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FUTURE ENERGY MIX

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KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia may fall short of achieving its 2050 net-zero emissions target if nuclear energy is excluded from its future mix, said Deputy Energy Transition and Water Transformation Minister Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir.

Speaking during a panel session at the Energy Asia 2025 conference here yesterday, Akmal described nuclear power as the big elephant in the room in the nation's energy transition strategy, stressing its importance in providing a stable baseload to replace fossil fuels as

the country phases down coal, oil and gas.

"Without nuclear, we may not achieve net zero by 2050. So bear in mind, this is something that we have to really consider."

While nuclear energy is not classified as renewable, Akmal said it is an essential category within energy generation.

He said the ministry had begun internal scenario planning on nuclear, although the final decision would require government and public readiness.

Finance Minister II Datuk Seri

Amir Hamzah Azizan said Malaysia must remain open to globally proven technologies, especially as Asean nations work together to strengthen grid connectivity and energy security.

He said Malaysia and the region should not shy away from exploring all proven technologies — including nuclear power.

"We should also look at newer technology. Newer from Malaysia's point of view, but not newer from the world's point of view. So if nuclear is on the table, we should look at it," he said.



Deputy Energy Transition and Water Transformation Minister Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir (centre) speaking at the Energy Asia 2025 conference in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With him are Finance Minister II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan (left) and Deputy Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Liew Chin Tong. NSTP PIC BY MOHAMAD SHAHRIL BADRI SAALI