

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : House Bill 2235, Marcellus on State Forest Lands

Re: House Bill 2235, Marcellus on State Forest Lands

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URL:

Well, the people I said I know are all at universities. I have yet to meet or even hear of an oil or gas exec come and tell them what not to work on, or pull money away from a project. It may be true that oil and gas don't fund the work for other types of energy, but they have no way of preventing private funds from going to renewable research, and in fact, quite a bit does. And in many situations, if you are funded by the university, the student can choose what to work on. I'm just sayin, that if it were easy, it would have been done.

Show me good evidence of one perpetual motion machine, please, with no external source of power whatsoever. No permanent magnets, no electromagnets, no batteries or other forms of chemical energy, no heat pumps, no solar, no wind, no externally applied fields. You can't. Conservation of energy. Game over.

That doesn't mean that these things aren't useful. There are many sources of energy that can be tapped. So long as you realize that it is not creating energy. We already do use almost every source of energy available, but not always in the most efficient manner, and thats where research needs to focus.

For instance, I will say that heat pumps are very, very interesting. A heat pump does not produce energy, it is essentially moving energy from place to place. But you can get a system where you harvest heat energy from the air! Think of a refrigerator. You add some electrical energy, we'll say 1 joule, but then the system uses that to take energy from the air you are cooling, we'll say 3 joules, and then dumps nearly 4 joules of heat outside. If the heat energy is what you're after, you ended up with nearly 4 joules of heat energy from using only 1 joule of electricity. Of course you also ended up with a cold spot, thats where the extra energy came from. As that cold spot gets colder, your heat pump loses efficiency, you are losing your energy source. But if that volume you are cooling were big enough, say, the entire atmosphere, you could harness an awful lot of heat energy from the air. And some of the excess energy could be diverted into making more energy, the machine would appear to power itself and actually produce energy.

Of course its not "producing" energy, merely moving it. In fact, it's energy source is nothing new at all. This would essentially be a form of solar energy. Is it currently more efficient than standard solar panels? I'm sure that depends how you measure efficiency. For instance, I highly doubt its more efficient than a solar panel in the sun. But, it would work in cloudy areas, it would work at night. It would certainly have its uses, perhaps with enough research, even large scale power generation. I won't deny that sometimes things that deserve more R&D don't get the funding. It's not a conspiracy or some company holding it down. It's lack of anyone who's willing to hold it up. If someone believes it'll work on a massive scale, they can get the money to do the R&D, and they'll profit handsomely when it comes to fruition. Thats how people get rich, they take risks on things like this. This could someday be one of those stories, maybe even sooner rather than later.

And yes, for nuclear, I'm not talking about how to make a bomb, I'm talking about the blueprints for next-generation power plants, and they are well known and available publicly.