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# Moon mining: Foolishness or the future of energy?

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# 21

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Clean energy rhetoric usually revolves around solar, wind, and hydroelectricity. These sources are found in abundance right here on earth, and although they hold great promise, they have limits in their own rights. But we do know of a more rewarding and advanced source of clean energy, one very rare here on earth, but abundant on our closet celestial neighbor; the moon.

Our moon is covered with a resource known as helium-3. It's hypothesized to hold a 10,000-year supply of clean energy fusion. This element would be so valuable to the world of energy, experts put a price tag at around \$40,000 per ounce.

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Mining the moon seems more like science fiction than science fact, but the idea of excavating this resource is not new. Ever since the discovery of helium-3 abundance from surface samples brought back from the Apollo 17 lunar mission, the idea has floated around in theoretical science conversations. A Russian space company has even claimed to be in the process of creating a permanent helium-3 operation by 2025.

Read more about the peculiar resource helium-3, the apparent setbacks of such a production process, and just how plausible this idea of moon mining really is (I have a feeling you'll be surprised) in "Mining on the Moon for Renewable Energy" by AZoCleantech

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