

NUCLEAR POWER, a rational look with Don Margerum.

Nuclear power comes with a long history of problems, however:

- The US Navy has operated 254 reactors for decades without a single accident.
- The French get most of their electrical power from nuclear reactors.
- The United States has 104 reactors operating for decades without a fatality from a nuclear accident. **Has nuclear power had a bad rap?**



Rationally reviewing nuclear power issues can be done like an investigative reporter would do it, plowing through books on the subject, searching for information in magazines, newspapers, the Internet, and having dialogs with those of different persuasions. It does not have to be done by a nuclear scientist, and Don Margerum is not a nuclear scientist. He is a retired electronic systems engineer who has been exploring this subject in a two-year effort to structure this presentation for the Humanist Society of Santa Barbara, and other interested groups. Among the subjects examined are:

- Reactor Safety Design
- Three-Mile Island & Chernobyl Accidents
- Transportation and Disposal of Radioactive Waste
- Terrorist Attack Vulnerability
- Uranium Enrichment Concerns
- Plutonium Proliferation

He will compare Nuclear Power with Coal, Domestic Oil, Natural Gas, Bio-fuels, Wind, and Solar systems, regarding Safe Design, Waste Disposal, Waste Transport, Pollution Control, Terrorism Control, and Proliferation Control.

He asks a hypothetical question: “What would it cost the US to build a new nuclear power system big enough to completely replace imported oil?” The same question is asked for a wind system, and solar systems. And how long would it take to pay for the investments?

Don Margerum has Engineering degrees from Missouri and Northwestern Universities. He was an electronic systems engineer for a number of leading aerospace companies, including Stanford Research Institute, The Aerospace Corporation, and Northrop Aviation. He retired from his last 13 years at Raytheon in 1992, and continued as a consulting engineer until 1994.

Presented by the Humanist Society of Santa Barbara on Saturday, April 17th.



2:30pm doors open, 3pm meeting will start in the Patio Room at Vista del Monte, 3775 Modoc Road (Las Positas exit off 101, midway between UCSB & SBCC) in Santa Barbara.

The public is invited: \$2 student or \$5 general donations would be appreciated. Information phone 805-259-6432 or website

<http://www.SantaBarbaraHumanists.org>