

Nuclear Power

1. Civil nuclear power is the most expensive way of generating electricity
2. It would not be attractive to investors without government policies aimed at transferring financial risks of such projects to the taxpayer.
3. It cannot be delivered in a timescale that is useful for fighting global warming.
4. Nuclear builds always cost much more than originally estimated and take far longer to complete than originally suggested.
5. The only reason for civil nuclear power is to feed into the needs of the military nuclear activity. Civil nuclear provides vital resources for military use and also supports the training, regulatory and career paths essential to maintaining the military activity.
6. Money spent on nuclear power is not available for spending on renewables and thus is working against effectively combatting climate change.
7. Nuclear power stations aren't inherently flexible and thus are not well suited to working in conjunction with the variable outputs of solar or wind generation.
8. Never forget that the costs of decommissioning and waste storage are gifted to you, the taxpayer!
9. There are major industrial interests making huge profits from nuclear power and nuclear weapons, and they devote significant funds to shaping the narrative that both technologies are of vital importance for national security. The continued devotion to the nuclear pathway in both these fields is spurred on by the amount of money associated with this narrative. It has nothing really to do with saving the planet or providing a secure future for mankind.
10. Small Modular Reactors will produce electricity even more expensively than full sized reactors. They do not benefit from the economies of scale enjoyed by their larger counterparts and thus they cannot compete on a cost per kWh basis.
11. SMRs produce more nuclear waste per kWh than their larger counterparts.
12. SMRs increase the risk of nuclear proliferation, by providing more widespread sites containing near weapons grade material.
13. SMR designs are not proven at this stage and are essentially concept designs at this time, rather than fully worked up designs, approved by regulators and ready to build.
14. Expanding nuclear energy will not help address climate change but will worsen a range of environmental problems and security risks
15. There is no proven technological solution for the long term storage of nuclear waste.
16. There is major political pressure on nuclear regulators, reducing their resources and urging them to reduce their demands on industry. This can only increase the risk of accidents long term.
17. Nuclear power stations represent a real threat in times of war.
18. These projects cannot get insurance and so this risk of accidental contamination is passed on to the taxpayer too.

19. Nuclear power stations have a history of failure. A very serious consideration is our inability to control the radioactive contamination when this happens. Large population evacuations are required and the exclusion zones remain uninhabitable for hundreds of years.