



**Nov. 2021 CRAFT Times vol. 8 no. 11**  
 (Fermi 2 nuclear reactor & other environmental news)

### **Trains Block Evacuation Route**

Two Frenchtown Township residents have written to their political representatives for help in what could be a dangerous situation but now is a most annoying one. Fermi is in Frenchtown Township.

Marty and Hedwig (Hedi) Kaufman live between two railroad crossings that trains routinely block for extended periods up to four times per day by trains switching and performing train-building maneuvers.

“Hurd Road east of I-75 is a Fermi II evacuation route in Protective Action Area 3,” wrote the Kaufmans to their federal representative asking for help. “Obviously, no evacuation can take place when residents are blocked from leaving. Neither can emergency services vehicles use this route.”

The Kaufmans live on E. Hurd Road, a designated an evacuation route for Fermi and in their letter to the officials, they gave an example of the problem.

“October 1, 2021, a stretch of East Hurd Road was blocked by trains on two tracks...Residents of nine households and occupants of three traveling vehicles – including a US Mail truck – were entrapped for 1 ½ hours,” read their plea for help. “There is no consideration of delays caused by railroad traffic and blockages in the DTE Fermi Evacuation Time Estimates final report.”

The Kaufmans have tried to get something done about the railroad crossing problems in the past, but “the railroads own us,” said Hedi.

### **Citizens’ Resistance at Fermi Two**

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Post Office Box 401356, Redford MI 48240

[shutdownfermi@gmail.com](mailto:shutdownfermi@gmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/groups/51956598157696/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/51956598157696/)

<https://shutdownfermi.org>



**I-r, The CRAFT Banner flew in front of the White House during Indigenous People’s Day in Washington, DC, and the week-long events. Carrying the banner were CRAFT Community Organizer Jesse DeerInWater and CRAFT Youth Leader Anawake DeerInWater.**

### **DTE’s Dirty COVID Dealings**

The Cares Act was supposed to help people with utility bills while the pandemic gets sorted out and things could get back to “normal.” However, a report written by the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) and BailoutWatch said that did not happen as planned.

“The idea was to keep companies afloat, so they didn’t cut people off, but utilities took the money and still cut people off,” said Jean Su, CBD’s director, who added the shutoff estimates were low because many states do not track the issue.

Their report documented that our country’s sixteen largest electric utilities received a \$1.25 billion bailout to help customers during the pandemic, but they still cut power to one million struggling customers in the US between February 2020 and June 2021.

CDB named DTE as one of the six worse companies behind 94% of the shutoffs. DTE

received a \$220 million bailout but continued with the shutoffs while they bumped investor payouts from \$714 million to \$800 million and gave its CEO a \$2.3 million pay increase.



### **Save the Date**

For the Alliance to Halt Fermi 3's (ATHF3) Annual Membership Meeting on Nov 7, Sunday 2-4 PM on Zoom.

The keynote speaker will be epidemiologist Joseph Mangano (MPH MBA), Director of the Radiation and Public Health Project (RPHP).

For more info, contact Keith Gunter at 734.838.8084.

### **DTE & Consumers Buy Energy**

DTE and Consumers have energy purchase agreements with River Fork Solar, a site on 1,800 acres with a half-million solar modules with single axis tracker systems.

DTE has a 25-year power purchase agreement for 49 MW with River Fork, located in Sheridan and Parma Townships.

### **Indiana to Oversee State's Nukes**

The State of Indiana submitted a letter of intent to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for an agreement to assume regulatory authority over the possession and use of nuclear materials in their state on June 11, 2021.

Thus began a lengthy process expected to be completed in 2025. Indiana must pass legislation and draft regulations and may sure they have dealt with objections from others, including tribal governments before becoming an Agreement State.

Currently, there are 39 Agreement States – Michigan is not one of them.

“The NRC would retain regulatory authority over byproduct material related to uranium and thorium milling activities, the evaluation of sealed sources and devices containing radioactive materials, the land disposal of low-level radioactive waste and the regulation of commercial nuclear power plants,” read the letter send to the Pokagon Potawatomi Band.

One red-flag in the agreement is that the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act will not be considered in licensing under State authority.

### **What is Net-Zero?**

Net-zero emissions is different from Zero emissions, but giant polluting corporations are lining up to pledge net-zero by 2050.

Zero emissions mean the corporation quit polluting, and Net-Zero means they/it are buying the right to pollute from others who are not.

*(See last month's issue regarding DTE's deal to buy "Capture Credits" from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources from the trees in Pigeon River Country State Forest for \$10 million.)*

What is Net-zero? A dangerous greenwashing gimmick and latest scheme by polluters to keep on with business as usual while lying.

### **Consumers & DTE Team Up**

Last month, community solar advocates released a study showing \$1.5 billion in economic benefits and 20,000 jobs over the next 30 years under a scenario to build 900 MW of community solar within six years.

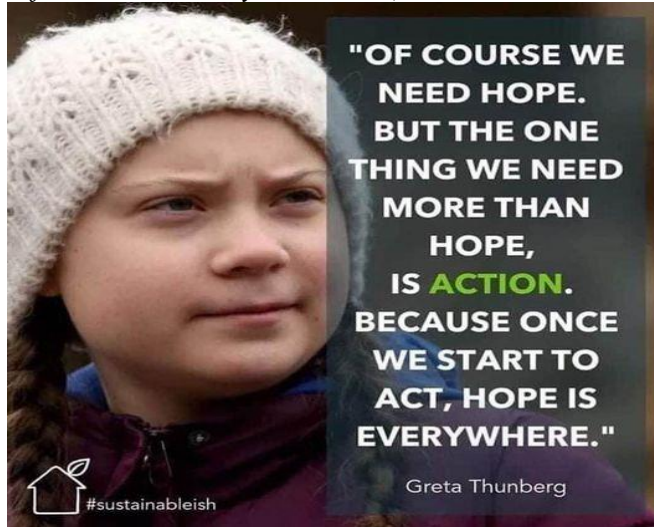
Currently there are Michigan House bills that have been presented to give subscribers a monthly bill credit from their utility based on the amount of power purchased from the solar project. As we go to press, these bills are being discussed in the Michigan House Energy Committee.

To combat the possibility that out-of-state solar companies will provide that solar, DTE and Consumers – Michigan's two biggest utility companies began “an education campaign.”

DTE is pushing its MIGreenPower where customers pay more to help DTE build more solar



arrays. (Sounds like the old “Devil you know is safer than the one you don’t.”)



## DTE’s First MIGreenPower Solar

DTE started construction on its first MIGreenPower community solar project in Washtenaw County in the form of a 20 MW facility meant to support both the city of Ann Arbor and Pittsfield Township.

The solar array will be situated on a capped landfill and greenfield site currently owned by the city of Ann Arbor. Both Ann Arbor and Pittsfield Township will assist DTE in the development.

MIGreenPower is a DTE program where ratepayers pay extra to have their electricity produced by a sustainable energy source.

## Ann Arbor for Public Power

While Ann Arbor City and Pittsfield Township officials negotiate with DTE on the MIGreenPower solar array, a group of citizens and representatives want Ann Arbor to go to a Community Owned Utility.

The group Ann Arbor for Public Power (A2P2) states that DTE is the third dirtiest major utility in the country, according to a 2019 report by M.J. Bradley & Associates.

For more info, contact:  
<http://annarborpublicpower.org/>

## Nuclear from Cradle to Grave

Dr. Gordon Edwards did an hour and half presentation for those who want to understand the nuclear problem better. Here it is:

<https://tinyurl.com/3uanuacc>

## Bring on the Wind Energy!

Some members of the Biden Administration are pro-nuclear, and some are not. One of those that are not the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, and she has been busy promoting sustainable energy.

At a wind-power conference, she announced that her department hopes to hold lease sales by 2025 for wind projects off the coasts of Maine, New York, the mid-Atlantic, the Carolinas, California, Oregon, and the Gulf of Mexico.

“The Interior Department is laying out an ambitious road map as we advance the administration’s plans to confront climate change, create good-paying jobs and accelerate the nation’s transition to a cleaner energy future,” said Haaland.

The Department of Energy, pro-nuke recipient of big bucks for the nuclear industry, said it will spend \$11.5 million to study risks that offshore wind development may pose.

## Oct. Fermi Documents Received

= **Event Number 55403.** Follow-up retraction on the 8/11/21 event that left the High-Pressure Coolant Injection inoperable. Original post said the cause was a “fuse failure,” This filing stated the cause of the failure was “a loose transmitter connection.” (*Whatever, it was inoperable!*)

= **ML21216A118.** NRC denies Beyond Nuclear and Don’t Waste Michigan’s 2.206 filing for in-depth look at Fermi’s torus problems. They said the problems are all solved now.

<https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML21216A118>

= **Event Number 55522.** “a Traversing In-Core Probe (TIP) would not fully retract to the In-Shield position, the TIP Ball Valve was declared Inoperable...” The valve was closed manually.

= **ML21253A010.** Revised Relief Request for the Fourth 10-year Inservice Inspection. “Therefore, the NRC staff authorizes the use of proposed alternative at Fermi 2 power plant for the fourth 10-year ISI interval, which began on May 2, 2019, and is scheduled to end on May 1, 2029” This is concerning cracking of welds, but how is it they get approval starting in May 2019?

<https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML21253A010>

= **ML21294A053**. Emergency Preparedness biennial Exercise Inspection Report. Remote simulated disaster. No violations reported.

= **ML21267A072**. NRC letter to Pokagon tribe stating Indiana will now do NRC's job in the state. <https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML21267A072> See article, page 2.

= **ML21294A060**. Licensee Event Report No. 2021-002. "Unplanned Inoperability of High-Pressure Coolant Injection System Due to an Inverter Circuit Failure." <https://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/webSearch2/main.jsp?AccessionNumber=ML21294A060>

## Meanwhile HB 6 still lives in Ohio

Lots of good things are going on in Ohio, solar and wind arrays going up and providing good, clean energy jobs. However, we have been following the "bail out the nuclear reactor" political scheme and here is the latest.

Newly surfaced texts between FirstEnergy executives detail favors done for them by Sam Randazzo, chair of the Ohio Public Utilities Commission. Randazzo resigned that position after an FBI revealed FirstEnergy executive has approved paying him \$4.3 million before his appointment in 2019.

And unfortunately, the FirstEnergy bailout bill is still on the books. Luckily, clean energy advocates are still trying to get it off. Stay tuned.

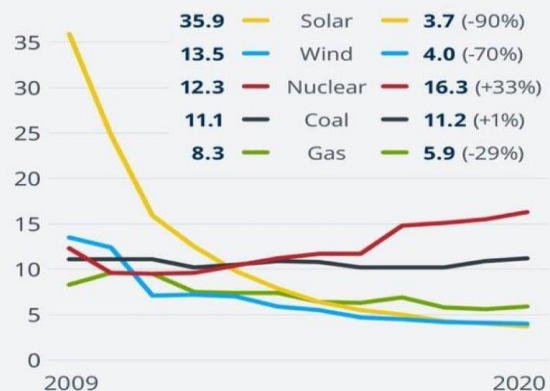


## *CRAFT Times*

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## Worldwide energy prices over the last decade

Generation costs in cents (US\$)



Source: WNISR, Lazard

## CRAFT Public Zoom Meeting

This is an invitation to attend a zoom meeting with the CRAFT Steering Committee Team on Thursday November 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30 p.m. We look forward to In-Person meetings, but not yet. Here is the link for the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6559569802?pwd=ajMvRE5TNmVJaW1iWIRJalV2dnhZdz09>

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