



Future
of Energy

Future of Energy & Education

The global shift in energy generation, supply, and demand entails technological, economic, and social changes to create a sustainable and reliable energy system. This involves modifying energy production, consumption, and infrastructure to reduce emissions, enhance efficiency, and improve security, while recalibrating the energy mix to include both fossil and non-fossil fuels.

The global energy shift and transformation is reshaping the education sector by driving the adoption of sustainable practices and energy-related research. Education institutions are increasingly shifting to renewable energy sources and implementing energy-efficient technologies across campuses. From solar-powered buildings to smart energy systems, K-12 schools and higher education institutions are becoming more eco-conscious, reducing their carbon footprint while lowering operational costs. Education institutions are pursuing facility and infrastructure upgrades through public-private partnerships (PPPs), and some schools are pioneering advanced nuclear projects like micro modular reactors and molten salt reactors to explore clean, reliable energy solutions for their campuses. Higher education institutions are also contributing to development of energy solutions through research, including by expanding programs, research partnerships, and training initiatives to prepare the next generation for careers in advanced nuclear and energy innovation. In conjunction with those activities, education institutions are also trying to reduce energy costs.

Transition strategies in Education:

- Decarbonizing campus operations through renewable energy adoption, including emerging advanced nuclear technologies
- Electrification of facilities and campus transportation
- Investment in energy-efficient technologies and more modern energy infrastructure
- Green finance and sustainability-focused funding for campus projects
- Research related to sustainable energy solutions

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Addressing risks and opportunities

The energy transition brings both risks and opportunities to the education sector. Regulatory changes, global pressure to reduce carbon emissions, and the increasing importance of environmental consciousness are reshaping institutional strategies. Risks include rising compliance costs, potential disruption to traditional energy sources, and reputational challenges for institutions that fail to meet sustainability expectations. To successfully navigate these risks, educational institutions need comprehensive strategies, combining innovative solutions, collaboration with industry experts, and investment in diverse energy sources.

How can we help?

- We help organizations horizon spot regulatory developments that affect investment strategies across the energy sector. We have the most comprehensive regulatory team of any global law firm, with team members from NRC, DOE, EPA, FERC, DOI, and the DOJ.
- We can help you switch to renewable energy sources through green power purchase agreements (PPAs). We've been at the forefront on negotiating PPAs across all major markets.
- We can advise on licensing, training, regular inspections, and compliance with federal nuclear safety standards.
- We can advise on PPP structures for achieving a higher education institution's energy goals.