

For Victoria there are no benefits offered by Nuclear Power which are in any way remotely commensurate with the risks and damages.

Legacy for our children and descendants

Nuclear power stations constantly release radiation to air and water, assuming 'dilution' into our environment. These threaten particularly those in the near region, as confirmed by epidemiological studies.

Accumulation up through the food chain threatens all life, including our own.

Long lived radioactive elements have lives threatening for thousands of human generations. We cannot responsibly bequeath a poison legacy to all life, effectively for ever.

The solid wastes are intractable, transport is dangerous, occasional accidents inevitable. Storage suitable for thousands of years remains unproven. Suitable geology is difficult to find. Water permeates through rock and transports toxic materials.

Risk and Insurance

Look at your own insurance policies!! The risks are un-insurable. The risks, costs and difficulty of 'clean-up' are too great for the insurers to accept.

Remember Chernobyl and Fukushima. They are continuing disasters. Fukushima is constantly adding its characteristic radiation pattern to the northern Pacific and this is being concentrated up our food chain.

Water

Nuclear power requires vast quantities of cooling water.

Australia is a hot country, short of reliable water.

To add to our woes, allocation processes have been corrupted.

Reactors in Europe have to frequently shut down in hot weather when electricity demand is high because they cannot be cooled safely without sterilising their water sources, particularly rivers.

Rising sea levels and temperatures, rising acidity, loss of kelp forests, and losses of all other forms of sea life are further threatened by nuclear cooling water.

Cost

The costs of construction of Nuclear power are prohibitive, borne out by the constant cost and time over-runs now occurring in construction of established designs.

The extent of tax-payer subsidy involved in new projects in the UK is breathtaking as are the contracted and increased costs to the future users of such power.

The costs of waste storage and security over thousands of generations are beyond forecasting. Following accidents the human, monetary and time costs of making land inhabitable are extraordinary, always transferred to tax-payers and generations to come.

Lead Time

Nuclear power stations are so slow to build that they are no solution to the global Climate Emergency.

Nuclear power is now obsoleted by developments in renewable technology

Thermal Efficiency

The overall thermal efficiency of nuclear power stations is very low.

Wind and solar are now so efficient that they challenge even the most thermally efficient heat engines.

Carbon Footprint

When mining, transport and processing of raw materials, and ultimately the problem of safe storage are taken into account the claims for zero Carbon footprint are nonsense.

Small Modular Reactors

Can any dangerous technological system cannot ever compete with the economics of scale of fewer larger systems.

This is a concept promoted by snake oil salesmen to the gullible.

Natural Advantage

Australia has more sunshine and wind available, along with the space to install it, than the majority of countries.

We should concentrate on working where we have such a huge advantage to both develop technologically and to exploit these technologies.

Distributed Power Generation

The momentum of renewable solar and wind, especially in Australia, with the recent addition of highly responsive battery storage has radically transformed the potential of local regional areas to maintain some essential power when isolated (islanded) by overloads or failures of the national grid.

This can be enhanced by the potential of DC links to enable regional areas of the grid to ride out frequency management threats.

Widely distributed generation and storage offers potential not only for increased energy security but also for distribution of employment and economic activity

Medical

We have already in Australia adequate capacity to produce necessary isotopes and tools such as the synchrotron have potentially extended this.

Military

This is only perceivable reason why any country could now seek to waste scarce resources on a new reactor.

This leads us down the inevitable path to Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD).

Where the Climate Change Emergency faces us with a slow boil this offers us a sudden ice age allied with radiation sickness and genetic destruction.

A majority of UN member Nations have voted to declare nuclear weapons as the ultimate illegal 'Weapon of Mass Destruction'. Australia sadly has not yet joined them.

We, and our descendants, to come are best served by maintaining the current prohibition.

John Poppins

