

Correspondence

Nuclear Is Necessary for Malaysia and the World

This letter was received from a reader in Malaysia, commenting on "Malaysia's Agricultural Breakthrough, With Nuclear Power, Can Feed the World" by Mohd Peter Davis, EIR April 25, 2008.

I really appreciate *EIR* writing about Malaysia's agricultural breakthrough. Unfortunately, I personally believe that the title "Malaysia's Agricultural Breakthrough, With Nuclear Power, Can Feed the World" is not suitable for this article. This is because most of the article talks about the success of Malaysia's agricultural breakthrough, in particular Mr. Yogendren's success in grass farming and how it could help to increase animal productions.

However, the title given to this article will give a wrong impression to certain readers that Malaysia's agricultural breakthrough is achieved by nuclear power, which is definitely incorrect, especially on the grass farm project carried out by Mr. Yogendren.... Therefore, I would suggest that it's better to segregate Malaysia's agricultural breakthrough from nuclear power subjects, because it doesn't have any correlation.

If the writer is keen on emphasizing the usage of nuclear power in agriculture, especially in countries where the freshwater supply is insufficient, then I would suggest the writer should give examples of successful agricultural projects achieved by using nuclear-power desalinated water. This will be more appropriate, rather than incorporating Malaysia's agricultural breakthrough with nuclear power technology.

EIR Responds

The point Mohd Peter Davis is making, is that the issue at stake is not just Malaysia, but the entire portion of the world living in tropical or arid climates. The breakthrough in Malaysia is not only for Malaysia, but for the world, which will require nuclear power to achieve.

In regard to your suggestion that he

point to successful cases of desalinated water from nuclear power being used to green the desert in other locations, the unfortunate fact is that it has not been done yet, despite the availability of the technology for decades, because of the anti-nuclear hysteria manufactured by those who intended to keep energy, and food, scarce.

You will be interested to hear that the same concern in reverse was raised by others in Malaysia, in the form: "Why are you talking about food, when the issue is nuclear energy?"

Our concern at *EIR* is that the world is heading into a dark age of financial collapse, general warfare, and famine. The only solution is the return to the concept of the general welfare driven by scientific progress, as the basis for peace among sovereign nations based on the interests of all. If the world fails to go nuclear, now, there will be no solution to the food crisis, the water crisis, and the energy crisis, over the medium or long term. Temporary emergency measures are urgent, but the long-term perspective is equally urgent.

Malaysia has historically played a leading role in issues of concern to the human race as a whole, and it is our hope that the government will embrace the agricultural breakthrough as a contribution to mankind—which, however, is not realizable without the nuclear component.

High-Volume Agriculture Trumps Burning Food

I thoroughly enjoyed Marcia Baker's article on biofuel famine ("To Defeat Famine: Kill the WTO," *EIR*, April 25, 2008).

I studied the Club of Rome while in college in 1972, and they said demand was to outstrip supply in historic proportions. So, I decided to go into agriculture—therefore good prices. Well, the joke was on me. I worked for John Deere in *big* production, and went broke in the '80s with heavy debt, high interest, low prices, low demand, falling equity, and heavy-handed (easy money) lenders.



Areva

I left agriculture because I was a master of high volume ag, and my talents were what was wrong with ag: too much production; so, I voted with my feet and got out.

The current Gore-led fiasco of forcing starving people to watch us burn food, is *\$* %##* bad. The redneck on TV last night said that his bio-diesel pickup exhaust "smelled like french fries." He liked that! This is bad, this is bad, this is bad, this is bad.

History repeats itself ... so, thanks for the history lesson.

My point here is:

Ethanol fuel from any food or cellulose source cannot compete with mined/pumped hydrocarbons, but abundant nuclear power can.

Energy independence cannot come from grain or grass. However, with abundant nuclear power, railroads can run on electricity, the grid can handle plug-in hybrids, hydrogen fuel can be generated, and hydrocarbons can be conserved for highest and best use.

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The writer is a leader in the pro-nuclear group in the Tri-Cities area of Washington State which has fought to keep the Fast Flux Test Facility from shutdown, so that it could produce medical isotopes.