

Dear sir/mme/senator

I believe you are requesting points of view as to whether Australia needs Nuclear power.
I submit the following:-

In Australia, until a couple of decades ago power was generated by local government bodies and some private bodies and as a nation we were quite successful in our manufacturing and private usage abilities.

At that time if there were to be a failure in the system only a few locals were affected because there was no network of power lines linking enormous numbers of cities, councils, states together.

In the decades just gone there has been a push to privatise the energy suppliers which has seen the requirement for huge grids which in turn mean that now the whole of Eastern Australia is reliant on this massive grid. A blackout nowadays does not affect the relatively small numbers which were affected previously. It can affect whole states and a blackout in one state can cause problems and ridiculously high prices for the supply even in other states.

So why do we need this "baseload" power when each municipality has it within its own ability to generate sufficient electricity for its own use?

If Australia has a close look at itself, a far better and much less expensive alternative to either coal fired ,oil based or nuclear produced power is through the generation of power from our sun, wind and also from, believe it or not, the generation of power from infrared generation all done within the precincts of our own individual blocks of land whether they be agricultural, industrial or domestic. To expend enormous sums of money generating power from new resources which can be used elsewhere is insane and uneconomical when such clean energy can be generated without the need for new infrastructure or the destruction of our precious landscape.

Unfortunately the people in power (PIPs) are required to take the advice of "experts"- mainly scientists, economists, and professional lobbyists - and the poor old PIPs have no choice but to accept their recommendations.

If you are in the position where you have to make a choice or are involved in deciding whether we should use nuclear power or not, PLEASE first of all look at the backgrounds of those advising you. If you even suspect the adviser might be employed in the industry or have some other interest whereby he/she can gain something - not necessarily by corruption or other indirect means - do not endorse them.

Governments have it within their bailiwick to look ahead and decide what is in the best interests of their nation and not in the interests of just a few who stand to make profit.

best regards,

Virgil Smith