



REENERGIZING AMERICA'S DEFENSE: WHAT THE EXPERTS ARE SAYING

National security leaders, the defense community and academia increasingly recognize that climate change and the U.S. energy posture pose strategic, operational and fiscal challenges to the military.

“The Department of Defense has been an engine of innovation, pioneering development of cutting edge technologies such as the internet and global positioning systems. Building on this record, the Department will continue to help the United States develop and deploy the clean energy technologies our nation and our troops need to be safe, secure and prosperous in the future.”

– retired U.S. Sen. John W. Warner

“Energy, security, economics, climate change — these things are connected. ... It's a system of systems. It's very complex.”

– retired Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, former Army chief of staff and chairman, CNA Military Advisory Board, which wrote *National Security and the Threat of Climate Change and Powering America's Defense: Energy and the Risks to National Security*

“The Department is increasing its use of renewable energy supplies and reducing energy demand to improve operational effectiveness, reduce greenhouse gas emissions in support of U.S. climate change initiatives, and protect the Department from energy price fluctuations.”

– DoD's 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review Report

“Our dependence on foreign oil reduces our international leverage, places our troops in dangerous global regions, funds nations and individuals who wish us harm, and weakens our economy.”

– Powering America's Defense: *Energy and the Risks to National Security*, CNA's Military Advisory Board report

“The payoff to DoD from reduced fuel demand in terms of mission effectiveness and human lives is probably greater than for any other energy user in the world.”

– More Fight – *Less Fuel*, a report of the Defense Science Board Task Force on DoD Energy Strategy

“The QDR may be the most important report DoD provides Congress. It really requires the department to step back and think strategically about the present and the future.”

– Michèle Flournoy, undersecretary of defense for policy

“We have the great opportunity together to be early adopters of new energy technologies that will improve our security and will one day have a broader utility to the nation.”

– Adm. Gary Roughead, chief of naval operations

“Given the Army's reliance on energy, disruption of critical power and fuel supplies would harm the Army's ability to accomplish its missions. Such a risk exposes an Army vulnerability that must be addressed by a more secure energy position and outlook.”

– 2009 Army Energy Security Implementation Strategy

“Changing the way we use and produce energy is fundamentally an issue of national security, it is an economic necessity, and it is the responsible thing to do as custodians of the environment.”

– Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus

“Using energy wisely is the cornerstone of building an Air Force capable of complete air domination, for today, tomorrow and beyond.”

– Air Force Energy Plan 2010

“Energy choices can save lives on the battlefield.”

– Gen. James T. Conway, commandant of the Marine Corps

“Addressing the consequences of changes in the Earth’s climate is not simply about saving polar bears or preserving the beauty of mountain glaciers. Climate change is a threat to our national security. Taking it head-on is about preserving our way of life.”

–retired Navy Vice Adm. Lee F. Gunn, president, American Security Project and
CNA Military Advisory Board Member

“There is growing awareness that America’s ‘addiction to oil’ threatens the economy and security of the country, enriches hostile countries, funds terrorism, and compromises the country’s geopolitical interests and foreign policy. The prospect of future scarcity, thus increasing competition and conflict with other energy-hungry countries, looms as well.”

–Nadivah Greenberg, in “America’s ‘Addiction to Oil’:
Assessing National Security and Energy Policy”

For more information on the military’s energy conservation strategy, refer to Reenergizing America’s Defense, a report documenting how the armed forces are working for a more secure energy future and preparing for the potential impacts of climate change. The report can be found at www.pewclimatesecurity.org or contact Laura Lightbody at llightbody@pewtrusts.org.