

-----PRESS RELEASE-----

**The American Leadership and Policy Foundation**

ALPF.org  
1201 N.W. Briarcliff Parkway  
Second Floor  
Kansas City, Missouri 64116



**A false sense of security: expert-endorsed ALPF research on critical US nuclear power vulnerabilities calls foundational nuke/EMP research into question**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – The American Leadership and Policy Foundation released a research paper Jan. 11, entitled, *The Strategic Vulnerabilities of U.S. Nuclear Power Plants to EMP and Solar Events*, that was also endorsed by three experts in the fields of electromagnetic pulse and nuclear security.

The research, according to the authors, “...unapologetically challenges

longstanding assumptions about nuclear safety and explores the nature and severity of both design and nuclear facility infrastructure support shortfalls in a national security context.”

The authors go on to state, “While there are a number of threats to nuclear power stations posed by conventional sources such as cyber and terrorism, no threat aside from Electromagnetic Pulse and Space Weather, or Geo-magnetic Disturbance, have the capability of causing cascading failures with the capacity to produce simultaneous and catastrophic meltdown at power generating stations and research reactors across the U.S.”

This publication, authored by David Stuckenberg, ALPF chairman and Hershel Campbell, ALPF fellow, is the culmination of more than six months of research and includes input from members of the Department of Energy, Idaho National Labs and Siemens.

“I have reviewed the EMP & Space Weather and the Strategic Threat to America’s Nuclear Power Stations and found it to be an excellent presentation of what we know and what we don’t know about this very complex threat to all of our critical infrastructures, not just our nuclear stations,” said Scott McBride, Idaho National Laboratory.

The ALPF asserts their findings highlight valid national security concerns, many of which can be eliminated or mitigated with appropriate action from stakeholders and the government.

“The paper... is a well-researched and solid analysis of black swan events that could result in the next Fukushima disaster unless the hazards are sincerely considered and steps undertaken to responsibly manage the risks,” said Dave Lochbaum, Union of Concern Scientists.

Dr. Peter Vincent Pry, executive director of the EMP Task Force on National and Homeland Security agreed, saying, "Of all the potential catastrophic consequences of an EMP, nuclear power reactor vulnerability is among the worst, and by itself constitutes an existential threat to society. This timely and important study on the threat posed by the vulnerability of nuclear power reactors to natural and manmade EMP is must reading for policymakers, and hopefully will move them to act to protect the electric grid now--before it is too late."

The ALPF chairman expressed his gratitude to the various individuals, such as Pry, Lochbaum, McBride and John Ostrich from the U.S. Department of Energy for reviewing the research.

“We are both honored and validated to have such notable professionals review and applaud this crucial research,” said David Stuckenberg.

The publication can be found on the ALPF’s website here:  
<http://www.alpf.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Electromagnetic-Pulse-and-Space-Weather-Final-Report-2015.pdf>

The ALPF currently has more than 50 fellows who conduct non-partisan research and leadership development for the organization. The ALPF receives its funding and research ideas from individual citizens and does not accept government or special interest funding.

More information about the ALPF’s mission, research and fellows can be found at [www.alpf.org](http://www.alpf.org).