

Nuclear Power Pros and Cons

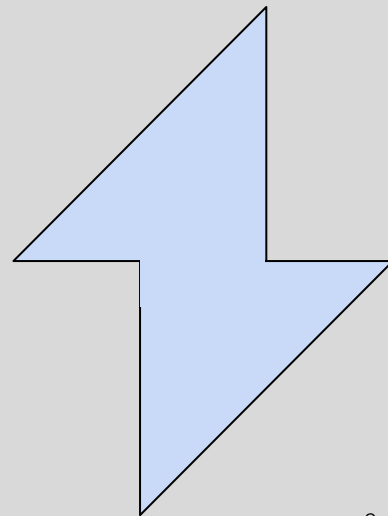
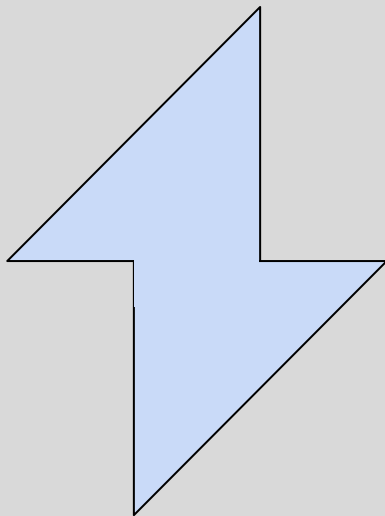
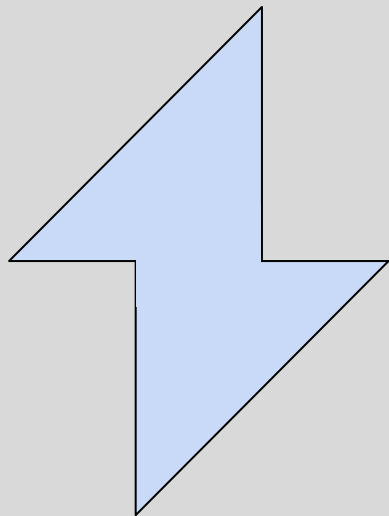
By Joel King

Pros

1. Fewer carbon emissions.
2. Kills fewer people for the energy we get.

Cons

1. Accidental nuclear waste releases.
2. Power plants are expensive.



1896 - Svante Arrhenius and Climate Change

- Has been understood for 120+ years.
- Simple to disprove, but never disproven.
- “Popular Mechanics”, March 1912: Burning coal.
- Only more refined over time.

TABLE VII.—*Variation of Temperature caused by a given Variation of Carbonic Acid.*

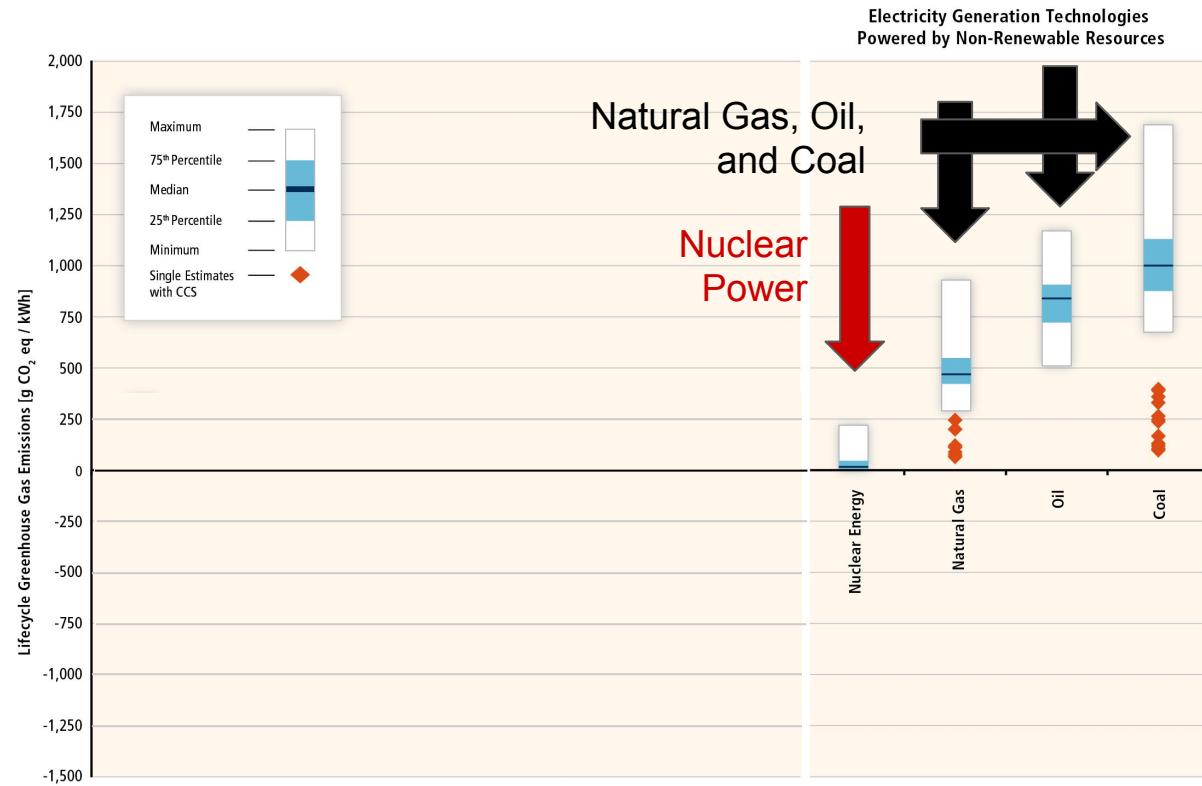
Latitude.	Carbonic Acid=0.67.					Carbonic Acid=1.5.					Carbonic Acid=2.0.					Carbonic Acid=2.5.					Carbonic Acid=3.0.				
	Dec.-Feb.	March-May.	June-Aug.	Sept.-Nov.	Mean of the year.	Dec.-Feb.	March-May.	June-Aug.	Sept.-Nov.	Mean of the year.	Dec.-Feb.	March-May.	June-Aug.	Sept.-Nov.	Mean of the year.	Dec.-Feb.	March-May.	June-Aug.	Sept.-Nov.	Mean of the year.	Dec.-Feb.	March-May.	June-Aug.	Sept.-Nov.	Mean of the year.
70	-2.9	-3.0	-3.4	-3.1	-3.1	3.3	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.52	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.05	7.9	8.0	7.9	8.0	7.95	9.1	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.3
60	-3.0	-3.2	-3.4	-3.3	-3.22	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.62	6.1	6.1	5.8	6.1	6.02	8.0	8.0	7.6	7.9	7.87	9.3	9.5	8.9	9.5	9.3
50	-3.2	-3.3	-3.3	-3.4	-3.3	3.7	3.8	3.4	3.7	3.65	6.1	6.1	5.5	6.0	5.92	8.0	7.9	7.0	7.9	7.7	9.5	9.4	8.6	9.2	9.17
40	-3.4	-3.4	-3.2	-3.3	-3.32	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.5	3.52	6.0	5.8	5.4	5.6	5.7	7.9	7.6	6.9	7.3	7.42	9.3	9.0	8.2	8.8	8.82
30	-3.3	-3.2	-3.1	-3.1	-3.17	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.47	5.6	5.4	5.0	5.2	5.3	7.2	7.0	6.6	6.7	6.87	8.7	8.3	7.5	7.9	8.1
20	-3.1	-3.1	-3.0	-3.1	-3.07	3.5	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.25	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.02	6.7	6.6	6.3	6.6	6.52	7.9	7.5	7.2	7.5	7.52
10	-3.1	-3.0	-3.0	-3.0	-3.02	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.15	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.95	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.42	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3
0	-3.0	-3.0	-3.1	-3.0	-3.02	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.15	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.95	6.4	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.5	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.35
-10	-3.1	-3.1	-3.2	-3.1	-3.12	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.07	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.68	7.4	7.5	8.0	7.6	7.62
-20	-3.1	-3.2	-3.3	-3.2	-3.2	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.27	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.35	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.0	6.87	7.9	8.1	8.6	8.3	8.22
-30	-3.3	-3.3	-3.4	-3.4	-3.35	3.4	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.52	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.6	5.62	7.0	7.2	7.7	7.4	7.32	8.6	8.7	9.1	8.8	8.8
-40	-3.4	-3.4	-3.3	-3.4	-3.37	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.7	5.8	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.95	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.85	9.1	9.2	9.4	9.3	9.25
-50	-3.2	-3.3	—	—	—	3.8	3.7	—	—	—	6.0	6.1	—	—	—	7.9	8.0	—	—	—	9.4	9.5	—	—	—
-60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

266 Prof. S. Arrhenius on the Influence of Carbonic Acid



Near Zero Carbon

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2011)
- Grams of greenhouse gas emissions per kilowatt hour.
- Nuclear is near zero.
- Natural Gas, oil, and coal range from 400-1000 or higher.

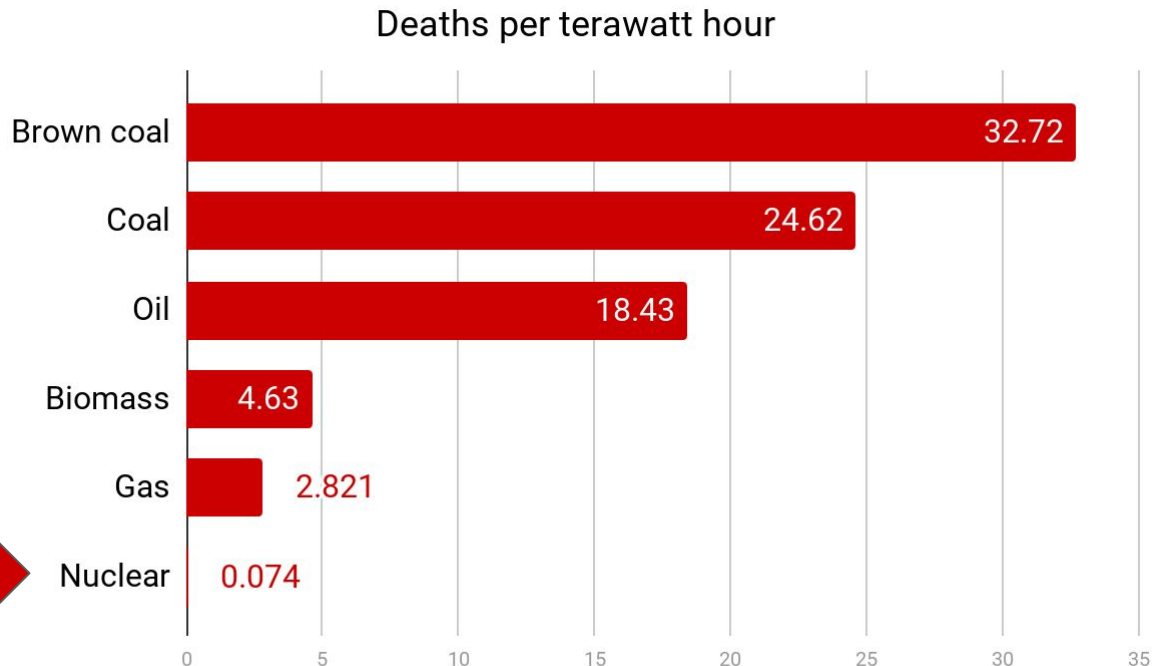


Safer

Includes:

- Air pollution
- Accidents
- Cancer

More than 330 will die from coal
for every 1 from nuclear power.



Nuclear Waste

Cesium-137:

- 30 year half-life.
- Easily dissolved in water.

Goiânia, Brazil:

- Abandoned medical facility.
- Glowing blue dust.
- Necrotized flesh and lesions.
- 4 dead, 220 treated for radiation poisoning.

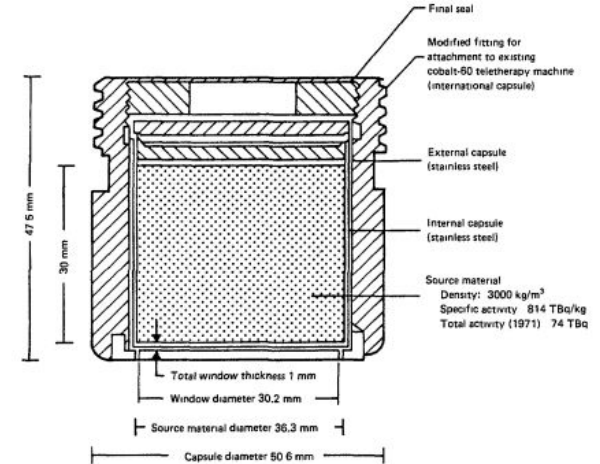
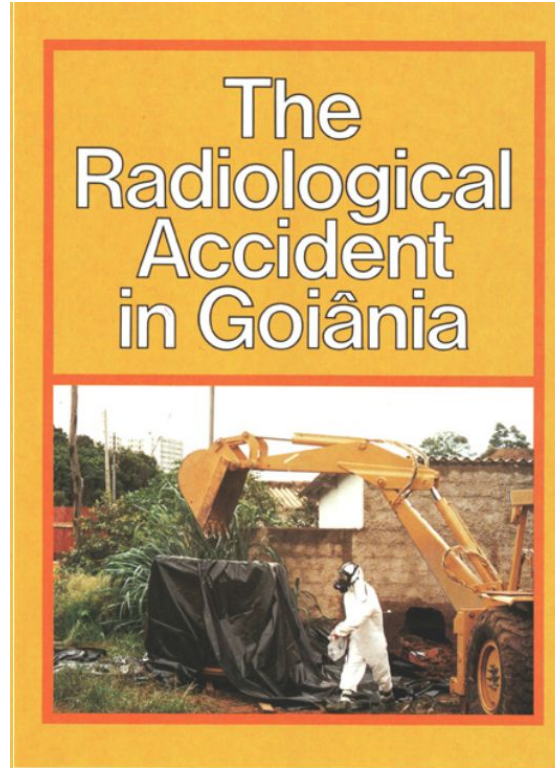


FIG. 6. Cross-sectional diagram of an international standard capsule. Such a capsule of radioactive caesium chloride was broken open in the accident in Goiânia. The source was compacted to a coherent mass and sealed within two stainless steel capsules



INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, VIENNA, 1988

Fukushima Today

- Tsunami in March, 2011 caused the Fukushima accident.
- All three nuclear reactors melted down.
- March, 2018, Cesium-137 is still leaking seven years later.



One Nuclear Power Plant - 'Only' \$20,000,000,000!

- Hitachi no longer building UK nuclear plant.
- Spent \$2,800,000,000, then stopped.
- UK government wouldn't agree to cost.
- Toshiba shutting down UK plant already in operation.
- No one would buy it.

Pros

1. Fewer carbon emissions.
2. Kills fewer people for the energy we get.

Cons

1. Accidental nuclear waste releases.
2. Power plants are expensive.



Bibliography

Arrhenius, S. (1896). XXXI. On the influence of carbonic acid in the air upon the temperature of the ground. The London, Edinburgh, and Dublin Philosophical Magazine and Journal of Science, 41(251), 237-276. Retrieved from http://www.rsc.org/images/Arrhenius1896_tcm18-173546.pdf

International Atomic Energy Agency. (1988). The Radiological accident in Goiânia. Vienna: International Atomic Energy Agency. Retrieved from https://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub815_web.pdf

Molena, F. (1912, March). Remarkable Weather of 1911: The Effect of the Combustion of Coal on the Climate -- What Scientists Predict For The Future. Popular Mechanics, 17(3), 339–342. Retrieved from <https://books.google.com/books?id=Tt4DAAAAMBAJ&pg=PA339>

Powell, J. L. (2012, November 15). Why Climate Deniers Have No Scientific Credibility - In One Pie Chart. Retrieved February 6, 2019, from <https://www.desmogblog.com/2012/11/15/why-climate-deniers-have-no-credibility-science-one-pie-chart>

Ritchie, H. (2017, July 24). It goes completely against what most believe, but out of all major energy sources, nuclear is the safest. Retrieved February 12, 2019, from <https://ourworldindata.org/what-is-the-safest-form-of-energy>

Sathaye, J., Lucon, O., Rahman, A., Christensen, J., Denton, F., Fujino, J., ... Shmakina, A. (2011). Renewable Energy in the Context of Sustainable Development. In O. Edenhofer, R. Pichs-Madruga, Y. Sokona, K. Seyboth, P. Matschoss, S. Kadner, ... C. von Stechow (Eds.), IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation (p. 732). Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA: Cambridge University Press. Retrieved from <https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/03/Chapter-9-Renewable-Energy-in-the-Context-of-Sustainable-Development-1.pdf>

Seven years on, radioactive water at Fukushima plant still flowing into ocean, study finds. (2018, March 29). Retrieved February 12, 2019, from <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/03/29/national/seven-years-radioactive-water-fukushima-plant-still-flowing-ocean-study-finds/>

Bibliography

Shane, D. (2019, January 17). Hitachi shelves \$20 billion nuclear power plant in UK. Retrieved February 12, 2019, from <https://www.cnn.com/2019/01/17/business/hitachi-nuclear-power-wales-uk/index.html>

U.S. Energy Information Administration. (2017, May 3). Power plants' costs and value to the grid are not easily reflected using simple metrics. Retrieved February 12, 2019, from <https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=31052>

U.S. Energy Information Administration. (2018, March). U.S. Energy Information Administration | Levelized Cost and Levelized Avoided Cost of New Generation Resources1 March 2018 Levelized Cost and Levelized Avoided Cost of New Generation Resources in the Annual Energy Outlook 2018. Retrieved February 12, 2019, from https://www.eia.gov/outlooks/aeo/pdf/electricity_generation.pdf