

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Workbench Strategy and Hart Research
RE: New Poll: What Voters Want to See in an Energy Affordability Agenda
DATE: September 9, 2026

This memo outlines results from a poll conducted by Workbench Strategy in consultation with Hart Research from July 16-22, 2026 among 1800 registered voters nationwide. Surveys were conducted in English and Spanish via text and email invitations to an online survey. The overall margin of error is ± 2.30 percentage points. For more information on this research, please reach out to Jane Rayburn (jane@workbenchstrategy.com), Corrie Hunt (cvhunt@hartresearch.com) or Jay Campbell (jicampbell@hartresearch.com).

Nationwide Support for Clean Energy Projects

Roughly three-quarters of respondents nationwide support expanding new or existing clean energy projects (77%) and restarting clean energy projects that were canceled under the Trump administration (73%). They also have favorable views of clean energy and renewable energy companies (72% and 69% favorable, respectively). A majority (57%) further agree that increasing the production of clean energy will make their utility bills cheaper. These opinions are held even more widely by “politically disillusioned” voters, the one-in-five (22%) of the electorate who have unfavorable feelings toward President Trump and both Democrats and Republicans in Congress; more than 90% of this key audience supports both new clean energy projects and reviving cancelled ones.

Proposed Plan for Lowering Energy Costs Has Wide Support

There is expressed broad support for all three components of a proposed plan to address rising energy costs: delivering immediate relief (75%), keeping costs down long-term (87%), and

Support for Plan Components

Immediate Relief 75% total support

Delivering immediate economic relief for American families now by implementing an **American Utility Rate Relief Fund** to support states that **freeze or lower residential electricity rates for four years.**

Durable Solutions 87% total support

Keeping costs down in the longer-term by speeding up the use of **American-made affordable clean energy** and building a **modern electricity grid.**

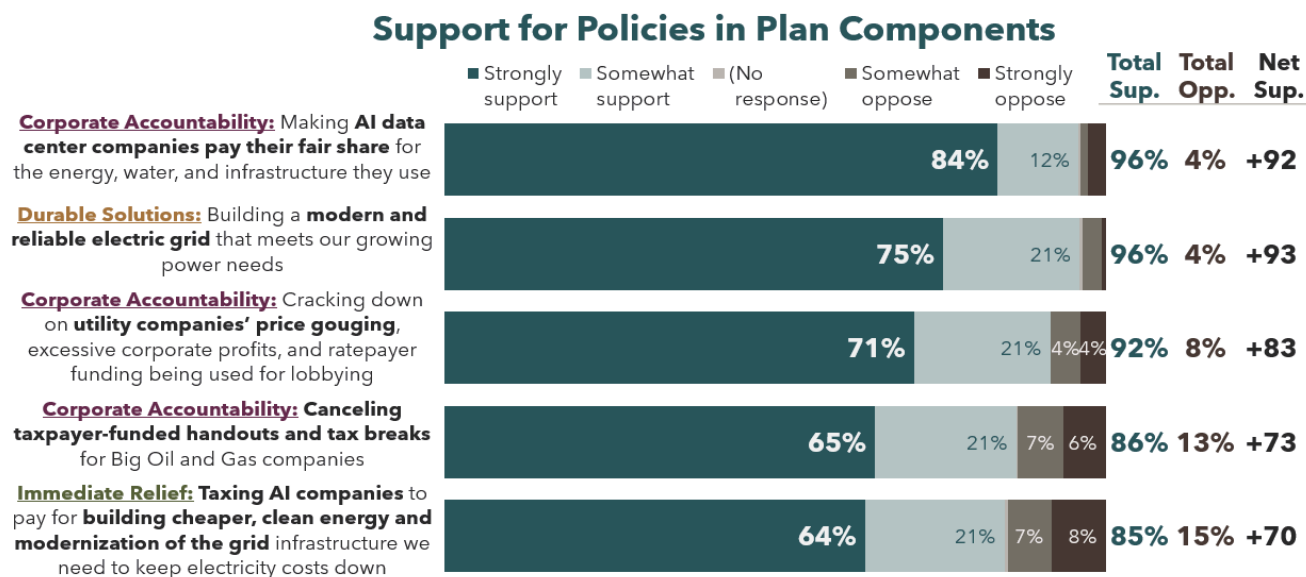
Corporate Accountability 85% total support

Fighting corporate greed by **taxing huge AI companies** to make them pay for modernizing the grid, so customers don't get stuck with the bill, and **making corporate polluters pay their fair share** and holding them accountable for the environmental and public health harms they are causing.

taking on Big Tech and corporate polluters (85%). A majority (55%) said they trust Democrats more than Republicans to implement this plan.

Top Policies: Data Centers, Electric Grid, Price Gouging

When asked about specific ways to enact this plan, respondents expressed the strongest support for making AI data centers pay their fair share (96%), building a modern and reliable electric grid (96%), addressing electricity companies' price gouging (92%), canceling taxpayer funded handouts for oil and gas companies (86%), and taxing AI companies to pay for a modernized grid powered by clean energy (85%). Over a third also rated four of these five policies as the top actions they think are most important for elected officials to take.



Americans Want Lower Energy Prices Through Clean Energy

Many indicate they are feeling squeezed by rising energy costs and corporate greed and see expanding clean energy as an important and sustainable solution to the country's growing energy needs. The war in Iran has renewed the feeling that we need more energy from more sources (63% agree). Americans support durable solutions that work for the long-term, as well as immediate stopgaps that help ease the burden in the short-term. Highlighting that corporate profits can fund projects and pay for grid improvements helps solidify support.