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Strictly Personal and Confidential – Via FedEx

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

**Re: Proven & Safe Thorium Fission Solving Global Warming 100% Without Military Action
Your Defense For “Drill Baby Drill” Against Attacks For Reversing The Wind/Solar Tax
Subsidies Of The So-Called Inflation Reduction (sic) Act of 2022**

This is a plea from a 232-member monthly public-policy study group that I have facilitated for the past 19 years. Its participants from around the country include many attorneys and science professors.

[Beginning with our 4/3/2011 meeting on the Fukushima Daaichi disaster of 3/11/2011, our meetings on nuclear issues have been led by a PhD in Nuclear Engineering from the U.S. National Nuclear-Research Laboratory at Oak Ridge - U/Tenn.]

THE WIND/SOLAR SUBSIDIES IN THE SO-CALLED INFLATION REDUCTION (SIC) ACT OF 2022

As you are probably aware, massive **three-year subsidies** for wind and solar were enacted in 2022 **in a bill whose title was a lie** because it reflected the despicable “Washington-swamp game” of packaging three years of “give aways” with 10 years of revenues – in the knowledge that the “give aways” will almost certainly be extended for the remaining 7 years by a succeeding Congress (probably buried in a budgetary “continuing resolution”).

The massive **three-year subsidies** were actually **increases in pre-existing subsidies** reflecting the fact that wind and solar have always been very uneconomic compared with the “bench mark” of oil & gas.

[The only other non-nuclear carbon-free energy source is hydro which is severely limited by the world’s lack (contrasted with energy demand) of dammable rivers.]

The foregoing facts are readily ascertained from the revenue estimates of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) which is required to provide such estimates for every piece of legislation reported by a Congressional Committee. The CBO’s IRA estimate is available at https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2022-08/hr5376_IR_Act_8-3-22.pdf.

BTW, the massive **three-year subsidies** were cleverly disguised as “tax expenditures” in “Washington-swamp speak” – or, in regular English, as income tax credits so they don’t appear in the U.S. Gov’s budget which the media loves to misleadingly opine has so little “discretionary spending”!!! Even though revenue “give aways” have the same impact on the U.S. Gov’s budget as appropriations!!!

YOUR DEFENSE AGAINST ATTACKS FOR LETTING EXPIRE THE WIND/SOLAR TAX SUBSIDIES OF THE SO-CALLED INFLATION REDUCTION (sic) ACT OF 2022

Every time our group has focused on global warming (aka climate change), we have begun the discussion by asking for a show of hands by anyone who favors invading militarily, for example, China to prevent it from bringing on stream every week one new monster-size coal-burning electrical-power generation plant.

In all of those meetings over the years, nobody has ever shown the slightest interest in using military force to coerce any country into using an uneconomic energy source, thereby reducing the standard of living of its citizens.

The obvious strategy of the U.S. climate-change negotiators for the Paris Climate Accords of 2016 and its predecessor, U.S. Vice President Al Gore's Kyoto Protocol of 1997, has been for the U.S. to agree to massive restrictions for the U.S. immediately – WHILE CHINA AND INDIA, THE WORLD'S BY-FAR LARGEST CARBON POLLUTERS, DO NOTHING UNTIL THE DISTANT FUTURE.

[In negotiating the Kyoto Protocol, V.P. Gore defied a 95-0 vote of the U.S. Senate instructing him not to agree to anything (1) that exempted China or India, or (2) that impacted adversely the U.S. standard of living – which he promptly did and which defiance is probably why President Clinton never submitted the Kyoto Protocol to the U.S. Senate for the 2/3-vote ratification required for treaties.]

SO YOUR OBVIOUS DEFENSE IS THAT YOU FAVOR THORIUM-FISSION AS THE **LONG-TERM** SOLUTION FOR GLOBAL WARMING, BUT REFUSE TO HARM THE U.S. ECONOMY BY SUBSIDIZING WIND/SOLAR WHICH IS FUTILE WHILE CHINA AND INDIA DO NOTHING.

PROVEN AND SAFE THORIUM FISSION

Luckily there is an economic energy source that is abundant and safe – and only requires the removal of choking regulations to permit development.

[Indeed, media reports over the weekend from Bill Gates of his three-hour “intriguing dinner” two weeks ago with you and Susie Wiles, your incoming Chief of Staff, might have touched on nuclear energy since Bill Gates has long since had a massive nuclear-energy development project which, unfortunately, focuses on uranium-fission rather than thorium-fission.]

You may not be aware that thorium-fission was proved feasible in the 1960's when the U.S. National Nuclear-Research Laboratory at Oak Ridge TN conducted a successful 18-month continuous demonstration project comprising a thorium-fueled nuclear reactor. And that President Nixon caused the nation to turn away from thorium (and toward uranium and plutonium) because thorium is incapable of exploding or being utilized to produce nuclear weapons.

Indeed, the earth itself is the world's largest thorium-fission reactor which is why any rupture in the earth's thin skin produces volcanos spewing molten lava and why the earth's core is 7,000 degrees Fahrenheit which is hotter than the surface of the sun!!!

Both conventional uranium-fission and proven thorium-fission share all of the following advantages: (a) producing no greenhouse gases; (b) eliminating the dependence of the U.S. and its allies on members of OPEC (the long-standing Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries) and, in the case of Europe, natural gas imports from Russia (in addition to oil & gas imports from OPEC); and (c) eliminating the gaping U.S. balance-of-payments deficit and resulting piling up of our foreign national debt.

However, proven thorium/fission has the following advantages over conventional uranium/fission –

[These advantages are virtually identical to those listed by Dr. Victor Stenger in The Huffington Post - https://www.huffingtonpost.com/victor-stenger/lftr-a-longterm-energy-so_b_1192584.html.]

(1) LFTR's (Liquid Fluoride Thorium Reactors) require minimal containment chambers because meltdowns are physically impossible since LFTR's operate near atmospheric pressure (this is both a safety and cost factor).

(2) LFTR's do not require elaborate cooling systems because they operate well below the boiling point of molten salt and can be passively cooled (this is also both a safety and cost factor).

(3) Thorium is so stable that, as mentioned above, it is impossible to make a nuclear weapon from thorium which is why the U.S. turned to uranium and plutonium instead of thorium.

(4) Thorium has such an incredibly-high “burn-up” that there is virtually no long-lived radioactive waste.

(5) LFTR’s can safely consume uranium from decommissioned nuclear warheads and from spent uranium-reactor fuel rods. Indeed, the Oak Ridge MSRE in the 1960’s was able to use U-235, Pu-239 and U-233 at the same time as thorium. [NB: Since former Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of NV prevented the opening of Yucca Mountain NV as the repository for our spent uranium-nuclear fuel rods, the spent uranium-nuclear fuel rods have been left on site at each uranium-nuclear plant to remain cool in the equivalent of home swimming-pools even though many of those uranium-nuclear plants are situated in high-volume air corridors!!!]

(6) Because LFTR’s are economically practical in small sizes, they can be mass-produced in factories and assembled near electrical demand so that the huge energy losses during electricity transmission are virtually eliminated -- though to replace huge uranium reactors, it would only be necessary to assemble several of the small modular thorium reactors into a larger plant.

(7) In addition, thorium is so plentiful that proven thorium supplies are capable of supplying 100% of the world’s energy (not just electricity) for more than 1,000 years. Indeed, virtually all of India’s “sand” beaches comprise thorium.

[Our calculation was 80 years of “proven” reserves of uranium for current (electricity only) usage multiplied by 3 (the minimum abundance factor of “proven” thorium reserves vs. “proven” uranium reserves) multiplied by 99 (usable thorium energy content vs. usable uranium energy content) multiplied by 5.8% (the percentage of total worldwide energy including transportation fuels, that comes from nuclear plants) = 1,378 years.]

ThEC15 was a worldwide conference on thorium research that was held in Mumbai, India, in 2015 by the Government of India and two of its agencies, BARC and NPCIL, along with HBNI and IThEO. The ThEC15 website (<http://www.thoriumenergyworld.com/the15-mumbai.html>) contains 127 papers and speeches by 46 speakers from 30 different nations.

PUBLIC OPINION NOW FAVORS NUCLEAR-ENERGY DESPITE HOLLYWOOD & THE MEDIA

The only reason why nuclear power has not long-since displaced fossil fuels is that Hollywood movies have done the “heavy lifting” for OPEC and the oil industry by falsely frightening the public about alleged dangers of nuclear power. Nevertheless –

- (1) Gallup’s most-recent annual polls show the majority of Americans favor the use of nuclear energy; and
- (2) Pew Research’s most-recent annual polls confirm that this is true.

This is NOT surprising since even uranium-fission has a safety record that should be the envy of every other energy source including oil & gas.

Indeed, there have been only three noteworthy uranium-fission accidents in the world’s 80-year nuclear history, only one of which produced any fatalities AND ALL THREE OF WHICH WERE THE RESULT OF UNPARDONABLE HUMAN ACTIONS --

Three-Mile Island (Pennsylvania) – 1979

There were more than 100 blinking lights and wailing sirens indicating the reactor core was NOT getting enough cooling water!!!

But the operators couldn’t believe their instruments!!! And, UNFORTUNATELY, assumed that the exact opposite was happening!!!

By the time corrective action was taken, there was a small release of radioactive gas and \$2.4 billion of damage had been incurred. But no deaths were caused.

Chernobyl (Ukraine, Soviet Union) – 1986

Soviet uranium-powered nuclear plants did NOT have containment chambers because Soviet engineers were so “cock sure” of their expertise!!!

And on that fateful 4/26/1986, TWO TEAMS of Soviet operators were warring with each other to use the plant for two contradictory purposes – the regular team supplying electric power to the grid and the other team experimenting to determine whether the momentum of the turbines would be enough to power the cooling system during an accidental shutdown!!!

[Why couldn't the Soviet geniuses have shut down power-generation by lowering the fuel rods into the cooling water and then, when all possible danger of a nuclear accident was "off the table," have fired up solely the turbines to ascertain whether their momentum was sufficient to power the cooling system during an accidental shutdown???)

The "real world" answer courtesy of the Soviet geniuses???. The momentum of the turbines was NOT sufficient!!!

Fukushima Daiichi (Japan) – 2011

Yes, the Tōhoku earthquake measured 9.0 on the Richter scale – 2.63 times more powerful than California's famous 1906 earthquake, the largest since California earthquake records began being kept in 1769 which was nearly a century before California was detached from Mexico and became part of the U.S. And 16.99 times more powerful than California's most powerful earthquake since 1906.

And yes, the earthquake generated a 43-foot-high tsunami.

HOWEVER, Fukushima Daiichi was a conventional uranium-powered nuclear plant whose fixed uranium fuel rods had to be cooled by water and for a complete shut down, the rods had to be lowered into the cool water. NB: cool-water circulation was by electric pumps.

AND THE GENIUSES WHO DESIGNED Fukushima Daiichi put the emergency generators in the basement where a tsunami was sure to knock them out due to flooding!!!

AND THE GENIUSES WHO DESIGNED Fukushima Daiichi put the fuel tanks for the emergency generators at ground level where they were sure to be washed away by a tsunami!!!

NEVERTHELESS, the containment chambers survived the earthquake and the tsunami, while the highly-publicized but limited radiation contamination of sea water was caused by (1) limited venting LONG AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE/Tsunami to guard against a build-up of pressure in the containment chambers because of the continued lack of cooling due to the continued lack of electricity (caused by the design geniuses), and (2) water from the containment chambers leaking FROM PIPES OUTSIDE THE CONTAINMENT CHAMBERS just like your own home plumbing might spring a leak, especially after an earthquake.

Thank you for your consideration of removing regulations choking thorium-fission development,.

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Karls
JD, Harvard Law School, 1967
Who's Who in American Law, 1988-2003
Who's Who in America, 1988-2003
Who's Who in the World, 1994-2003

PS: It is well known that large volcanic eruptions will throw into the atmosphere gases and dust particles whose shading of incoming solar radiation can cool the earth for months and even years.

[This has caused some wags to remark (however, true) that Global Warming can be solved by occasional, small nuclear wars which, of course, will be much more likely if a nuclear-arms race occurs between “The World’s Greatest ‘State Sponsor of Terrorism’” (The U.S. State Department’s long-standing legally-required description of Iran) and “The Gulf Cooperation Council” (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, The United Arab Emirates, and Oman) – or a nuclear war occurs between Iran and Israel.]

In a similar vein, there has been research on seeding the earth’s atmosphere with various substances to achieve the same effect as volcanic eruptions or small nuclear wars. Such an approach (vs., for example, merely adopting the most economical energy source which happens to have no carbon emissions) is likely, at the very least, to incur legal liability. After all, The Russian Federation refused to ratify The Kyoto Protocol for many years because Global Warming would increase Siberia’s growing season -- until the European Union finally agreed to subsidize Russia’s economic loss. [Similar economic disparities were bridged in the Paris Climate Accord by the U.S. promising to adopt uneconomic measures virtually immediately in return for the world’s other great carbon polluters’ merely promising to adopt uneconomic measures in the distant future.]