**“As Nuclear Waste Piles Up, South Korea Faces Storage Crisis”**

October 12, 2014 by Meeyoung Cho

<http://ogoapes.weebly.com/uploads/3/2/3/9/3239894/as_nuclear_waste_piles_up_south_korea_faces_storage_crisis_-_scientific_american.pdf>

South Korea, the world’s fifth-largest user of nuclear power, faces a storage crisis after running reactors for decades. 70% of South Korea’s fuel is stacked in a temporary storage pools that can hold for about 5 to 6 years. Due to continuous fuel used, people in South Korea try to cram storage sites with fuels while looking for a permanent solution. Seoul plans to put spent fuel densely near reactor buildings hoping more time to seek ways to eliminate fuel wastes. Stacking spent fuel near water would fraught danger anywhere and its very vulnerable to missiles and any flammable action as one expert said “ "Spent fuel in a concrete building next to reactor buildings is vulnerable to missile or other attacks from the outside".

I chose this article because I wanted to know more about nuclear power and how Koreas’ storages have been filled resulting to their storage crisis. I found the temporary storage plan to be dangerous not only to the country but also neighboring countries or anywhere around the world. Stacking dense amount of spent fuels in storage sites creates more risks of the country when natural or terror attacks occur. In the article, one expert said that “stacking fuel more densely would compound any risk as it would reduce air circulation”. I believe that when a reduced use of nuclear reactors in Korea will help the country in its storage crisis by reducing amount of spent fuel.

A long term solution is the creation of a technology that produces energy without releasing fuels waste. In addition with the technology, government should plan for spent t management as early as possible. The country should reduce the nuclear power use while seeking final solution to avoid worsening the situation.