

Re: Uranium availability

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- *From:* T. Keating <tkusenet@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 30 May 2007 14:39:40 -0400
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On 30 May 2007 08:22:12 -0700, bill <ford_prefect42@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On May 29, 8:18 pm, Maximust <maxi_m...@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

dave.walt...@xxxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

From the always good and informative
"Nuclear is Our Future" blog at:

<http://blog.niof.org/>

More Russian Uranium Deposits

Worldwide, we "use" about 67,000 tons of uranium per year, 670 tons of which is actually used (the rest is stored). Nuclear power provides 20% of world electricity, and could provide 100%, requiring 3,350 tons per year. The US, being 5% of the world's population, uses 25% of world energy; giving everyone American per-capita access to energy using nuclear power would require another five-fold increase in uranium consumption, assuming that the proportion of electricity out of total energy is the same worldwide—totaling 16,750 tons of uranium per year.

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These eight Russian deposits contain 320,000 tons of uranium.

The math is not difficult: if their contents were used sensibly, these eight new mines could provide all the uranium needed to fuel all the nuclear power plants needed to provide American-style quantities of electricity to everyone in the world for almost twenty years.

Be reminded that this is 6% of worldwide uranium reserves. That's enough to last almost 320 years. However, there are two other major sources of uranium: coal ash and seawater. Uranium is present in coal ash at an average level of 4.5 parts per million. In the US—and this is