

Economic competitiveness of nuclear power

Among various energy sources, nuclear power holds the advantage of economic competitiveness. For example, China Jinshan Petrochemical Plant plans to build a thermal power plant. When selecting the project, it had to take different factors into account. If it constructed a coal thermal power plant, it will need about 1.1 million tons of coal a year. Not only will transportation be a problem, but in particular the environmental pollution caused by burning coal is a serious problem. If it constructed a fuel electric power plant, it will need 800,000 tons of fuel a year to generate RMB 180 million of electricity, but the cost of raw chemical material is RMB 480 million, which could be exported for 136 million US dollars through foreign exchange. Therefore, the final choice is the construction of a nuclear thermal power station, which not only is transportation not a problem, but only require 26 tons of UO a year, also the most cost effective economic consideration.

Beginning in 1973, the cost of nuclear power in major industrial countries is the same as thermal power. In the future, following adjustments in oil prices and the gradual maturation of nuclear power technology, the cost of nuclear power plants is lower than fuel power plants, coal plants and fuel coal plants. According to statistics, the cost of nuclear power in the United States, France, Britain, Germany, Canada and other countries average about one-third than that of thermal power.