

# Boris Johnson pledges to build nuclear reactors

## Vocabulary

dependence	fossil fuels	crucial	to wean off	to unveil
to propose	to generate	demand	to project	ambitious

## Article

Boris Johnson has announced he wants to build a new nuclear power station every year to reduce Britain's dependence on fossil fuels – including oil and gas supplied by Russia.

The Prime Minister tweeted: 'Nuclear power stations like the one I visited in Hartlepool today are absolutely crucial to weaning us off fossil fuels, including Russian oil and gas.'

The government's energy security strategy unveiled last month focuses heavily on nuclear and offshore wind power.

The strategy proposes to build up to eight nuclear plants to generate around a quarter of projected electricity demand by 2050.

The ambitious plan includes a target to create 95 per cent of Britain's electricity from nuclear and renewable sources by 2030 – up from 55 per cent at present.

The Government hopes the strategy will make Britain a net energy exporter by the end of the decade, and help protect the country's economy from global energy price shocks.

## Quiz

1. According to Mr. Johnson, why are nuclear power stations crucial?
2. What percentage of Britain's electricity currently comes from fossil fuels?

## Conversation

- A: You can't plan and build a power station in a year – they take at least 5 years to build!
- B: I know, right? And we're the ones who'll have to pay for it. You can be sure of that.
- A: Yep, definitely. Hey, remember when Boris promised to build 40 new hospitals by 2030?
- B: Yeah, and how many have they built? Three. This guy's living in fantasy land!

## Discussion

1. Does your country use nuclear power? How do you feel about it?
2. What do you use electricity for? Are your electricity bills expensive?