In this paper, I will argue that it is a wise choice for the US government to build more nuclear power plants in the next 20 years, but this should be conducted conscientiously. In recent years, energy supply has become a severe problem in the US, with the increasing demand for power and raising pollution levels. People use fossil fuels such as natural gas, petrol, and coal to generate electricity in traditional ways. Although they have low economic input, high power efficiency, and minimal technology requirements, conventional methods of power generalization produce greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide. In the US, air pollution damages the local environment and harms other nearby areas through air movement.[[1]](#footnote-1)

As a nascent technology, nuclear power was not used in the US until 1957, but it has many advantages and is developing rapidly. Firstly, it is considered clean energy since no carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases are generated, and it consumes zero fossil fuel during electricity generation. These features effectively solve the pollution problem that is currently troubling the US government. Secondly, nuclear power is theoretically long-term renewable energy. Some may argue that constructing nuclear power plants would cost too much since the US already has many power plants, and building more nuclear power plants might cause overcapacity in power generation. Admittedly, the initial construction of a new nuclear power plant requires a large financial budget. However, nuclear power plants have a relatively low running cost compared with other types of power plants and are also known for their extremely high power density. Nuclear power plants would be an economical choice in the long term. Building more nuclear power plants is a wise choice for the US government since they could gradually replace the traditional fossil fuel power plants with nuclear power plants and generate electricity through clean and renewable ways.

Even though nuclear power plants have the advantages described above, the public still holds an unfavorable attitude toward them due to concerns about accidents. A nuclear accident is a horrible disaster for the people and the government, no matter how severe the accident is. For the US government, the Three Mile Island incident was a painful lesson; the White House established a Presidential Commission to provide an explanation for the accident and started to raise public awareness about nuclear security. The incident caused the US government to put significant effort into increasing the security in nuclear power plants and helped to galvanize the anti-nuclear movement in the US.

Even though there are concerns about safety and security, the US has already taken steps to address these issues. Nuclear power could contribute renewable and clean energy to the US public. In the upcoming 20 years, with so many unique advantages, it is evident that nuclear power has promising prospects.

1. Beckendorf, Kirk. “In Search of Air Pollution.” *Science Scope*, vol. 29, no. 5, 2006, pp. 20–23. *JSTOR*, http://www.jstor.org/stable/43181723. Accessed 24 Jun. 2022. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)