



NO KINGS, NO NUKES!

DO YOU WANT NUCLEAR CORPORATIONS DETERMINING YOUR ENERGY FUTURE?

Did You Know Governor Healey and other New England Governors Are Buying the Nuclear Kool-Aid?

Why won't the governor protect our communities? Why won't the legislators protect our air and water—our environment from thermal and radioactive pollution. Why won't they protect us from the rising cost of nuclear power? Why won't they deal with the toxic radioactive waste at the reactor sites in the state before embarking on an untested and experimental nuclear program. Why are you willing to make us nuclear guinea pigs again while we live with the failed policy of the nuclear industry and the most toxic waste ever created?

Why are they willing to abandon us?

Last summer, MA Gov. Healey introduced legislation promoting nuclear power, undermining the democratic process, and promoting a new type of reactor—SMRs, Small Modular Reactors, to be sited throughout the state supporting energy for data centers, which the Governor is also promoting.

What is happening in Massachusetts is an industry blueprint for New England. In 2024 Healey proposed changing the designation for energy requirements in the state from renewable to "clean." Many didn't take the designation change seriously, and the bill passed. Then the administration locked Massachusetts into a 30-year contract with the Millstone reactors in Connecticut at above market rates. This is Healey's "clean" energy-fostering rate hikes on already suffering ratepayers!

This governor's desire—to bring nuclear power back even though the nuclear industry and the federal government have yet to create a scientifically sound, environmentally just solution for the High Level Nuclear Waste (HLNW) stranded at six New England sites—is shocking.

To do this she wants to repeal an Act that requires a peoples' referendum on nuclear power before any reactor can be built. This 1982 Act received overwhelming support when it was adopted. Now it's in the Governor's way. It required a statewide referendum and also the establishment of a permanent repository before the state could entertain nuclear development. This leaves local communities vulnerable to the whims of corporations and ambitious legislators.

This repeal of our rights to protect our communities, is unacceptable and dangerous but it's also popular with the powers that be.

Governor Scott, across the border in Vermont, is now advocating for changing the designation for its energy future from renewable to “clean” in Vermont, advocating for bringing nuclear back into the mix. This bill, like Healey’s, has been introduced into the legislature. It would eviscerate the power of the Vermont legislature to determine Vermont’s energy future in terms of nuclear power. Whether it entertains new nukes or just buys power from nuclear driven states to meet its “clean” energy goals, it undermines Vermont’s energy future and locks in subsidies for a dying industry.

Added to this, New Hampshire and Connecticut want to explore nuclear expansion.

Massachusetts is the lynch pin in this debacle.

Why Are These Governors Advocating a False Solution?

New England has the highest electric rates in the country. Massachusetts electric rates have doubled since 2020. Claims are made that it’s the closing of 6 out of 9 reactors in the region that has led to this debacle. It’s not.

Issues of affordability are real and immediate in our region; the industry is effectively using this issue as a Trojan horse to make its case and to bring nuclear back to the region. It’s not solved by bringing untested heavily subsidized nuclear back. However, Governors are buying the nuclear Kool-aid.

In an attempt to meet their commitments to end carbon, they are attempting to substitute “clean” for “renewable” to justify nuclear power’s inclusion in the state energy mix. In fact, the nuclear fuel chain is carbon intensive from mining, milling, and enrichment. Singling out reactor operation as carbon neutral is deceptive!

The real culprit for the massive escalation in costs?

Gas and the extensive replacement of its aging infrastructure rather than repair locking in a gas future for our region. Instead of replacing gas pipes at \$4.6 million a mile, when it costs \$20,000 a mile to repair the leaks. The utilities are spending 230 times more per mile—that is close to \$1 billion a year right now. This has to stop.

There are a lot of cheerleaders for nuclear power—the industry is desperately trying to reinvent itself as a “clean” source of energy; while corporations are eyeing nuclear to run their data centers. Both use massive amounts of water to cool their operations and nukes add radioactive waste into the mix. Of course the Trump administration is an industry cheerleader.

The people you never hear from are the impacted communities, which have suffered the industry’s and federal government’s broken promises.

These communities were targeted for “clean” nuclear because they were working poor, rural, people of color, and Indigenous. They’re forced to choose between short-term economic survival and long term health and safety.

These communities live with the contamination of their waterways, air, and land. They live with the intimidation found when a corporation controls their resources. They live with the increases in diseases. They live with the radioactive waste trapped at reactor and waste sites throughout America.

Now, before the industry has solved its waste problem it wants to do it again. Adding insult to injury, states like MA, VT, CT, and NH are “entertaining” nuclear power whether SMRs, fission, or fusion. This is a grave mistake. We must do better.

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Waking people up in a world that wants them to stay asleep.

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