

A. Summary.

The article: "Fukushima blast shows nuclear is not the answer" is written by Brahma Chellaney at the Guardian.co.uk Tuesday 15 March 2011 12.06 GMT.

-This article is focusing on the problem with nuclear reactors, how fragile they are and how they pollute the waters. Many of the nuclear reactors in the world, are placed close to a water source for cooling. Those placed near the coast lines, are in danger for tsunamis and other harsh weather phenomenon. More than a few power plants the last 20 years, have been incapacitated and set offline because of harsh weather, or heatwaves. In 2003 France had to shut down because of the heat, and was forced to buy electricity from other countries. Another heat wave struck Europe in 2006 where Spain, Germany and France had to take power plants offline, but because of the heat the demand for air condition units increased and thus even more electricity. One of the biggest problems with nuclear power plants is the water consumption and the vulnerability to water. If we keep nuclear reactors we could end up with the same accident in Pennsylvania in 1979 or worse the complete meltdown in Chernobyl in 1985.

B. Discussion & Commentary

The Fukushima nuclear power plant is located near a coast line, just like many other plants in Britain, France and Spain. This is for the optimal cooling for the reactors. Placing the power plant here is a great idea for the climate because the sea is a lot harder to heat up in the summer and there for keeping the reactor cool. Some reactors are placed near rivers, this is mostly done inland where there is no coastline, but this pollutes the water and makes it harder to cool the reactor in the summer where the rivers are getting warm. Though placing the reactors at the shore is a good idea for the reactor, the risk for weather or climate change can effect or damage the reactors and make the area inhospitable. This can also happen with the power plants located inland.

Global warming is heating the world, and making the demand for electricity even higher. This Creates a demand for more electricity for air condition. Then again increasing global warming even further.

When a tsunami struck the Madras power plant they did not have to shut it all down, just keeping it on a lower production, because the electrical system where installed higher ground. This is a of cause a good thing for the population around Madras power plant, who could still keep a decent temperature in their homes. This is one of the few places in the article, where the writer actually talks positive about nuclear power. This could be that Brahma Chellaney is from India more precise, New Delhi where he is a Professor of Strategic Studies at the Center for Policy Reserch. There for it would seem that as long the power plants are working and giving life, cool air and making the day bright with light where he is from all is well.