New Yorkers fear summer power struggle

It's summer in the city of New York. After months of miserable weather, temperatures have been in the 80s all week and the latest reports suggests that this summer could be a scorchers. Everybody's happy, apart from those miserable souls who fear power blackouts as the humidity heads for 100%. Energy analysts believe that America's largest city is the most likely to follow the (...)

US returns to nuclear energy

Vice-President Dick Cheney threw away 20 years of environmental caution yesterday when he announced that the US would build a new generation of nuclear power plants in the government's effort to overcome a national energy shortage. The US rejected nuclear power after the major accident at Three Mile Island in 1979. It has not built a single new nuclear plant since then, (...)

Pick of the day

The 15th anniversary of the world's worst nuclear accident is marked by a sobering docu-drama, Voices From Chernobyl (2.15pm, Radio 4). Lucy Baldwyn has adapted the play from accounts given to the dissident Belarussian journalist Svetlana Alexievich. The central character is Ludmilla, the wife of a fireman sent to fight the blaze at the decrepit nuclear reactor. Lorraine (...)
Atomic dustbin

The Guardian, Monday March 12 2001
Phil Daoust

John Darwell knows a thing or two about nuclear contamination. He lives 20 miles from the Sellafield reprocessing plant and has spent most of the past six years photographing the landmarks of the atomic age: Los Alamos, where the Americans developed the atom bomb; Trinity, where they first tested it; Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania, where a power station came terrifyingly (…)

(…)two about nuclear contamination. He…Sellafield reprocessing plant and has…where a power station came…worst nuclear accident. (…)

UK news

Cheap and lethal nuclear by-product

The Guardian, Friday January 12 2001
Paul Brown, environment correspondent

Thousands of tonnes of depleted uranium are stored in high security compounds in Britain and other nuclear states with owners having no idea what to do with them. The exact quantity in the UK is an official secret. Unlike other weapons that cost millions, depleted uranium is free because it is a waste by-product of producing nuclear weapons and has been stockpiled since the (…)

(…)and other nuclear states with…better killing power than the…Capenhurst production plant in Cheshire…case of accident. The (…)

From the Observer

Tomorrow people

The Observer, Sunday December 31 2000
Interviews by Stephanie Dennison & Ben Rudder

Dr Craig Venter, Celera Genomics, Maryland Specialism: the human genome Predicts: genetic print outs for babies; reduced deaths from diseases like cancer; reduced medical costs "Some time this century, when parents leave hospital with a new baby, they will take with them a genetic print out. It will include computer predictions of high-risk diseases, suggestions about the ch

Global

Jinzaburo Takagi

The Guardian, Wednesday December 20 2000
David Lowry

The Japanese scientist, Jinzaburo Takagi, who has died of cancer aged 62, was an internationally renowned critic of the nuclear industry. A writer and educator, he was co-founder and a former director of the Citizens' Nuclear Information Centre (CNIC) in Tokyo. In his final weeks, Takagi completed a paper, Learning From The Japanese Experience To Prepare For A Sustainable (…)

(…)of the nuclear industry. A…new nuclear plant and decided…s nuclear power programme. It…worst nuclear accident, which (…)

World news

Tragedy of Chernobyl does not end with simple switch-off

The Guardian, Saturday December 16 2000
Amelia Gentleman in Moscow

It fell to the control room engineer Oleksandr Yelchishchev to turn a small plastic switch to the off position yesterday, shutting down the last remaining nuclear reactor at Chernobyl for the final time. It activated an automatic safety system, sending control rods down into the core of the plant. As sombre workers in white protective gowns watched, a dial showed the o

(…)last remaining nuclear reactor at…of the plant. As sombre…Chernobyl atomic power station, site…devastating nuclear accident 14 (…)

From the Guardian

The next Chernobyl

Paul Brown says "energy efficiency measures and gas power turbines would be cheaper and better" than building two new nuclear reactors at Chernobyl (Britain backs new Chernobyl plants, December 6). But the project was considered by Stone and Webster, a reputable US company, as the most acceptable of a range of available options (modernisation of existing thermal generation, (…)

(…)and gas power turbines would…two new nuclear reactors at…new Chernobyl plants, December 6…the 1986 accident. Alexander (…)