



Nuclear Power is Not Clean and Not Renewable

1. **Nuclear power is not renewable.** Nuclear energy is fueled with uranium. Uranium is mined from the earth, just as coal and gas are mined from the earth. Wind and solar energy are renewable since they are naturally replenished. On the other hand, uranium is used once it is mined from the earth and put into a nuclear reactor; the earth processes do not replenish uranium on a similar time-scale to wind and solar.¹
2. **Nuclear power is not clean.** Although nuclear reactors do not emit carbon dioxide during operation, the full lifecycle of nuclear power is not clean. The mining process is damaging to groundwater and land and leaves behind radioactive tailings, the spent fuel waste remains radioactive for hundreds of thousands of years², the decommissioning process leaves behind large quantities of waste, some of which is radioactive.
3. **There is no permanent waste storage site for spent fuel.** The waste remains stored on-site of the nuclear power plants. That puts local communities at risk, as the waste piles up and structures storing the waste have to be maintained and protected.³
4. **Accidental emissions from a nuclear power plant can make neighboring properties, homes, businesses, and farmland uninhabitable.**
5. **Exposure to radioactive materials is harmful to human health.**

¹ <https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/renewable-sources>

² <https://www.nrc.gov/waste/high-level-waste>

³ <https://www.epa.gov/radtown/radioactive-waste>