**1. Is Nuclear Power a Viable Fuel Option?**

Nuclear power is a **low-carbon** energy source that produces electricity without direct CO₂ emissions. However, it has drawbacks:

* **Pros:**
  + High energy output with minimal greenhouse gas emissions.
  + Reliable and not dependent on weather (unlike solar or wind).
  + Can help transition away from fossil fuels.
* **Cons:**
  + **Nuclear waste**: Long-lived radioactive waste requires secure disposal.
  + **High costs**: Building plants is expensive and time-consuming.
  + **Uranium mining**: Can be environmentally damaging and poses health risks.
  + **Safety concerns**: Potential for catastrophic accidents.

**2. Negative Effects of Thorium Mining vs. Coal Mining**

* **Thorium mining** is generally considered **less harmful** than coal mining because it produces less air pollution and fewer greenhouse gases.
* **Coal mining** has severe environmental impacts, including deforestation, air and water pollution, and high carbon emissions.
* However, thorium mining still involves **radiation risks** and environmental damage if not properly managed.

**3. Safety Concerns: Chernobyl & Fukushima**

* **Chernobyl (1986)**: A poorly designed reactor and operator errors led to an explosion, releasing massive radiation.
* **Fukushima (2011)**: A tsunami disabled cooling systems, leading to a meltdown.
* These disasters highlight:
  + The **risks of human error** and natural disasters.
  + The need for **better safety regulations** and **newer reactor designs** (like small modular reactors or thorium-based reactors) to reduce risks.

**4. TEDx Talks Comparison**

Both talks discuss nuclear energy, but with different perspectives:

* **"Nuclear Power as an Alternative to Fossil Fuels"** argues that nuclear is a necessary clean energy source.
* **"Why I Changed My Mind About Nuclear Power"** presents a case of skepticism turned into support due to climate concerns.
* **Similarities:** Both emphasize nuclear as a tool for reducing fossil fuel use.
* **Differences:** The second talk focuses more on overcoming fears and misinformation.

**5. Policies for Countries Suspect in Nuclear Policy**

* **International oversight** (via IAEA – International Atomic Energy Agency).
* **Stricter monitoring and transparency** for nuclear programs.
* **Sanctions or restrictions** for countries that misuse nuclear technology.
* **Support for peaceful nuclear energy programs** under strict regulations.