



Dec. 2021 *CRAFT Times* vol. 8 no. 12

(Fermi 2 nuclear reactor, DTE & environmental news)

DTE Lessens Fermi's Tax Payment

As a settlement to end the legal hassle between the Monroe County and DTE over DTE's 2018 appeal on their property taxes, the county will lose \$1.8 million in tax revenue over the next 10 years.

DTE is Monroe's largest taxpayer with a true cash value (TCV) of Fermi was \$808,669,200 in 2018 when DTE appealed to have that reduced by 60%. This settlement reduced the TCV by 29% and the county gave DTE a check for \$13,000 for a clerical error.

"DTE's profits and sales continue to go up but their greedy selves still want more, so they are taking it from Monroe County which depends on those tax dollars," said Jessie Collins, CRAFT Co-chair. "I believe Monroe only settled because after three years, the legal fees were exhausting them, and they knew DTE had the money to stay in court forever."

"The utility, Frenchtown, and county agreed to a plan gradually reducing the values over a period of time ending in 2028," said Monroe County Administrator Michael Bosanac of reduction of the tax revenue of \$182,258 per year. "The outcome allows for clear budget planning and maintains vital public services."

DTE had also appealed the tax value of their Monroe Coal Plant. The coal plant appeal was settled with the county more than a year ago, resulting in a 35% reduction of the facility's TCV.

"How about a special use tax on DTE for the generation of thermal and toxic pollution placed

Citizens' Resistance at Fermi Two

(CRAFT) telephone 313-286-3827

Post Office Box 401356, Redford MI 48240

shutdownfermi@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/groups/51956598157696/

<https://shutdownfermi.org>

into Lake Erie?" asked Michael Keegan of Don't Waste Michigan. *We second that motion!*



New Wetland Permit for Fermi 3

Because the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) does not have a permit renewal process, DTE had to reapply to maintain their application to destroy many acres of existing wetlands to build a Fermi 3.

The application is in two "binders;" Binder 1 is 580 pages, and Binder 2 is 341 pages, which includes "(DTE) contracted with Ducks Unlimited, Inc. (DU) to provide wetland delineation and functions and values assessment on 1,106 acres of undeveloped land at their Fermi II Nuclear Power Plant Site."

The DU study was done in 2008 and updated in 2011, with a few minor changes in 2021. Nowhere in the filing is an opportunity to request a public hearing to save the wetlands, but DTE is going to compensate for them by building a new wetland at their Monroe Coal Plant site.

Here's a quote from Binder 1, "Prior to European colonization, approximately 45% of the land area of the Ottawa-Stony watershed was wetland. Based on the most recent maps, 6% is currently wetland, an 86% loss."



Fermi Gets Un-Cited Violations

The NRC completed its Integrated Inspection Report and found two violations for which they did not “ticket” (un-cite) DTE.

During a routine operation, a fire pump suction hose and strainer caught on a sluice gate and was damaged. “The suction line was re-installed in a similar manner and the suction hose was caught again...”

And a door in the steam tunnel, important to safety, was repeatedly left propped open. “As a result, an unanalyzed condition was created regarding high energy and medium energy line breaks, and internal flooding.”

Besides the violations, the report listed some previously unknown observations. Here are quotes: Specifically, the licensee listed only valve E5150F095 as unavailable in the maintenance work order (*on the emergency diesel generator*). However, the entire Reactor core isolation cooling system was unavailable...”

Other items discussed were repairs to a main condenser tube leak in July; in August, there was “an unexpected loss of the center heater drain pump;” in September, DTE repaired “non-safety-related steam leaks and a rod pattern adjustment

Yay for Jellyfish Water Protectors!

Last month, Scotland’s only nuclear reactor in Torness shut down in an emergency when a school of jellyfish clogged the cooling intake pipes.

This is not the first-time jellyfish have defeated the reactor’s operations, it is the second time for Torness – which they said cost them \$1.5 million

per day. Jellyfish have also been responsible for previous reactor shutdowns in Israel, Japan, the U.S., the Philippines, South Korea, and Sweden.

Jellyfish have the industry scrambling to prevent more occurrences. For example, researchers at Britain’s Cranfield University are studying whether drones could be used to provide estimates of jellyfish locations, amounts, and density.

“Net-Zero” Goes Global at COP26

Last month we wrote about the term “net-zero” being a greenwashing gimmick to let polluters keep on polluting while giving the opposite impression.

Unfortunately, our government is promoting Net-Zero, not Zero emissions. At the UN COP26 meeting in Glasgow, Scotland, our Secretary of Energy and Britain’s counterpart met to begin talks and announced that their next meeting would be in Spring 2022, and “that future meeting would continue to prioritize the global transition to net-zero emissions, while facilitating public-private sector engagement,” stated their press release.

Of course, there were also plenty of “feel-good” Build Back Better comments to their release - since the nuclear industry had 134 representatives, aka, lobbyists, involved in the summit.

Soulardarity Equals People Power!

A new report by the group Soulardarity and the Union of Concerned Scientists shows it is possible to make renewable energy affordable to low-income communities.

The report, entitled Let Communities Choose, focuses on Highland Park, a city of 9,000 surrounded by Detroit. Soulardarity came into being after DTE repossessed Highland Park’s streetlights in 2011, leaving the city in the dark.

“Energy democracy is just a way of saying that ratepayers have a voice too,” said Shimekilia Nichols, Soulardarity Director. “DTE Energy continues to misinform the community of solar being inaccessible and unaffordable for low-income and moderate-income families.”

The plan is to use the report to influence state lawmakers to make favorable energy policies to lift current restrictions on solar development, increase compensation for solar developers and subscribers, and require stronger energy efficiency policies.



Fermi's Technical Requirements

The NRC sent notice that the Fermi 2 Technical Requirements Manual received Revision 128. The last revision was in August 2021.

The notice does not tell us what the newly changed requirements used to be, it just tells us that now DTE will verify diesel generator lockout features every 24 months. They will also verify auto-connected loads to each diesel generator every 24 months.

But every ten years, they will "Drain each fuel oil storage tank, remove the accumulated sediment and clean the tank using sodium hypochlorite solution."

Does not oil get all yucky after a couple of years of settlement? I would think ten years is a bit much.

Fermi Went Critical in 1985?

It seems DTE forgot to let the NRC know Fermi Two had a severe problem back in 1985. Somebody requested the document under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the document was filed in the NRC's public library.

"Fermi 2 experienced an inadvertent criticality on July 2, 1985. The NRC, both Region III and headquarters, was not notified of this event by the licensee until July 15, 1985."

I had to look up Inadvertent which means it happened by accident. And DTE did not tell the NRC until two weeks later?

Build Back Better Act Passes

The president signed into law the \$1.25 billion Build Back Better reconciliation package, and the Detroit News did a story about it featuring DTE's CEO Jerry Norcia who raved about the act's incentives for renewable energy but did not mention the money in there for nuclear bailouts.

DTE has a \$7 billion plan for tree trimming and a pilot study for burying lines. About 30% of power

lines are underground, but Norcia said 90% of the outages resulted from trees and branches.

And because of a surge in COVID-19 cases in Michigan, DTE is offering a \$750 incentive to employees who have gotten the shot or will get it.

The Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS) tells us "There is no specific amount or limit on the bailout in Build Back Better. We estimate it will amount to \$35.3 billion over six years. There is another \$6 billion in nuclear bailouts in the bipartisan infrastructure bill, and \$3.2 billion for new reactors."

Our Reps Say No Waste to Canada

Michigan's Representatives Dan Kildee, Andy Levin and Peter Meijer issued another statement against Canada having a nuclear waste dump near the Great Lakes. See article, September issue.

The key word (*to me*) is "a permanent waste dump" which distinguishes it from the temporary Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI) which are cement casks with waste sitting along the USA side of the Great Lakes.

NRC Gives Davis-Besse Violations

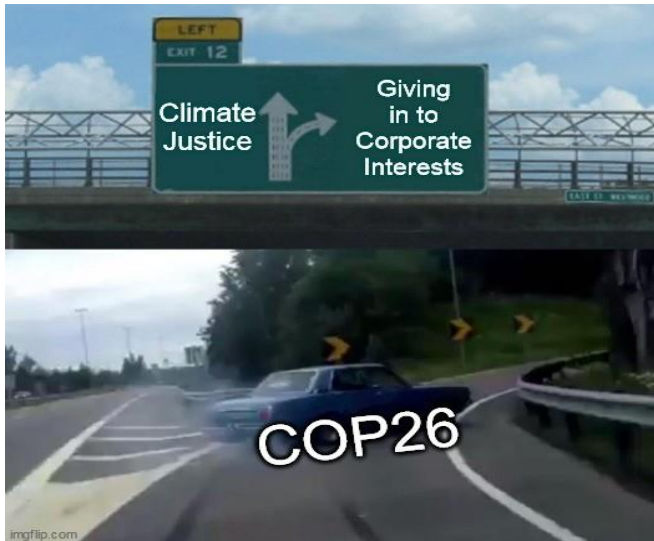
The Davis-Besse (D-B) nuclear reactor is on western Lake Erie, thirty miles east of Toledo. Its license does not expire until 2037.

Resulting from an NRC Inspection, the NRC special inspectors gave the reactor was five safety violations, two of them deemed "deeply disturbing" by Edwin Lyman, Union of Concerned Scientist's nuclear safety director.

"A deeply disturbing special inspection report at the Davis-Besse nuclear reactor details five recent diesel generator failures and a July scram with multiple complication equipment issues, compounded by operate performance failures," stated Lyman.

The report stated the failure of D-B personnel to install safety switches as required as troubling. It named the Flash Selector Switch and the Generator Speed Switch as two.

The NRC has scheduled a non-public conference on December 6th, but the NRC Spokesperson said all is well. "The plant is safe, the diesel generators have been fixed, and they're able to perform their required function," said Prema Chandrathil.



CRAFT Public Zoom Meeting

This is an invitation to attend a zoom meeting with the CRAFT Steering Committee Team on Thursday December 16th from 5:30-6:30 p.m. We are not yet having In-Person meetings, but zoom is good. Here is the link for the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6559569802?pwd=ajMvRE5TNmVJaW1iWIRJalV2dnhZdz09>

Please Zoom in to help brainstorm on convincing DTE to phase out Fermi 2.



CRAFT Times

Post Office Box 401356
Redford MI 48240

Nov. Fermi Documents Received

- = **ML21298A200**. Integrated Inspection Report. See Article, page 2. <https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML21298A200>
- = **Event No. 55558**. High Pressure Coolant Injection Inoperable due to Low Level Instrumentation. Event happened on June 3, 2021, but DTE did not report it until 11/03/2021. <https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML21307A083>
- = **ML21307A083**. Revision #128 of Fermi's Technical Requirement Manual, Vol. 1. See page 3. <https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML21307A083>
- = **ML21309A089**. Cover letter to EGLE regarding the Wetland permit for building Fermi 3.
- = **ML21309A091**. Binder one of application for Wetland Permit. 580 pages
- = **ML21309A090**. Binder two of application for Wetland Permit. 341 pages
- = **ML21309A094**. Zip File containing all three of the wetland application documents listed above. <https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML21309A094>
- = **ML202209G103**. It seems DTE forgot to let the NRC know Fermi accidently went critical until two weeks later. The event was not filed in the NRC public library for 36 years. <https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML20209G103>