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The Promise of Lunar Helium-3. The impending world energy crisis of the 21st century requires innovative solutions and massive action to sustain the Earth's economic system, state Gerald L. Kulcinski and Harrison H. Schmitt of the Fusion Technology Institute (fti.neep.wisc.edu) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in their paper published in the *Proceedings of the 2000 Lunar Development Conference*. Of the known energy sources available today, only nuclear energy in the form of fission or fusion can fill the enormous energy needs. However, the fission industry is currently wrestling with the problem of long-lived nuclear waste. It is possible to generate nuclear power without the production of radioactive waste, they believe. The key lies in controlling the fusion of third-generation fuels containing Helium-3. The discovery of at least one million tons of Helium-3 on the Moon's surface is a possible solution to the energy crisis. To utilize this new resource will not be an easy task because there are both physics and economic issues to face, but it is a goal worth pursuing in the 21st century.



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