Are breeders safe and good for the environment?

Environmental reviews have found the breeder reactor to be safer and better for our environment than currently available methods of generating electricity.

No member of the public has ever been harmed or injured by the commercial use of nuclear power. And breeders must meet the same stringent safety standards as other nuclear power plants.

This safety record is the result of a deliberate effort to make electric generation from nuclear energy as safe as possible. Nuclear plants are designed to prevent the escape of radioactivity, even under the most severe accident conditions. And contrary to what many people believe, a nuclear reactor can't blow up.

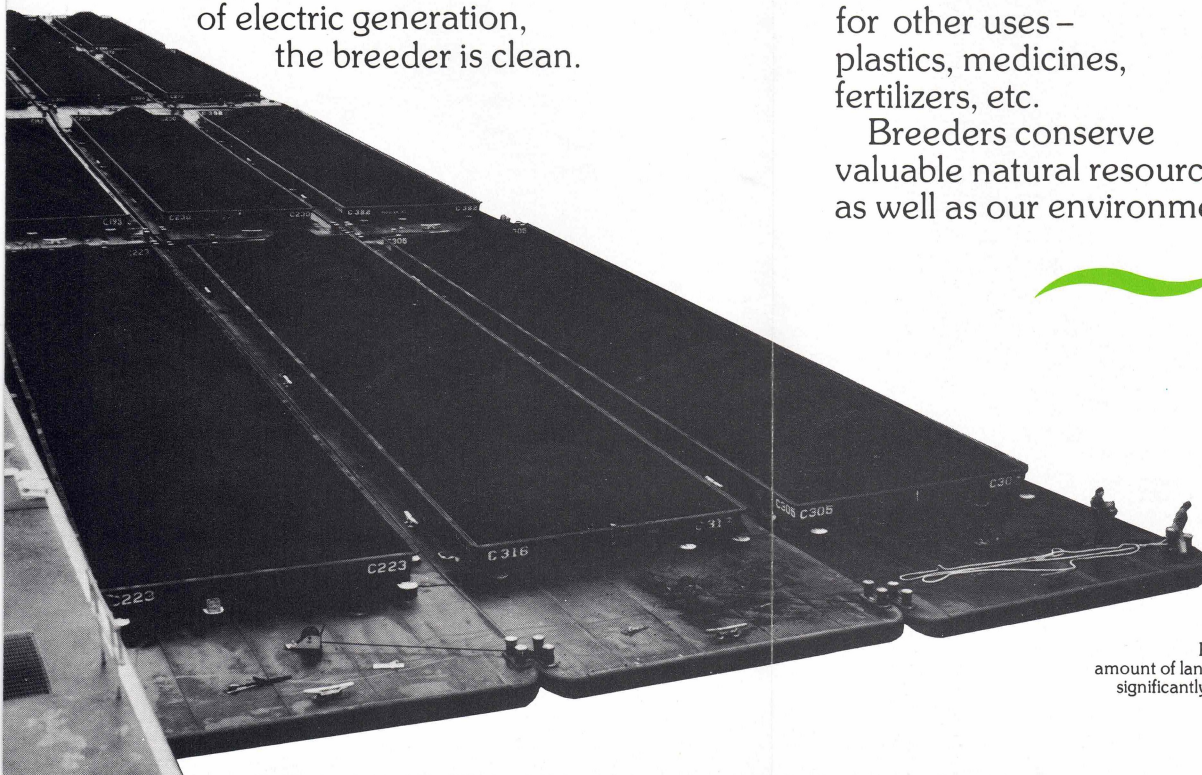Compared with other means of electric generation, the breeder is clean.

It reduces the impact on the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the land we live on. In fact, with the breeder, the amount of land disturbed by mining would be dramatically reduced; and significantly less fuel transportation would be needed.

The breeder uses a mixture of uranium and plutonium – materials which otherwise have very limited commercial uses other than for generating electricity. Breeders will help conserve irreplace-able fossil fuels for other uses – plastics, medicines, fertilizers, etc.

Breeders conserve valuable natural resources as well as our environment.

You would receive more radiation from one cross-country flight than from living within a mile of a breeder for a year.

Breeders will dramatically reduce the amount of land disturbed by mining. They will also significantly reduce the cost of transporting fuel.

This is one of a series
of answers to the most
frequently asked questions
about breeder reactors.

the Breeder

For other answers or
more detailed information,
write or call:

Breeder Reactor Corporation
P.O. Box U
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
Telephone: 615-482-9661
(Ext. 542)