

## **A Lie Built on a Foundation of Lies**

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The current debate on nuclear energy and cancer leaves a lot of uncovered ground. Nuclear energy is and always has been about deception and denial. Its primary role is to turn a profit as utilities produce the most dangerous and expensive electricity money can buy.

About cancer here in Monroe, we first need to consider a probable massive radioactive release event which was covered up and ignored by just about everybody, except John G. Fuller, "We Almost Lost Detroit". I believe it was a major contributing factor regarding regional health.

I am referring to the partial core meltdown of the Fermi 1 nuclear reactor which was initiated on Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, 1966. That bizarre event unfolded to reveal where greedy individuals are willing to drag us all. Like a twisting Steven King novel, that Fermi 1 scenario is just too fantastic to be true. It is not believable, but it is history.

Some of you locals may remember when U.S. vice president Hubert Humphrey came to Monroe to dedicate the Lillian Navarre Memorial Library there at the corner of E. Second and Eastchester streets.

Maybe you remember all the schools released us kids so we could walk down to see the vice president there on Oct.6th, 1966? I was there with about five thousand other people standing in that October breeze. What few people knew was that less than 24 hours earlier, Detroit Edison had lost control of the Fermi 1 nuclear reactor which resulted in a partial core meltdown!

The vice president of America was allowed to arrive and deliver a dedication speech to a generation of Monroe's youth in the open air about six miles from that reactor in crisis!

The day after the meltdown of Fermi 1 started, the only people who knew a crisis was unfolding were sheriff Charles Harrington, the city and state police. The Atomic Energy Commission was also informed, and they failed to intervene. I can only wonder how many radioactive specks found a pair of lungs to settle within that day. How many cancer cases were generated and how many of that crowd are no longer with us today as a result?

Of course, none of us will ever know how much radiation floated around in that crowd. According to a utility stuffed shirt that day, "The level of radioactivity was not dangerously high and decreased rapidly due to its natural decay". Yeah, right.

That accident was just an early example of the ongoing deception employed today to perpetuate profits over people. Since Fermi 1, we have witnessed, Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, and the Fukushima disasters. It is not a matter of if, but when will the next lie happen?

We were told right out of the gate nuclear energy represented the peaceful atom. However, Fermi 1 was a breeder reactor designed to produce plutonium for the nuclear weapons program and fuel for a projected fleet of reactors across the country.

We were told nuclear energy would be too cheap to meter. Truth is that liars were forcing their faulty product on us as we were offered the choice of either side of a counterfeit coin. Just consider the Vogtle reactors 3&4 still under construction in Georgia today. So far, \$28 Billion dollars have been invested and without a doubt more Federal tax money will be required there to produce electricity!

Across the country today nuclear plants are being bailed out financially. Others are begging for rate hikes and subsidies. Then there is Davis Besse and Perry in Ohio who have given us a close glimpse at the wide edge of that counterfeit coin.

If only a fraction of the hundreds of billions of dollars that has gone into propping up nuclear energy would have been used for research and development of alternative energy decades ago, the Persian Gulf War would not have happened, and gas today would not be over \$3.00 a gallon.

For \$28 Billion dollars, millions of homes could have solar panels installed and generating electricity. There would be no need to develop an evacuation plan. Like the bumper sticker says, "When there is a massive spill of sunshine, it's called a nice day". Of course, unless you live in Portland Oregon.

Some scientists argue high burst radiation kills living cells and low-level exposure causes mutations. All nuclear plants periodically release small amounts of radiation because of normal operations. We will never know how much radiation was released 55 years ago from Fermi 1, Oct 5th, 1966. Nuclear energy is a lie built on a foundation of lies.