	8.1%
Be friendlier/more helpful to each other/comm. involvement	4	1.2%
A lot fewer illegals/immigration reform	3	.9%
More Christian values	3	1.1%
More help for poor/homeless/indigent	4	1.5%
Questionable people/activities-the police & justice system	4	1.3%
Health care available/affordable/insurance available	2	.8%
Racism/inequality	4	1.3%
Make English the official language	<u>1</u>	<u>.3%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	51	17.2%
<b>AREA PLANTS</b>		
Don't want nuclear power plant close by	<u>2</u>	<u>.7%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	2	.7%
<b>IMPROVED GOVERNMENT</b>		
Harmony among city leaders/too much dissension/honesty	3	.9%
More law enforcement/safety/criminal justice/better enforce	7	2.2%
Change/get rid of the local government/city	<u>6</u>	<u>1.9%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	15	5.0%
<b>OTHER</b>		
Everything/needs too many changes to specify	2	.7%
The climate/weather	1	.3%
Traffic control/no speeding/better driving habits	<u>6</u>	<u>2.0%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	9	2.9%

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>NOTHING</b>		
Nothing/it is fine as is	<u>25</u>	<u>8.2%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	25	8.2%
<b>UNSURE</b>		
Don't know/no answer	<u>31</u>	<u>10.3%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	31	10.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	299	100.0%

2. Have you seen, read, or heard anything recently about a proposed nuclear power plant that would generate electricity to be constructed about 15 miles south of downtown Victoria and just to the east of Highway 77?

87% Yes  
 12% No  
 1% Unsure / refused (vol)

3. Do you favor or oppose a nuclear power plant that generates electricity to be constructed about 15 miles south of downtown Victoria and just to the east of Highway 77? **If choice made, ask:** Is that strongly or somewhat (favor / oppose)?

31% Favor / Strongly  
 21% Favor / Somewhat  
 52% TOTAL FAVOR

7% Oppose / Somewhat  
 21% Oppose / Strongly  
 27% TOTAL OPPOSE

\* Depends on where (vol)  
 4% Depends on cost / other factors (vol)  
 17% Unsure / refused (vol)

**IF VALUE 1 or 2 (Favor) IN PREVIOUS QUESTION, ASK:**

3A. And in your own words, please tell me why you favor the building of a nuclear power plant about fifteen miles south of downtown Victoria and just to the east of Highway 77? (**Probe: Please tell me more about that**)

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>CLEAN/ENVIRONMENTAL</b>		
No pollution/clean/better for the environment	9	1.5%
Cleaner/better than coal	3	.5%
Better than using petroleum products for electricity/energy	6	.9%
Other fuel sources harming environment/global warming	<u>5</u>	<u>.9%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	23	3.8%
<b>SAFE/EFFICIENT</b>		
They are safe/safer now	5	.8%
Have another one close by/been no problem	1	.2%
Efficient way to supply electricity/viable	<u>7</u>	<u>1.2%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	13	2.2%

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>ECONOMICAL</b>		
It's the cheapest way to go/nuclear power is cheap	14	2.4%
Boost to the economy/increases the tax base	7	1.2%
Good employers/steady work	1	.2%
More jobs/good wages	58	9.7%
Will benefit people	1	.1%
Helps lower our taxes/our electric bills	14	2.4%
Helps our community grow	6	1.0%
Will bring other businesses	1	.2%
Victoria is growing quickly/good for Victoria	<u>4</u>	<u>.7%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	107	17.9%
<b>NEED THE ENERGY</b>		
Need the energy/good supplier of electricity/reliable	18	3.0%
Nuclear power will be the source of energy for future	5	.8%
Running out of fossil fuel/conserves fossil fuels	7	1.2%
It's just needed/has to be built somewhere	<u>2</u>	<u>.3%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	31	5.2%
<b>OTHER</b>		
It is far enough away from homes	2	.4%
Not as dependent on Middle East/foreign oil/independence	6	1.1%
Plenty of land there/plenty of water/good place to put it	<u>1</u>	<u>.1%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	10	1.6%
<b>DK / UNSURE</b>		
Don't know/no answer	<u>2</u>	<u>.4%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	2	.4%
<b>NOT ASKED</b>		
Not asked	<u>414</u>	<u>69.0%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	414	69.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	601	100.0%

**IF VALUE 3 or 4 (Oppose) IN PREVIOUS QUESTION, ASK:**

- 3B. And in your own words, please tell me why you oppose the building of a nuclear power plant about fifteen miles south of downtown Victoria and just to the east of Highway 77? **(Probe: Please tell me more about that)**

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>BAD FOR ENVIRONMENT</b>		
Alcoa/DuPont/Formosa already polluting air/water/too much	4	.6%
All the nuclear waste left over/too dangerous/not disposable	9	1.5%
It's a major environmental concern/contamination risks	<u>14</u>	<u>2.4%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	26	4.4%
<b>UNSAFE / CONCERNS</b>		
Don't have enough water for increasing population	4	.6%
The word 'nuclear' is scary/scares me	5	.8%
Accidents can happen/human error/radiation/fall-out	11	1.8%
Because of Chernobyl/Three Mile Island/historical problems	3	.4%
Not safe enough/the danger/question safety/risk	23	3.8%
If it blows up everyone within 15 miles will blow up also	7	1.2%
It is too close to the town/city/15 miles is too close	14	2.4%
A leak would contaminate our air/water	3	.5%
Health risks to children/cancer/my health/family's health	16	2.7%
Plant workers are not well trained/not attentive all time	1	.2%
Too close to the coast/hurricane danger	3	.5%
The prevailing South winds blow any emissions right on us	<u>3</u>	<u>.5%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	92	15.4%

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>CHANGES COMMUNITY</b>		
Don't want the increased traffic	1	.2%
Will disturb peace of community/negative to citizens	4	.7%
It is an eyesore/lower property values	2	.4%
We're ranchers/could destroy our way of living	1	.2%
It's a waste of good land/ruins farm land	<u>1</u>	<u>.1%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	10	1.6%
<b>BAD IDEA/DON'T LIKE</b>		
Just oppose/no particular reason/don't like them	3	.6%
Don't need/put somewhere else	<u>3</u>	<u>.4%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	6	1.0%
<b>NOT NEEDED/ALREADY HAVE</b>		
Already have one close by/enough	1	.1%
We're already surrounded by a number of plants/don't need it	<u>4</u>	<u>.6%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	5	.8%
<b>OTHER</b>		
Lack info/knowledge about this/need more	3	.6%
It would be a terrorist target/bad idea security-wise	10	1.7%
Need to look into wind/solar power/geothermal/tidal/other	4	.6%
Tax break to them will be passed to the tax paying citizens	1	.2%
The city council/land owners are just in it for the money	<u>2</u>	<u>.4%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	20	3.4%
<b>DK / UNSURE</b>		
Don't know/no answer	<u>5</u>	<u>.9%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	5	.9%
<b>NOT ASKED</b>		
Not asked	<u>436</u>	<u>72.6%</u>
SUB-TOTAL	436	72.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	601	100.0%

4. Which of the following viewpoints regarding local water supplies comes closest to your own?

**(Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top)**

- 1% We have too much water
- 70% We have about the right amount of water to meet our needs
- 23% We do not have enough water
- 2% Neither / other **(vol)**
- 4% Unsure / refused **(vol)**

For each item I now read, please tell me if that information makes you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the building of a nuclear power plant in South Victoria County. Here is the first statement... **(Randomize questions)**

	FAVOR			OPPOSE			Depends/ No diff. (vol)	Unsure (vol)	Net Impact
	Strong	Smwht	Total	Smwht	Strong	Total			
5. As with other nuclear power plants, this plant will have automatic, multiple and redundant back-up safety systems where if one segment of the plant fails or is not operating properly, then there will be one or more back-up safety systems in place to takeover.	48%	28%	<b>76%</b>	5%	13%	<b>18%</b>	3%	3%	+58%
6. If necessary to fix, replace, inspect or stop operations in any part of the plant, the entire nuclear power plant can be shut down in less than five seconds.	51%	24%	<b>75%</b>	6%	13%	<b>18%</b>	4%	2%	+57%
7. According to OSHA, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the nuclear power industry has one of the best worker safety records of all industries, even better than the insurance industry.	42%	29%	<b>71%</b>	7%	14%	<b>21%</b>	5%	3%	+49%
8. A five thousand acre lake would be built without using any taxpayer dollars, but rather with private dollars, next to the nuclear power plant to provide the water necessary to cool the nuclear reactor.	41%	26%	<b>68%</b>	8%	16%	<b>23%</b>	6%	3%	+44%
9. The proposed nuclear power plant would actually increase the amount of surface water in Victoria County with the building of a five thousand acre lake still leaving enough water to flow into Refugio (rah-froor-ee-oh) County and San Antonio Bay.	37%	27%	<b>64%</b>	10%	16%	<b>26%</b>	6%	4%	+38%
10. A nuclear power plant would generate millions of dollars in economic activity for local communities, including the creation of jobs with higher than average wages and tax revenues that help pay for local services.	53%	24%	<b>77%</b>	5%	13%	<b>18%</b>	3%	2%	+59%
11. The by-product of a nuclear powered generation plant is spent radioactive fuel that remains at the plant site for years before it might be stored somewhere else or recycled.	19%	23%	<b>42%</b>	20%	28%	<b>48%</b>	5%	5%	-6%

**(End randomization)**

12. Having heard more about it, do you favor or oppose a nuclear power plant that generates electricity to be constructed about fifteen miles south of downtown Victoria and just to the east of Highway 77? **If choice made, ask:** Is that strongly or somewhat (favor / oppose)?

41% Favor / Strongly  
25% Favor / Somewhat  
67% TOTAL FAVOR

8% Oppose / Somewhat  
19% Oppose / Strongly  
27% TOTAL OPPOSE

\* Depends on where **(vol)**  
2% Depends on cost / other factors **(vol)**  
4% Unsure / refused **(vol)**

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13. Which viewpoint comes closest to your own ? **(Rotate statements)**

66% A nuclear power plant is a good idea because it safely increases energy without carbon emissions, generates jobs and tax revenues, and uses available water from its own lake  
26% A nuclear power plant is a bad idea because it uses too much water and raises safety concerns  
3% Some of both **(vol)**  
6% Unsure / refused **(vol)**

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14. How many years have you lived in this community?

13% Less than 10 years  
19% 10 to 24 years  
26% 25 to 39 years  
16% 40 to 49 years  
25% 50 or more years  
1% Unsure / refused

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15. Do you plan on living in this community five years from now? **(record only)**

92% Yes or probably  
4% No, doubt it  
2% Depends  
1% Unsure / refused

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