

How Practical Is Nuclear Power

Now and for the Future?

Highlights

Pro *(Supporters Claim)*

In Japan, where nuclear power supplies 27 percent of the country's electricity, new nuclear plants are being deployed at the fastest rate in the world. (See page 17)

Throughout the world, nuclear power is an inexpensive generating option. (See page 19)

The potential hazards of nuclear reactors have been reduced to an extremely low level of actual risk. (See page 32)

The small volume of high-level waste makes it highly controllable, compared to other industrial wastes. (See page 41)

In the U.S., no commercial nuclear power plant worker has ever exhibited clinical evidence of serious injury from radiation. (See page 72)

Con *(Opponents Claim)*

In Sweden, where nuclear power supplies 42 percent of the country's electricity, voters passed a referendum to close all of the country's nuclear plants. (See page 17)

Between 1971 and 1985 the cost of building new nuclear plants in the U.S. rose sixfold. (See page 19)

A nuclear power plant accident could cause 50,000 early fatalities and \$314 billion in property damage. (See page 24)

No technology for the safe, permanent containment of radioactive wastes has been developed and tested. (See page 41)

Nuclear power's occupational hazards are manifested more in long-term cancer than in immediate lethality. (See page 72)