

***** EXAMINATION *****

NUCLEAR POWER IN COMPETITIVE ELECTRICITY MARKETS

1. **The determining costs for existing nuclear power plants are:**
 - a) operating costs
 - b) applicable repair and refurbishment expenses
 - c) maintenance costs
 - d) All of the above

2. **Capacity factors for US nuclear power plants have:**
 - a) decreased
 - b) increased
 - c) remained the same
 - d) fluctuated up and down

3. **Nuclear power plants are generally well run because:**
 - a) of regulatory requirements
 - b) the economic incentive to be competitive with other energy sources
 - c) of social pressures
 - d) All of the above

4. **Shortfalls in funds for decommissioning may be compensated by:**
 - a) including a surcharge on electricity consumption
 - b) nuclear plant owners bearing the costs
 - c) funding by public revenues
 - d) All of the above

5. **Sharing the risks for funding may cause the owners to seek**
 - a) alliances with nuclear vendors
 - b) alliances with equipment suppliers
 - c) alliances with engineering companies
 - d) Any of the above

6. **Government funding of research and development for nuclear power will:**
 - a) decrease
 - b) increase
 - c) remain the same
 - d) fluctuate up and down

7. **Horizontal integration within each fuel cycle stage is a form of:**
- a) decommissioning by the nuclear fuel cycle industry
 - b) downsizing by the nuclear fuel cycle industry
 - c) restructuring by the nuclear fuel cycle industry
 - d) None of the above
8. **When research and development budgets are reduced, the focus is:**
- a) downsizing
 - b) deregulation
 - c) applied research aimed at performance enhancement
 - d) None of the above
9. **Deregulation will lower electricity prices where:**
- a) there is cheap labor
 - b) there exists over-capacities
 - c) there are single area supplies
 - d) All of the above
10. **The greatest incentive to increase efficiency is through:**
- a) government ownership
 - b) private-government partnership
 - c) private ownership
 - d) neither government or private ownership
11. **Privatizing a government's ownership of a nuclear power plant**
- a) may be done by an auction
 - b) may be done by selling company stock
 - c) may be done by issuing bonds
 - d) All of the above
12. **A carbon dioxide tax would:**
- a) improve the competitiveness of nuclear power
 - b) hurt the competitiveness of nuclear power
 - c) initially improve but later hurt the competitiveness of nuclear power
 - d) None of the above
13. **Significant concerns for investors in new nuclear power plants are:**
- a) high capital cost
 - b) long construction time
 - c) the need to operate at base load to be competitive
 - d) All of the above
14. **Improvement in power output of nuclear power plants has been achieved:**
- a) through improved refueling operations
 - b) by longer intervals between outages
 - c) through power upgrades
 - d) All of the above

15. **Deferred fuel costs are:**
- a) an unrecovered capital investment
 - b) regulatory assets
 - c) a part of decommissioning
 - d) None of the above
16. **Low-income energy assistance programs are:**
- a) an unrecovered capital investment
 - b) regulatory assets
 - c) a part of decommissioning
 - d) None of the above
17. **For existing power plants, marginal costs affect decisions to:**
- a) produce power at the current level
 - b) increase power output
 - c) permanently shut down the plant
 - d) All of the above
18. **The merging, buying and selling of nuclear power plants in**
- a) the US indicates that nuclear power plants cannot compete
 - b) the US indicates that nuclear power plants are overproducing
 - c) the US indicates that well-run nuclear power plants are valuable assets
 - d) None of the above
19. **A type of insurance that nuclear power plants generally carry is:**
- a) normal business and commercial insurance
 - b) special nuclear insurance
 - c) insurance against third-party liability in the case of nuclear accidents
 - d) All of the above
20. **If nuclear power plants were replaced by fossil-fueled power plants,**
- a) carbon dioxide emissions from the electricity would increase by 15%
 - b) carbon dioxide emissions from the electricity would increase by 35%
 - c) carbon dioxide emissions from the electricity would increase by 55%
 - d) carbon dioxide emissions from the electricity would increase by 75%

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