

# New Energy Times

January 28, 2019

Dr. Kijung Jung  
Director, ITER Korea Domestic Agency

Dear Dr. Jung,

I see that you have made a correction to the claim on the ITER Korea Domestic Agency Web site at this URL: <https://www.iterkorea.org/eng/0201>. It is, however, still misleading:

**"Developing and constructing a fusion plant producing 500MW of fusion power."**

I would like to invite you to correct your Web site so that it better represents your and your organization's scientific integrity.

Here's the problem with the current sentence. The ITER reactor, according to the IAEA design, will not produce 500 MW of net thermal power. At a minimum, it will consume 300 MW of electrical power, resulting in a reactor that produces 200 MW of net thermal power. Therefore, to tell the public that the ITER reactor will produce 500 MW of power without telling the public that ITER will consume 300 MW of input power is misleading.

I know that it is your intent, as a scientist, to communicate claims clearly and transparently to your audience. In this case, the general public does not understand that there are two meanings of the phrase "fusion power." Therefore, you cannot expect the public to understand which of the two meanings of the phrase "fusion power" applies to your claim:

- 1) A general term to indicate hoped-for net power produced by a fusion reactor.
- 2) The gross power value of the fusion-produced particles that does not account for or deduct the reactor's required overall electrical input power.

I fully understand that the nuclear fusion community, for decades, has used the same two-word phrase interchangeably for the two meanings of that phrase. But now the [effect](#) of that ambiguous practice has been recognized. As a result, some of your peers, including those at [EUROfusion](#) and the

[U.K. Atomic Energy Authority](#), have stopped using that misleading phrase when they are talking about the plasma power output.

If it is your intention to communicate to a public audience honestly, accurately, and unambiguously, here is the correction you can make:

**"Developing and constructing a fusion reactor producing a plasma with 500 MW of thermal power from 50 MW of injected thermal power."**

I also strongly advise against making any claim that uses the word "plant" because it creates the misleading appearance of a commercial, electricity producing power plant.

Your claim at <https://www.iterkorea.org/0202> is also still misleading:

**"(ITER) with a thermal output of 500 MW and an energy amplification rate (Q) of 10 or higher."**

It falsely gives the appearance that the overall reactor will produce a net thermal output of 500 MW. If it is your intention to communicate to a public audience honestly, accurately, and unambiguously, here is the correction you can make:

**"(ITER) with a plasma production of 500 MW from 50 MW of injected thermal power and a plasma amplification rate (Q) of 10 or higher."**

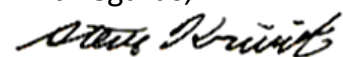
Your claim at <https://www.iterkorea.org/030101> is also still misleading:

**"nuclear fusion experiment with heat output of 500 MW and energy amplification rate (Q) of 10 or more"**

It falsely gives the appearance that the experiment will produce a net thermal output of 500 MW. If it is your intention to communicate to a public audience honestly, accurately, and unambiguously, here is the correction you can make:

**"nuclear fusion experiment with thermal plasma output of 500 MW from 50 MW of injected thermal power and energy amplification rate (Q) of 10 or more"**

Kind regards,



Steven Krivit

Publisher and Senior Editor, *New Energy Times*

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