

CURRENT ENERGY TRENDS

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Today there are many problems that stand in the front of power engineering. The main of them is a fast growing population on our planet. More people require more energy, so modern systems have to be as effective as they can be. The most popular type of power plants in our country is a thermal power plant. They are reliable and comparably effective. Thermal stations have an important benefit: they can be used everywhere. Unlike solar panels and wind farms, thermal power plants do not have to be situated in some special places. This fact makes thermal power plants the only way to produce energy for some countries. Unfortunately, using thermal power plants forever is impossible because of their several flaws. To start with, a lot of thermal power plants must be supplied with oil, which is a limited resource. Oil consumption is going to grow every year. Also, there is a problem with air pollution [1].

That means our country has to find an alternative to thermal power plants. In my opinion, the best way to produce energy in our situation is using nuclear power plants instead of thermal. There are a lot of issues but I can see some obvious benefits, too.

Nuclear power plants are much more effective than thermal stations. Also, it is much cheaper to use nuclear power plants than thermal ones. Nuclear power plants are much less harmful for air, too.

However, some people reasonably consider that nuclear power plants will not be our main source of energy in the future. And there are some serious

reasons for this. The main of them is a risk of an accident. Intrinsically, risks are not really big, but consequences are serious. An impact caused by the Chernobyl disaster appears on people and nature even today.

There are many theories of how this happened. The most popular one says about imperfection of nuclear plant's construction and human factor. Also, there exists another popular theory of reasons of the Chernobyl disaster. It says about an unsuccessful experiment on the nuclear power plant [2].

Anyway, today we can say that modern safety systems and precautions are advanced. All Chernobyl power plant's flaws were considered, so modern nuclear power plants are much safer. Building a new Belarussian nuclear power plant that would be relevant to modern requirements would be a good solution to some of our problems.

Nuclear power plant can work anywhere as well as thermal power plant. Additionally, it does not consume lots of fuel. This makes a nuclear power plant prepositioned future for Belarus. Also, the problem of air pollution will be partially solved.

However, there are some problems that the nuclear power plant will cause. The main is an amount of nuclear waste. It is dangerous for people and this waste cannot be destroyed, recycled and decomposes for thousands of years or longer.

References

1. Global oil consumption according to BP [Electronic resource]. – Mode of access: earlywarn.blogspot.com – Date of access: 29.01.2023.

2. Belarus to open Belarussian nuclear power plant in Ostrovets on 7 November [Electronic resource]. – Mode of access: belnaviny.by – Date of access: 29.01.2023.