



Feb. 2024 *CRAFT Times* vol. 11 no. 2

Fermi went down for Condenser.

Fermi began down-powering on January 17th and went to 0% power by the 19th; reports say repairs are being made on a condenser. Fermi was offline for three days in early August to replace a turbine in the condenser system and then for three weeks in late August for a coolant leak.

What some of you may not know is that Fermi must be at least 58% power to synchronize to the grid and add power to it. Anything below that and Fermi is not adding electricity but is just taking it away - so while pro-nukers say "the sun doesn't always shine and the wind doesn't always blow", they should add that nuclear reactors do not always produce.

Fermi only used juice from the grid for eight days and added nothing. This month they will go down for their refueling outage which will take weeks or months, depending on planned maintenance. I am not sure if they ever installed the Stator that was defective at the last outage.

Pollution Alert! Michigan S.B. 275

Talk about greenwashing! There is a bill in the Michigan Senate – and a companion bill in the House – to declare factory farms' animal waste as "biogas" and therefore clean energy. Insanity!

Factory Farms – that produce the meat and dairy sold commercially – are owned by corporations and squeeze out family farms. Officially known as Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), they receive billions in government subsidies and do a lot of polluting.

The current method is mechanical anaerobic "digesters" to turn some of the animal waste into "biogas" and sell it as clean energy. Runoff from these farms is polluting Lake Erie. Read the article under the "Climate Crisis News" column.

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>

Nuclear Industry

RED HERRING

What they don't tell you about
Nuclear and Climate

HERRING: Nuclear is the best clean energy path to net zero!

TRUTH: Nuclear is second only to fossil fuels in CO2 emissions. It is unnecessarily time-consuming, costly, and dangerous. Time to make way for #WindWaterSolar #RenewableEnergy.

Know the TRUTH.

#NoTimeToWaste
#WindWaterSolar

FFAN fukushima fallout awareness network

Nukes go Backwards in 2023

Jim Green, head of Friends of the Earth Australia, did an excellent article discussing the nuclear industry worldwide. Here are some facts.

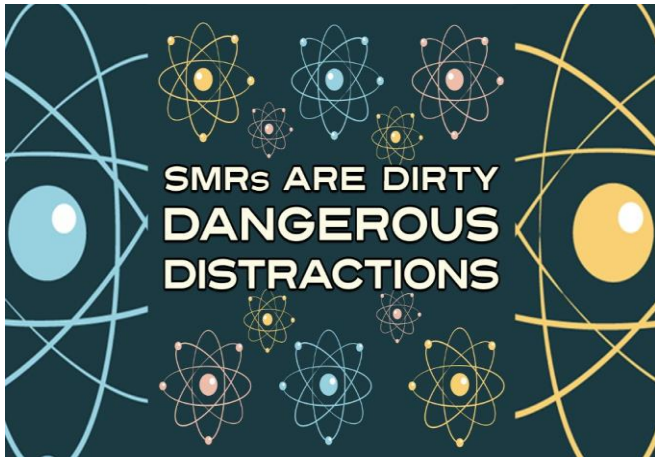
There were five reactor start-ups and five permanent closures in 2023. There were six reactor construction starts, five of them in China.

There are 407 to 413 operating reactors, down from 438 in 2022, causing nuclear share of global electricity generation to fall to 9.2%, half of 1996's 17.5%, while renewables have grown to 30.2%.

China's nuclear program added only 1.2 gigawatts (GW) while their wind and solar combined added 278 GW.

Small modular reactors (SMRs) are much talked about, but the biggest news was that NuScale Power abandoned its flagship project in Idaho despite receiving \$4 billion from the U.S. to produce one.

The full article here. <https://t.co/AKagi8HIgE>



MPSC Nuclear Draft Report

The report ordered by the Michigan Public Service Commission offered no surprises with its conclusion that Michigan not only needs to maintain its current nuclear reactors but build some more!

The Enercon draft report states nuclear will have to be one of the clean energy sources to replace coal and gas. The report states new reactors cost more but produce exceptionally reliable electricity safely. No mention of the Fermi 1 meltdown in 1966 or the Fermi 2 Christmas Day 2003 accident which led to CRAFT's formation.

CRAFT Co-Chair Jim Sherman prepared an excellent rebuttal. Email us to get the document.

DTE Offers 3,000 Buyouts

DTE Energy has approximately 10,000 employees and they are offering a buyout to almost a third of them. In 2022, DTE posted \$1.1 billion in earnings, up from \$907 million in 2021. *(Remind us why the Michigan Public Service Commission decided DTE needed a rate increase.)*

Speculation abounds on how the workers will be replaced, with AI being the favored guess.

Canada licenses Megadump

On January 9, 2024, the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) approved a license amendment to Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) for construction and operation of Canada's first ever permanent radioactive dump.

CNL is a privately-owned company by three multinational corporations – DNC-Lavalin, aka, AtkinsRealis, Fluor and Jacobs - that is publicly-funded and is officially known as Near Surface Disposal Facility (NSDF).

The NSDF will be an earthen mound 25 meters high, covering 14 hectares of land, about one kilometer from the Ottawa River. Canadian activists warn of tritium (radioactive hydrogen) will be released into the river.

The Kebaowek First Nation denounced the decision to grant a license on Algonquin Anishinabek traditional territory. Read the story here.

[www.ccnr.org/Tritium from the Megadump 2024.pdf](http://www.ccnr.org/Tritium_from_the_Megadump_2024.pdf)

Lake Erie's Seiche

“What scientists call a ‘seiche’ is not a new event but is a word meaning ‘storm surge’ and it can push the lake water from one end of the lake to another, say from Toledo to Buffalo or vice versa,” stated Tom Henry in his 1/19/2024 Toledo Blade article.

“The recent seiche peaked on 1/13/2024 and left much of Toledo and other parts of shallow Lake Erie, out to Lake Erie Islands and beyond with lakebeds of muck,” reported Henry of the Corps of Engineers who gave a seiche online seminar.

So much water was missing, people could walk on the lakebed while Buffalo faced flooding when water rose almost five feet. There was no mention of how the seiche affected intake and discharge of Fermi and Davis-Besse using Lake Erie water.

Fermi Workers Will Not Squeal.

An email dated November 18th gave approval for an inspection procedure for November 17th, involving Fermi workers reluctance to talk to inspectors. The procedure is entitled “Safety-Conscious Work Environment Issues of Concern Follow-up.”

This stems from an inspection where “100 percent of the Radiation Protection technicians interviewed stated they would not initiate corrective action program items for fear of retaliation, embarrassment, or be closed out to the

initiator just having a beef with management.” The procedure will investigate why the workers are afraid. Duh, where else can they get good paying jobs without a college degree?

Your periodic reminder that less ice at the Arctic is consistent with a weaker jet stream that allows cold air to drift down into the Great Plains.

The frigid temps you're experiencing happen BECAUSE of a warming planet, not in spite of it.



The diagram illustrates two scenarios of the polar vortex. On the left, a 'Stable polar vortex' is shown with a 'Strong jet stream' that acts as a barrier, containing 'Cold air' over the Arctic region. On the right, a 'Wavy polar vortex' is shown with a 'Weak jet stream' that is irregular and allows 'Cold air' to move southward and 'Warm air' to move northward.

FYI – Climate Crisis News

= A draft report commissioned by Michigan regulators says [new and existing nuclear generation will be necessary](#) for the state to meet recently adopted clean energy targets. (*MLive*)

= Michigan’s attorney general will intervene in a regulatory case involving DTE Energy’s request for a \$266 million increase to pay for gas infrastructure and maintenance costs. (*Detroit Free Press*)

= Meanwhile, the Detroit-based utility is [offering buyouts to about 3,000 employees](#), or 30% of its workforce, mostly in corporate and staff roles to “further focus” on energy generation and distribution. (*Detroit News*)

= Dearborn, Michigan, becomes the largest city in the state to [enroll in a utility’s voluntary clean energy program](#) to offset all municipal buildings’ power use with renewables by 2026. (*WXYZ*)

= [Michigan Attorney General pushes back against DTE gas rate increase](#)

= The head of an Indiana farm management and real estate services firm says [wind turbines add \\$500 to \\$1,000 in property value](#) per acre for each turbine hosted onsite. (*AgriNews*)

= Michigan environmental groups [raise concerns over legislation](#) that would define biogas from animal waste at industrial farms as clean energy. (*Metro Times*)

= Michigan has had the [second-highest number of major power outages](#) among states since 2000, with 132 events when at least 50,000 customers lost power, according to a Climate Central report. (*Planet Detroit*)

= U.S. Rep. Cori Bush of Missouri says the country should not expand nuclear power [until it can address the health and environmental harms](#) caused by existing nuclear waste, including in her predominantly Black St. Louis-area district. (*Missouri Independent*)

= Michigan environmental justice and health care groups [back a lawsuit challenging the U.S. EPA’s decision](#) to label metro Detroit in compliance with federal ozone standards. (*Michigan Advance*)

= Last week’s high winds that accompanied winter storms [created record output](#) for MidAmerican Energy’s Iowa wind farms. (*Radio Iowa*)

= The White House’s decision to [not renominate a former Nuclear Regulatory Commission member](#) because of bipartisan opposition raises concerns about the agency’s ability to enforce safety standards. (*E&E News*)

= Ann Arbor, Michigan, is among roughly a dozen communities across the U.S. where advocates are pushing to [create publicly owned utilities](#) they say could provide better rates and programs than investor-owned companies. (*Grist*)

= Due to high natural gas prices (sic), the Michigan Public Service Commission has authorized DTE Gas to recover over \$49 million in costs incurred during the 2021-2022 fiscal year. This decision, influenced by global market conditions and the use of the NEXUS pipeline, comes despite Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel’s objections to passing these costs to ratepayers. (*MLive*)

= An Ohio nuclear plant owner and federal regulatory staff oppose two citizen groups’ [attempts to formally intervene](#) in a request to extend the plant’s life through 2046. (*Energy News Network*)

= Michigan’s sweeping new climate and renewable energy laws will help [increase the amount of federal clean energy funding](#) that flows to the state, experts say. (*Michigan Advance*)



Jan. Fermi Documents Received

= Email re permission after the fact. See page 2.
<https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML24011A207>
 ≡ **ML24012A231**. Clarification for Request for Additional Information Responses for License Amendment Request to Revise Technical Specifications. This involves fine-tuning agreements between DTE and the NRC.
<https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML24012A231>
 =

Production of Hydrogen Begins

The Fuel Cell System Manufacturing (FCSM) in Michigan’s Brownstown Township became the first full hydrogen fuel cell factory to produce the systems in mass volume for commercial use.

The fuel cells are made mainly by a series of robots, which involves installing 307 fuel cells into a “stack” the size of a microwave oven. The stack is then made into a hydrogen fuel cell system to be used by General Motors and Honda.

Fuel cells combine hydrogen and oxygen to generate electricity to propel vehicles. If hydrogen is the fuel, the by-products from it are electricity, water, and heat.

GM and Honda established the 50-50 venture in 2017 on an investment of \$85 million and has created 80 jobs. The fuel cell system will be used in the new Honda CR-V Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle because it is Honda’s most popular vehicle. Made in Marysville, Ohio, the vehicle will target California because there are dozens of hydrogen fueling stations there.

GM has signed a project with Autocar Industries to use the cells on vocational trucks, such as cement mixers and dump trucks. The first of these vehicles will be built in Birmingham, Alabama in 2026.

=



CRAFT Times

Post Office Box 401356
 Redford MI 48240-2153