

Is “acid rain” related to nuclear power plants?

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Fossil fuel (coal, oil, gas), which is used in thermal power plants and in other industries contains 1.5-4.5% of sulphur. The burning process emits sulphur oxides into the atmosphere, where they contact with moisture to form a weak sulphuric acid solution.

When it is dropped with rain onto the ground, this solution causes great damage to vegetation and to the soil structure, changing its composition. Under certain conditions, acid rain can create significant problems in the sphere of water resources management. It is critical to note that these rains are causing irreparable harm to the cultural heritage of mankind (destroying historical monuments and sculptures).

A single TPP with the output of 1,000 MW burning coal with sulphur content of about 3.5%, despite

the use of cleaning agents, releases 140,000 tonnes of sulphurous acid anhydride annually that produces approximately 280,000 tonnes of sulphuric acid.
NPPs have nothing to do with acid rain, since they do not use fossil fuels.