



Illinois NPPs Get 5 Year Reprieve, Saving Our Supply of U233, Bitcoin Mining Not the Answer and Remembering Bryan Mercer

Byron and Dresden NPPs Saved via Illinois Senate Bill Providing Subsidies

In a last minute vote by the Illinois State Senate, a forward thinking clean energy bill was passed staving off imminent premature closure of two nuclear power plants in Illinois. Gov. JB Pritzker signed the bill last Wednesday. The bill will also phase out coal and oil-burning plants as part of a forward-looking energy portfolio strategy.

We want to thank all of our members who took the time to [submit letters](#) that we delivered to key Illinois politicians. Also, a big shout out to our friends at Generation Atomic for their tireless efforts in working to save these plants. As we move forward with this minor victory behind us we need to keep the focus on clean nuclear, both our current fleet and progress into advanced reactor technology, as we address climate change. The Thorium Energy Alliance is proud to have been part of this success and we will continue our mission to bring Thorium into the future of energy.



HELP Counter More Threats to Our Critical Supply of U233

There is still a chance to save the [U233 supply](#) for use in the USA for Medicines and Fuels, but the challenges never end. Not only is the U233 set to be destroyed simply because it is a minor inconvenience to Battelle who manages the National Labs of the USA, but now it seems that Bill Gates Terra Power has plans to monopolize the use of whatever U233 they can acquire.

There was a House amendment effort, despite having 10 cosponsors, that was not made into an order because HASC Chairman Adam Smith is putting Bill Gates' interests ahead of the American people. A Senate effort is underway to introduce a similar NDAA amendment to save the U233 in the so-called Managers' package. We would appreciate it if TEA members reached out to the Senate Armed Services Committee members' offices and asked them to rescind authorization of the U-233 downblending program.

ALSO RELATED

The imminent startup of the experimental Chinese thorium molten-salt cooled reactor has been covered by several outlets recently including [Nature magazine](#).

This occasion has provided another opportunity to intervene in the destruction of America's U-233 inventory at ORNL -- a [project](#) on which the DOE has spent more money in the last decade than all advanced reactor R&D combined.

There is an ongoing effort in Congress to halt the downblending program, which is also creating a persistent Gates backed monopoly on targeted alpha therapy – the halt would allow for the U-233 to be used for deploying Thorium cycle MSRs.

Just Send us even the smallest note in favor of saving the U233 – We will send in for you!!

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Be vocal with your members of Congress and especially reach out to the [Senate Armed Services Committee members](#) asking them to support **the NDAA amendment to stop authorization of funding** for the downblending of U-233.



Nuclear for Bitcoin Mining Not the Answer

Recent news in nuclear has touted the benefits of using nuclear generation to decarbonize the expanding crypto currency sector. Mining a single bitcoin is estimated to produce over 800 kg of CO2 equivalent. Although we would rather see crypto-mining go green and not rely on fossil fuels, it seems to be a poor choice for using nuclear resources. There are so many smarter uses that would have lasting benefits to society as we face looming GHG emissions over the next decades.

Remembering Bryan Mercer

Bryan Mercer passed away 9-30-2021. He was an unsung hero of the revival of Molten Salt Reactor technology. Terrestrial Energy Inc. would not be where it is today if it were not for Bryan's early work and efforts that lead to initial funding for the startup Molten Salt Reactor Company. His outgoing demeanor, and his level headed and jovial personality made him a pleasure to work with. He will be sorely missed by the nuclear community, even if some had not been aware of his tireless efforts to make the world a better place with nuclear power.



ORNL Hosting (Virtual) 2021 MSR Workshop

Oak Ridge National Laboratory will again host this year's Molten Salt Reactor Workshop virtually on Oct 12-13. This year's conference will mark the 7th annual MSR workshop. Registration is needed to attend and space is limited.

Thanks to all the support from members new and old, we strive to promote Thorium as the Fuel of the Future. Please consider making a contribution to promote Thorium!

John Kutsch
Executive Director

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