



SEMMA

SOUTH EAST MELBOURNE MANUFACTURERS ALLIANCE

SEMMA calls for mature energy debate

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MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA - The South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance (SEMMA) is calling for a mature debate on the future of energy supply for manufacturers after survey results indicated a need for change.

"This is an issue of reliable supply for our members. Manufacturing needs a consistent, reliable baseload energy supply that is in danger if policy makers ignore this fact. Gas must remain in the system for manufacturing throughout the transition and we need to have frank and fearless conversations that include all energy offerings to ensure cost effective and consistent energy for all users," said Honi Walker, SEMMA CEO.

In a recent energy survey to members, 61% of respondents agreed that nuclear power can provide a cost-effective and reliable energy source for manufacturing businesses.

"We simply do not have enough renewable energy in our current system to support manufacturing – or our domestic users. Renewables can provide part of that supply, but it is an intermittent supply and batteries do not generate energy – they only store it," said Ms Walker.

A staggering 71% of respondents said they were in favour of including nuclear power into their manufacturing energy mix.

"The nuclear option has merit when we are talking about a long-term zero emission consistent energy supply. Globally, there are 32 countries using nuclear power (a total of 440 reactors#) and many have successfully combined these energy inputs, solved waste concerns and ensured an efficient, consistent, cost-effective, safe and sustainable energy supply for everyone. Australia must move forward in our energy choices to remain globally competitive for the sake of our manufacturing industry that currently employs 803,000 nationally," said Peter Angelico, SEMMA President.

66% of survey respondents had an overwhelmingly positive opinion of nuclear power as a source of energy for industrial use.

In Victoria, the South East region boasts over 232,903 jobs—a 10% surge in just five years. The southern region's output now hits a staggering \$54 billion, making up 24% of Victoria's \$227 billion manufacturing sector. That's an \$11 billion growth, or 26%, in five years. So, who's claiming manufacturing is dead? We need to ensure manufacturing remains a cornerstone of our economy, providing jobs and strengthening our national capability. It's high time policymakers drop their biases and engage in a serious debate about our energy future," challenged Mr. Angelico.

ABOUT SEMMA

*SEMMA, the South East Melbourne Manufacturers Alliance, is a membership-based organization that represents the interests of manufacturing businesses in the South East Melbourne region. The South East region of Melbourne generates \$54b in gross regional product, hosts 50% of Melbourne's manufacturing jobs employing 232,903 people and provides 24% of Victoria's overall \$227b manufacturing output. *Data from Remplan CGD 2024.*

#world-nuclear.org

NOTE TO EDITORS

CEO and President are available for comment on request.

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For more information, news, and perspectives from SEMMA, please visit:

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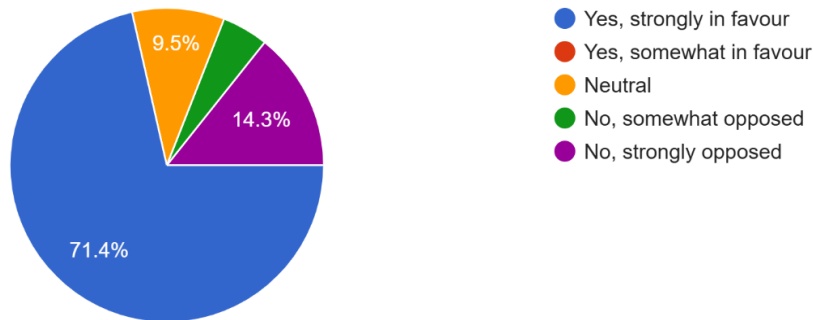
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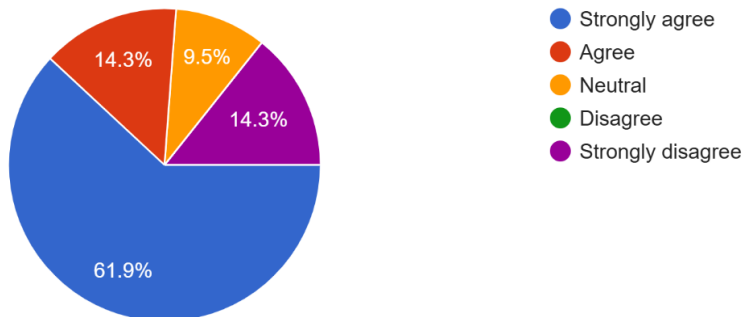
Our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC771dKQqxfmdXV7fEdSvMXA>

SURVEY RESULTS, JULY 2024

Are you in favor of integrating nuclear power into your energy mix for your manufacturing business?



Do you think nuclear power can provide a cost-effective, reliable source of energy for your manufacturing business?



What is your overall opinion of nuclear energy as a power source for industrial use?

