Is Nuclear Power Worth the Risk?

 **Nuclear power is a great new energy source, but it can have disastrous consequences. In my opinion, although it is quite dangerous, we need nuclear power. From what i’ve read, the benefits outweigh the consequences. I have three reasons that support my claim.**

**First of all, it is a clean energy alternative. In an article it says, “Nuclear power plants don’t produce smoke”(Burgess, 1-5) The “smoke coming from nuclear power plants is steam. Nuclear power also, “Frees us from the shackles of fossil fuel.” (Brain and Lamb, 1). This means that we don’t need to use fossil fuels that kill the environment. Because it is not a fossil fuel and does not emit carbon dioxide, as long as it is contained it potentially clean and harmless.**

**Another reason to support my claim is that it creates a large amount of energy. It is one of the best energy sources in my opinion. Text states, “104 nuclear power plants supply 20% of the electricity overall.”(Brain and Lamb, 3). Only 104? That is crazy! We don’t even need to use fossil fuels because nuclear power creates more energy. Why waste it when it is not renewable and doesn’t create as much energy?**

**Also, again in my opinion, nuclear power poses little to no safety risks. There have been disasters in the past, but people have gone far to ensure to safety. In the text the author says, “U.S. nuclear reactors are contained in concrete structures with walls four feet thick”(Burgess, 1-5). If you research, you will find that most nuclear disasters were from faulty buildings and bad reactors. Take Chernobyl for example. They had a huge accident but it was later discovered that they had taken no up to date safety measures. The building was old and the reactor was very flammable.**

**There are sadly also reasons to support that nuclear power should not be aloud. The process of gaining nuclear power is not a clean one. It is also very dangerous. The text states, “There is the significant issue of radioactivity” (Burgess, 1-5). This is very true. The nuclear power plants produce a bunch of radioactive waste. These are hard to contain and can not be thrown out. The nuclear waste also destroys environments and takes up so much precious land. For these reasons someone could obviously argue that nuclear power is a dangerous concept.**

**There was some evidence against my claim, but I believe that nuclear power should be aloud. It can be a good thing and I want people to see that. It is cleaner than fossil fuels. It does create a great energy that we probably don’t want to lose. It also is almost completely safe with little to no risks. This is why I give nuclear power a thumbs up!**