

# Free At Last from Foreign Oil?

BY ELISSA PROVANCE

In 1980, a bill entitled *The Magnetic Fusion Energy Engineering Act* (MFEEA) was introduced by Mike McCormack (D-Washington, Retired) and signed into law by then-President Jimmy Carter. The goal of the legislation was to “provide for an accelerated program of research and development of magnetic fusion energy technologies leading to the construction and successful operation of a magnetic fusion demonstration plant in the United States before the end of the [20<sup>th</sup>] century to be carried out by the Department of Energy.”

Here we are in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Have we constructed and successfully operated a magnetic fusion plant in the U.S.? Tom Tamarkin knows the answer for sure.

“In 1976, we had a problem in Iran and had an Arab oil embargo,” he recalls. “I was a physics major in college and was told we would solve the energy problem by 2000. The problem is MFEEA never got funded and the public didn’t know about it. Thirty years later, we are still talking about it.”

That’s not entirely true. Tamarkin, through his company, EnergyCite and his Institute for Energy of the Creation or IFEC, is actually doing something about bringing nuclear fusion back to the forefront of the discussion. He says it’s as simple as  $E = MC^2$  or Energy = Mass x Velocity of Light (186,282 miles per second) squared. This means one gram of mass is the equivalent of millions of gallons of gas.

“When you think about atomic energy, there’s a problem, which is the production of radioactive waste,” Tamarkin explains. “Nuclear fusion doesn’t have the same problem. Fission atomic energy works by splitting an atom. Fusion brings light elements together to create energy. It’s better to build something to fuse and release energy, than to split it.”

Calling nuclear fusion the ‘holy grail’ of energy production, Tamarkin says the secret is the sun but not in the way consumers have been told.

“The sun is a gigantic ball that is 93 million miles from the earth,” Tamarkin begins. “It consists of mainly hydrogen, which is fused into helium thereby releasing tremendous energy. Fossil fuels such as oil, natural gas, and coal are like the guts of a battery that have been charged for 300 million years by the sun. All are products of photosynthesis and universal creation that took 300 million years to create and 200 years to deplete.”

Most people would say, “Go Green;” however, Tamarkin says this is foolish because green energy sources can only produce four percent of the energy required by 2050.

“The average person doesn’t think about science,” he explains. “Global warming caused by man is a myth. Alterna-

tive energy; i.e., solar panels, wind, or corn, is not the answer. The answer is to create a different or alternative energy using the same scientific means that created the universe, i.e., the Big Bang.”

Tamarkin, a member of Keneset Israel Torah Center, Mosaic Law Congregation, and Chabad, further explains this concept using the Torah as his source, specifically, the six days of creation.

“The optical light that we see comes from the sun and the moon, but it was not in place until the fourth day of creation” he says. “Trees and vegetation were created on the third day with photosynthesis. The key is, energy was created prior to the sun’s creation. The ‘divine energy’ is reserved for when man becomes more righteous. You become righteous when you have knowledge and clarity of your moral purpose.”

Tamarkin believes the solution to energy is before us and that we don’t have to drill for it. He also believes Israel is part of the solution. Part of his plan is to establish a research organization that links biblical and historical references to light and energy and modern science using Israeli and U.S. resources and produce educational and training materials to be used by educators and clergy. He also is developing an action plan that he says will lead to energy independence by converting matter into energy.

In March, Tamarkin spent the day at the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory in New Jersey. The director of the lab, Dr. Stewart Prager, noted that, “South Korea and China are far ahead of the U.S. in this national security-related business. If the U.S. does not catch up, we will become a third world nation in energy.” Adds Tamarkin, “A third world nation in all things since energy is fundamental to a nation’s economy.”

He also adds, “Israel is a moral country. Here in the U.S., physicists don’t look at science problems with a moral perspective; they are forced to worry about whether their government funding is in place. The U.S. has the money and Israel has the academic freedom.”

Time is of the essence since Tamarkin notes that in 2050, nine billion people will inhabit the earth.

“We have to consider our children and grandchildren,” he says. “We need to rely on the Jewish mind and heart to solve the problem.”

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