

**WEST VIRGINIA CENTRAL NEWSPAPER**  
**YOU ARE READING HISTORY IN THE MAKING**

**MANCHIN AGAIN URGES PRESIDENT TRUMP TO PRESERVE COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS IN WEST VIRGINIA**

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV), a member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, continued his longstanding advocacy for federal agencies to use their authority to keep coal-fired power plants running by urging President Trump and his administration to act now to protect West Virginia jobs and the reliability of our electric grid. Senator Manchin has sent four letters advocating to protect endangered plants and grid reliability. He has also spoken with President Trump, Secretary Perry and other Department of Energy officials about these issues. And, he has repeatedly questioned FERC and reliability coordinators before the Committee.

Senator Manchin said in part: "The impending deactivation of numerous coal and nuclear power plants is of great concern for our grid, for our communities, and for our nation. In addition to the loss of jobs and threats to the economic livelihood of the communities in which these plants sit, our region and our nation's electric grid will become less resilient if no action is taken now to keep these plants operational."

Read the full letter below or click here:

Dear President Trump,  
On March 29, 2018, Secretary Perry and the Department of Energy received a request for an emergency order pursuant to his authority under section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act. It is my understanding that this request by FirstEnergy Solutions is now under consideration. I greatly appreciate Secretary Perry's efforts to secure and strengthen our electric grid and, in particular, his consideration of this request.

As I have discussed with you and Secretary Perry on numerous occasions, many baseload units in the PJM Interconnection (PJM) footprint continue to suffer from the cumulative effect of an onslaught of overregulation, market rules that disadvantage baseload power, and subsidies and mandates that have encouraged negative bidding into competitive markets. In combination with the naturally occurring dynamics of our energy markets, essential baseload units that provide resilience and reliability attributes to our grid are struggling to stay operational. Many of these plants are located in the Ohio Valley region, including the Pleasants Power Station in Willow Island, West Virginia.

As it has time and again, coal-fired power generation performed well during the Polar Vortex in 2014 and more recently during this year's Bomb Cyclone. These extreme weather events tested our electric grid in an unprecedented manner and coal delivered. In fact, the Department of Energy's own National Energy Technology Lab (NETL) found that, at the height of peak demand on January 5, 2018, "had coal been removed, a 9-8 GW shortfall would have developed," NETL went on to conclude that, "In the case of PJM, it can also be shown that the demand could not have been met without coal."

The impending deactivation of numerous coal and nuclear power plants is of great concern for our grid, for our communities, and for our nation. In addition to the loss of jobs and threats to the economic livelihood of the communities in which these plants sit, our region and our nation's electric grid will become less resilient if no action is taken now to keep these plants operational.

Therefore, I urge your Administration and the Department of Energy to use its statutory authority to preserve these critical units. I thank you for your consideration and am happy to make myself available to you at any time to discuss these matters.



**Logic**

By Joe Ingino b.a.  
Editor/Publisher

*"I live a dream in a nightmare world"*

**Domesticating Issue**

There is no excuse for violence. But there sure is reason. I ask this question in that an unrelated topic I happen to visit the Northern Regional Jail web page. Out of interest I began to look at the inmates charges. Much to my shock. 80% of those in

there are due to domestic related issues. From domestic battery to malicious assault. You got to wonder what is going wrong in our society that there is such a large number of people committing these type of crimes.

Is this becoming our new social cancer? Has our society failed to such a degree that we are committing these heinous crimes against member of family?

I started looking at case law. I also talked to local police on the issue. Much to my surprise the victims in many cases are the instigators. The end result poor or no communication and violence erupts.

Violence in most cases stemming from substance abuse. Others from rooted psychological imbalances. A crime is a crime. Yet, we can't persecute without understanding circumstances. Family law has been criticized for it's harsh penalties towards perpetrators of domestic abuse and or violence. But failed to take into consideration that in many cases there is a catalyst that causes the eruption of violence.

I think education is the key to combating this very serious social issue. We must look at ways to teach our population on coping mechanism and family dynamics.

In this modern age everyone has a right. But fail to acknowledge that rights come with responsibilities and commitment. This means that just because it is your right it does not necessarily mean that you must exercise it.

What does all this mean. We need to invest in educating people on family dynamics. On the importance of each members role and the responsibilities associated with each. We must also teach appreciation and respect. As without either violence is only a whisper away.

A police officer explained that in many cases they press charges and within a few hours the victim and perpetrator are back together as if nothing had happened. This in my opinion is the reason behind the violence. Even there is no excuse. I think it merits reason.

**VASILI ARKHIPOV KEPT HIS HEAD AND SAVED US FROM NUCLEAR DESTRUCTION**

By Brian Giesbrecht  
Senior Fellow

Frontier Centre for Public Policy

Where would we be without Vasili Arkhipov? Would we be here at all?  
Who is Vasili Arkhipov?

Before I get to that, let's talk about the dangerous world we live in. North Korea is bristling with nuclear bombs. The rogue nation is completely unpredictable. South Korea, Japan - and, apparently, North America - are all within range of North Korea's nuclear missiles. We have no way of knowing what they intend to do. North Korea recently announced its willingness to hold talks with U.S. President Donald Trump. We hope this will lead to a denuclearized North Korea, since last year's insult exchanges between Trump and Kim Jong-un were downright scary.

These insults may be amusing except for the fact that - as both leaders keep reminding us - they possess rather potent buttons. A push of one would instantly result in the pushing of the other, followed by nuclear conflagration.

We wish Trump well in these negotiations but remind him that his comrade in bad haircuts probably has a few tricks up his sleeve.

Meanwhile, Iran and Israel have nuclear weapons and appear to be close to war. Israel reputedly has an Armageddon plan if things aren't going well. I would guess Iran does as well. Israel enjoyed good relations with Iran until Ayatollah Khomeini arrived, injecting a dose of white-hot religious hatred and souring the relationship. The countries are now sworn enemies.

Indian and Pakistan seem relatively quiet, but are always just one rogue general away from a nuclear war. An incident in Kashmir, a terrorist attack on Mumbai, a Hindu-Muslim incident - almost anything could spark the push of a lethal button.

And the countries or terrorist groups we don't know about that may have these deadly weapons? Not many years ago, Israel bombed a nuclear weapon factory in Syria, destroying Syria's ability to produce nuclear weapons. Imagine a Syria with nuclear weapons. That's a sobering thought. In 1981, Israel also hit a nuclear bomb factory Saddam Hussein was building Iraq. Imagine the devastation that madman would have caused if his nuclear ambitions had been fulfilled.

Let's not forget Russian President Vladimir Putin, who recently boasted about new weapons that he says are more powerful than anything anyone else has. He seems inordinately proud of his ability - and apparent willingness - to blow us all to smithereens.

Which other unstable and dangerous countries are in possession of these weapons or plotting to get their hands on them? Does the Islamic State (IS) have a dirty bomb? What other evil group in this dangerous world plans to get their hands on one?

The Slim Pickens character in the movie Dr. Strangelove - whooping it up as he rides that big nuke to destination Earth - comes to mind in these dangerous times.

And that brings me to Vasili Arkhipov. He was a true Russian gentleman who managed - in Kipling's words - "to keep his head while those around him were losing theirs." He might also be the reason we're still here. Arkhipov came to our aid in October 1962 in the heat of the Cuban Missile Crisis.

We held our breath listening for the sounds of sirens announcing that the world would soon come to an end. U.S. President John F. Kennedy and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev were rattling sabres - or tons of nuclear weapons. Students partied all night, not knowing if there would be a tomorrow. The world was a hair's breadth from annihilation.

Arkhipov was second in command in a Soviet submarine off the coast of Cuba. The Americans were dropping depth charges that exploded close to the submarine. Conditions on board were intolerable and everyone was at the breaking point. The air supply was contaminated, blasts shook the vessel and all on board thought they were going to die.

What the Americans didn't know was that the submarine was armed with a nuclear-tipped missile. If that missile had been fired, it almost certainly would have resulted in a nuclear conflagration that might well have wiped out all life on our planet. At very least, it would have resulted in a world far different from the comfortable, centrally-heated one we live in today.

The submarine's captain, who thought the world was already at war, was ready to push his nuclear button. But calm, cool Arkhipov talked him out of it. As a result, we're still here.

We owe so much to Arkhipov, yet he's not well known. A song by the heavy-metal band Converge, called The Arkhipov Calm, celebrates him.

We can only hope that today's leaders pause and hum the tune when they feel the urge to push the button..

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