

FALLOUT

MICHAEL MCDONNOUGH ON LIFE AFTER BETAVOLTAIC



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By Tim Ventura & Michael McDonnough, May 5th, 2007

Three years ago, Betavoltaic Industries was poised for success as a next-generation energy startup working past the bleeding edge and getting startling results. With products in development for both stimulated beta-decay nuclear batteries and a radical new vision for LENR fusion energy, Betavoltaic had it made, until it all went away. Meet Michael McDonnough – visionary, futurist, and former CEO, as we explore what went wrong and why it matters today...

AAG: Betavoltaic is gone, but why? I've been following your work for 5 years now, and you've always been a leader in getting consistent results beyond the bleeding edge. When we did the interview back in '04, and you had it all: working fusion in the lab, and experimental results for stimulated beta-decay nuclear batteries. What went wrong?

McDonnough: Business is all about timing – which in this case worked against us. I had the misfortune of starting Betavoltaic Industries shortly after September 11th, and we were immediately hammered by a complete change in US laws and business practices, as well as a very dry technology investment climate that ensued following that event.

Dr. Ruggero Santilli, our chief science director, was the first scientist I'd found who shared my vision of the neutron as the ultimate source of stored electric energy, in the form of beta-decay for certain isotopes. Santilli has since provided experimental evidence which supports this model, and he's developed a new process capable of producing neutrons in the lab using only hydrogen and electrons. Not only does this neutron-synthesis technology work, but it produces a high enough neutron volume that Santilli's had to evacuate his laboratory on several occasions.



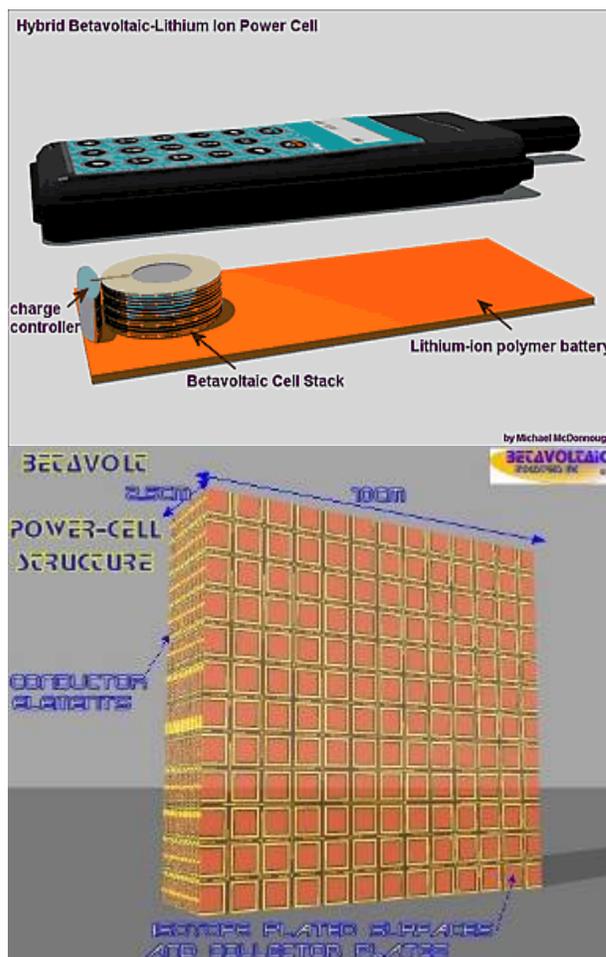
Michael McDonnough: Founder & CEO of the Betavoltaic Industries corporation.

In Santilli's model, a neutron is a form of "compressed hydrogen atom", so it makes sense that a technology could be built to "uncompress" the neutron back into hydrogen. This process of breaking the neutron into a paired proton and electron is referred to as an *artificial stimulated beta decay* of the neutron. If you can force the decay to occur with less input energy than you get back from the decay event itself, then you've opened the door to opportunities such as generating energy from nuclear waste, and maybe even harnessing energy by initiating stimulated decay in more stable isotopes with high beta decay energies such as Potassium 40 or Molybdenum 100.

We obtained a funding agreement with Technology Capital and Markets (TCM) in Utah for \$5,000,000, and in exchange, TCM took ownership of about 30% of the company's outstanding shares. However, they never paid up, and after several years of being strung along with a series of small payments totaling less than \$250,000, they unexpectedly pulled out after their primary investor died of a heart attack. We found out later the attack was caused by the shock of his discovery that TCM had been pocketing money earmarked for investment in Betavoltaic. For instance, on one occasion the investor had provided \$350,000, and out of that sum \$250,000 was earmarked for Betavoltaic to pay for patent license fees and for proof of concept prototype development. We only obtained about \$35,000 from that payment - barely 10% of the amount we were supposed to have to build a prototype.

We did what we could, using some of the funds to apply for a patent on stimulated decay technology, but it was rejected several times on technicalities and in the end we simply didn't have enough capital to finish financing the application process. Patent attorneys charge about \$200 per hour and with every pass back and forth to the patent office to Ruggero and the attorney we were paying thousands of dollars and received no indication that it would end without more costly rounds of revision. After spending over \$10,000 on the patent application for stimulated decay we had to simply abandon the effort for a lack of funds and a lack of assurance that our payments would ever end in the award of a patent worth anything to the company.

Anyhow, that's the short version of the story – after 4 years of struggle to obtain initial financing Betavoltaic Industries shut its books and called it quits. I still hold out hope to reform the company and try again someday when I'm financially secure enough to self-finance our efforts.

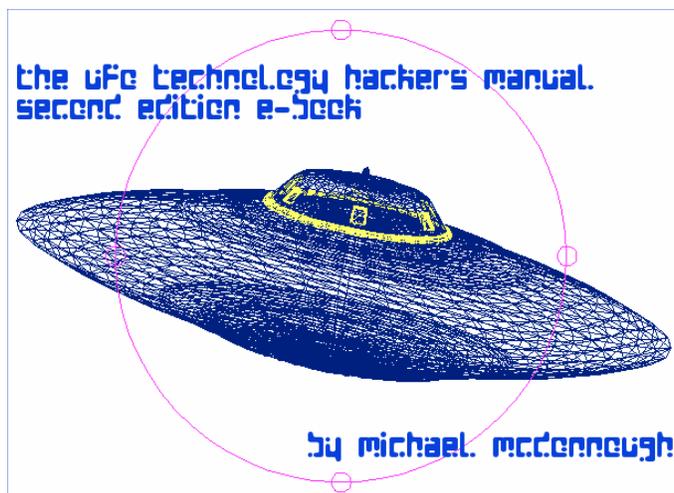


Betavoltaic: Schematics for stimulated beta-decay nuclear batteries capable of running for decades.

AAG: Now as I understand it, before Betavoltaic you were into advanced propulsion research – and in fact the need for reliable space-power systems became the initial motivation that led you into energy research, right? Obviously today's systems just don't cut it for producing the kind of electrical power you need for field-effect propulsion, so while you originally started out with a real interest in BPP, you found yourself working nonetheless on energy projects. How'd this all come about? Where does the story really first begin?

McDonnough: I guess you could say the story begins with a number of UFO sightings that I've had over the years – after one particular encounter early on, I became intrigued by the flight characteristics that these craft display. I was living in Alaska at an Air Force Base at the time, and this unidentified craft passed overhead as if it was floating on a magnetic field. My vantage point was maybe a mile away from this craft but I could still feel an electric charge on my skin which seemed to emanate from its outer hull. After watching it for a while, the craft suddenly darted off out of sight – and right before it accelerated, I saw the bottom of the craft take on an orange plasma glow. This is of course ionized nitrogen for the most part. So this craft has a propulsion that had no exhaust, caused the craft to bob around like in a magnetic field, and ionized the air surrounding it enough to create a plasma. This was clear indication to me as a child to confirm that they used electric and magnetic fields for their propulsion. I was very interested in science and technology at that point and decided that when I grew up I was going to be a science and technology professional and look into what made these things fly.

As you are aware Tim I started out in this venture by writing *The UFO Technology Hackers Manual* in the late 90's. The book is all about solid state electric space propulsion, but one major drawback is the need for very high specific impulse which in turn leads to a requirement for very dense electric power production or storage. Nuclear technologies for spacecraft have been around for quite a long time but they're not very safe for passengers, so I started researching energy technologies. After several years of study I found some alternative science theories that looked promising enough to meet the power-density requirements in manned space applications, but the lack of development in these energy technologies simply highlighted the need to form a company to pursue their development.



The Manual: Michael McDonnough's compilation of research on breakthrough propulsion technology.

Everybody has to start somewhere, and for me, *The UFO Technology Hackers Manual* was a great place to start building exposure in the world of alternative-science. For a period of several years I sold it through my web site, and it generated enough buzz that it led to guest appearances on the Jeff Rense Show, The ParaNet Continuum, The X-Zone, and several other media venues. I was also featured in the 22nd edition of Atlantis Rising Magazine in an article by Jean Manning, and of course I've been covered on American Antigravity in a number of articles & interviews that have been very productive.

Even as my interests turned towards energy technologies, I continued doing BPP research on the side, but found after a few years that my efforts were no longer unique, and I decided to release the book as a free download. It's been revised it to include some of my own experiences with UFO encounters, and I just recently re-released it as a bit-torrent file circulating in the P2P networks online. The P2P strategy is remarkably effective: in the 6 weeks that I've had it up as a bit-torrent, over 550 copies have been distributed online. Obviously it's exciting to see this much exposure for it because it really is the product of a great deal of research. Of course, it's also exciting to share the observations and ideas for applications for various patented technologies that I added in the revised version. Perhaps your readers can help me seed this torrent..?

AAG: Now I'd like to ask about work with Betavoltaic technologies. You got me into this back in 2002, and at the time there was a fair amount of research showing that an HV-capacitance could lead to a higher rate of nuclear decay; perhaps enough to turn a lump of rock into a battery. Can you help us with a bit of background on this?

McDonnough: I vaguely remember you interviewing a person a few years ago making a nuclear battery in their garage or something like that. The concept is simple enough: applying a high-voltage to certain radioisotopes can cause stimulated Alpha-decay – and it's a proven process. Several years ago, a company in the nuclear reactor service industry found this out by accident when some of their reactor fuel went missing. They immediately launched an investigation, and after they were sure that none of their employees had pilfered the materials, they found that the real culprit had been electric arc furnaces that were inadvertently converting some of the fuel into lighter elements – in this case, most of the missing fuel had simply been lost as helium. They did patent the technology but as of today I don't think they're pursuing it.

Thus, it's been known for a long time that particular elements will undergo a stimulated alpha-decay and eject a proton under certain conditions: namely being positioned next to the negative pole in a high-voltage electrical field. Some elements create helium as they do this, with the remainder of the original atom being transmuted into a lower-isotope in the process. This is an interesting phenomenon, but unrelated to the stimulated beta-decay we were investigating.

In yet another experiment, we found a form of photo-stimulated beta decay which occurs when the emitter is stimulated by a photon with a frequency close to the diameter of the interior area of the neutron. This photon's peak is in the gamma spectra at about 1.292 MeV, and there's a theory that other resonant peaks will be found in other areas of the spectrum. X-Rays are very likely to have a beta-decay stimulation frequency-peak as well as the UV spectrum -- although UV may be more useful for stimulating beta-decay in gaseous tritium, since it doesn't have good penetration into denser isotopes. Unfortunately, most of the heavier elements that experience beta decay also produce a gamma or "bremsstrahlung" radiation, making them less than ideal for a betavoltaic battery.

AAG: A number of people have done testing with stimulated beta-decay technologies: in addition to your work, I've seen others perform double-blind time-exposures on photographic plates, and

even seen a nuclear battery on an oscilloscope. Can you tell us about some of the experimental evidence you came across during your research, as well as your own experiments?

McDonnough: We were working with Dr. Ruggero Santilli, who's performed some key experiments demonstrating that neutrons can be synthesized by running a DC electric-arc through pressurized hydrogen. This validates Rutherford's 20's-era hypothesis that the neutron is a "compressed hydrogen atom", as well as work on neutron synthesis in the 60's by Italian physicist Don Borghi. These experiments have actually produced enough free neutrons that Santilli felt the need to evacuate his lab until the reaction cooled down, which is a surprisingly successful result.

Santilli's process is reversible: the stimulated decay of neutrons into paired electrons and protons is suitable for a wide-array of industrial applications, including the destruction of nuclear waste materials and generating power from long lived beta decaying isotopes like K-40 and Mo-100. We did some experiments in these areas with the help of Santilli and others, but it's beyond the scope of this interview, so let me direct your readers to further reading materials on [Santilli's website](#).



Dr. Ruggero Santilli: Pioneer in Neutron Synthesis and a subatomic particle fusion.

AAG: The last I'd heard of your betavoltaic project was a prototype you were working on back in 2004. If I remember right, you had a mockup about the size of a cell-phone battery, right? What kind of performance were you predicting for it, and what kind of potential does the energy density in betavoltaics provide in general?

McDonnough: The American public will never see commercial betavoltaic technology due to extreme intrusion into science and technology by the US Government. Unlike nearly every other nation in the world, in the United States you may not possess even the smallest quantity of an active isotope of any energy for use in a betavoltaic device. If you go into the UK, for instance, you will find a key chain available at the supermarket checkout which has a tritium and phosphorus light source -- this little marvel is illegal in the US. Another example is a common glowing paint that uses tiny glass bubbles coated with phosphorus and filled with tritium as a paint additive: it's quite common for use on lighted exit signs in most countries but once again it's illegal in the USA.

These days a lot of people have complaints about the government's meddling in people's lives, but setting that aside, let's simply state that you'll never have the same technological freedom in America that citizens in the rest of the world take for granted. Our government is beholden to powerful monopolies that simply *will not* allow energy technologies of high density, high reliability and low cost to enter the commercial marketplace. Of course, this doesn't apply to the military, who routinely uses this type of technology -- but for you, me, and everyone else it's off-limits.

In another country, where this technology might be tolerated, I'd tell you that betavoltaic technology is safe and reliable, that could recharge your cell phone for the life of the device. The estimated energy density using tritium is about 1 Watt per hour per cubic centimeter for 20 years, assuming ideal conditions and very efficient conversion technology.

AAG: Next on the list is the Plasmavolt – a type of IEC fusion-in-a-bottle technology developed by inventor Arie DeGeus that you started testing in around 2004, right? You had some video for the Plasmavolt connected to an o-scope, and it was impressive to see the scope jump every time a flash occurred in the vortex-chamber. I guess what's more impressive was the residue left after running this experiment for a few months – several grams of K^{40}_{19} , right?

McDonnough: This is a touchy subject, since due to the failure of the funding company we were unable to complete licensing the technology from DeGeus. We invested over \$140,000 in the Plasmavolt and saw some very promising test-results, but since we couldn't complete the funding all of the technology rights reverted to DeGeus. It was a terrible waste of limited resources but we did feel the technology was promising.

The inventor claimed that the device produced K^{40}_{19} , but we were never allowed to obtain a sample to submit for independent testing. He showed us some paperwork produced by a university spectrum analyzer which seemed to indicate a spike in the spectrum at the proper location for this isotope. We also posted some video of the device online, but DeGeus required us to remove it immediately.

When everything's said and done, this wasn't a "proven technology" in the sense that it has ever produced commercial levels of power. However, it *has* been proven to produce output in excess of the input energy. This indicates that DeGeus' concept of embedding light-metal nuclei as a "fuel" in the device's anode does generate energy in the form of low grade heat and light when it is decomposed by the hydrogen plasma. Remember from our interview back in 2003 that these light-metal nuclei eroding out of the anode and fusing as they spiral down through the reaction chamber is the key to the Plasmavolt design.

There truly needs to be an independent analysis of the decomposition products generated by this device to look for the potassium isotope or any other products of transmutation – however, I just don't see DARPA or any of the big labs rushing in at the last minute to save this

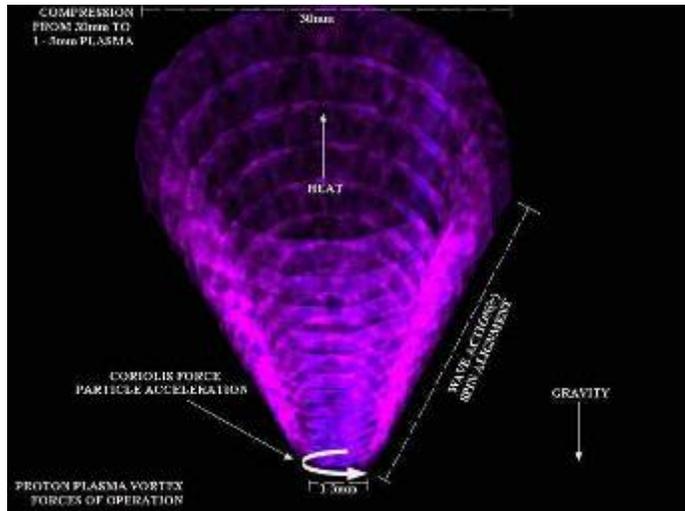


The Plasmavolt: A tiny IEC fusion device in a bottle shown during lab testing in '04.

project, because it's just too obscure. After all, DARPA's had well-known, world-class physicists like Robert Bussard working on their staff for years, and even his work couldn't survive today's tough funding climate for emerging science projects. It's a shame, too, because in his case –just like the Plasmavolt– it all fell apart right when his team had achieved some really promising results.

I think the best initial application for this plasma vortex fusion technology is in very high altitude research craft to generate heat for the electronics, power for a sterling cycle engine, and hydrogen gas for fuel. The reaction of the device's anode is exothermic and very controllable, so I see this technology as being well suited for reliable heat production in a low oxygen environment.

AAG: Obviously the next thing we should address is why you weren't successful in bringing the Plasmavolt to market – it was investor-related, if I remember right. Care to talk about it, and what are your thoughts or opinions about anybody else pursuing commercial ventures, given your experience?



Plasmavolt: A CAD rendering of the electromagnetic spiral vortex leading to IEC fusion in the Plasmavolt.

McDonnough: We simply got taken by some venture capital people with poor moral character. They were shopping our business plan and private placement agreement around under the premise of seeking funding for us, but ultimate they were skimming the bulk of what they raised for themselves. This ruined us financially and permanently damaged our relationship with the inventors we were negotiating licenses with.

Quite simply, if you want to get into alternative-energy, LENR, or any other type of safe alternative nuclear technology then you might want to look outside of the US, because our own country is completely dominated by the power monopolies. Energy start-ups will find a lot of money out there for wind farms and solar panel improvements but nothing for free energy, zero point energy, or any type of cold or warm fusion. You'll get funding, but only if it doesn't threaten the status quo.

Speaking of threats, if you're doing a startup you might also want to take out a big life insurance policy on yourself, your colleagues, and their families. I'd also suggest hiring full-time bodyguards, deploying technical surveillance countermeasures, and ultimately ensuring that your funding and intellectual property are protected from corporate and even government espionage. I'm not fear-mongering, just being pragmatic, because you just can't get into this business unless you capitalize on this technology in a very quiet way, and the best way to do that is with your own money.

AAG: Now I want to switch gears a bit, because for the last couple of years you seem to have withdrawn from the online open-source community, which is a widespread trend. Why are innovators boiling out of the community, and what kind of changes did you make in life after your financing partnership fell apart?

McDonnough: Well, I've become a lot more careful in my dealings and I'm not making much money in the field so I'm not a target of interest at present. Let's face it: the open-source community has proven in several instances that it attracts the attention of the wrong people – the development of the Joe Cell is but one example.

Open-sourcing sounds like a great idea until the practical limitations are discovered. If someone shows success in his or her experiments they run the risk of black-ops goons paying them a visit. Reports of this have a very chilling effect on the community. Also, commercial interests monitor the community and are very likely to patent the work of the open source community due to a naïve lack of awareness that being open-source is not much protection when you have no money for a legal defense of your work product.

AAG: Do you still believe in the open-source concepts that drove the newsgroups and early community-building efforts? I mean, 4 years ago you put a lot of energy into a free PHP Content Management System for alt-science webmasters, and the trend continues with open-source contributions like the bit-torrent download for your book. Is that ideal still alive, has it changed or evolved over time?

McDonnough: The concept of open-sourcing interests me, but I can't say in good conscience that I share many of my current projects with the community. From an investment standpoint, it's impractical to just give away the product of my time and labor in an unprotected manner online. It's something that people do when they're competing for mindshare, not when they're working towards commercially viable products.

On the other hand, releasing my book as a bit-torrent is an example of taking information that already exists in the public domain and condensing it for use by other like-minded researchers. I've also uploaded some interesting experiments to YouTube under the username [vortexentity](#). Those are areas where I can contribute and help others without jeopardizing my own livelihood in the process.

Free Energy Simple Demo Unit



Free Energy: A YouTube video clip by McDonnough for open-source researchers.

AAG: I get the impression that your projects today are much more down to Earth than the fusion & stimulated-decay projects that came before. One that comes to mind was a biomass-conversion project to produce fuel from yard waste, if I remember correctly. Can you tell me a bit about that project, and what drove you from bleeding-edge nuclear engineering to much more conventional technologies?

McDonnough: I'm interested in the technologies of Dr. Ruggero Santilli. The waste to energy technology he has developed and many have tried to copy is the best in its class for converting

waste liquids into fuel for transportation. Ruggero and I have remained good friends over the years and his intellect and honesty has been an inspiration for me.

Their MagneGas technology that Santilli has developed is proven to produce viable, non-polluting fuel that can be made from almost any liquid waste. It's now far cheaper and smarter to obtain our transportation fuels from this underwater-arc technology than from hostile foreign nations. MagneGas can be mixed in any quantity with Liquid Petroleum (Propane) or Natural Gas and it improves the combustion characteristics of those fuels. It can also be standalone solution that provides even better results, and it can run in any internal combustion engine that you'd normally convert to LP or Natural Gas. After all, MagneGas is far cheaper to make than hydrogen and has better performance in engines than ordinary hydrogen – why not use it as a standalone fuel?

Ruggero's company is about to go public, and I understand that when they do we'll be seeing a version of this technology for the home market. You'll be able to lease a small device from them no larger than a residential air-conditioner that will produce enough fuel for your personal transportation needs at far less than it costs to buy gasoline at the pump.



MagneGas: A demonstration vehicle converted to run on Santilli's MagneGas.

I've also been working on a project to convert waste-biomass to fuel, but unfortunately it has also folded. The goal was to establish a residential service to convert yard-waste into a synthetic gas that could have been used for energy production in the hot summer months when yard waste is produced. Unfortunately, it fell through due to a lack of funds.

AAG: On that note, since we're talking about biomass, I should really ask about biomass and the President's latest "State of the Union" address, in which he talked about using fuels from corn & switchgrass as a means of becoming energy independent. What are your thoughts on this trend – both in the public & private sector? Is it being executed well, and can it be done better?

McDonnough: I've observed that the government typically only gets involved in a technology sector to reduce or eliminate market competition by awarding exclusive rights to key political contributors. I think the real reason for Bush's sudden interest in becoming green is motivated by whatever he plans to do once he's out of office. After all, his family just purchased a 100,000-hectare plantation in Paraguay that will likely be producing crops for biofuels in the near future. Call me a cynic, but I think his only motivations are money and power for himself and his friends.

AAG: Right now you're working on a few different projects, including one with a company called "Qbit", as well as a concept for harvesting sea-grown algae and cracking them to produce petroleum. What can you tell me about this, without getting too proprietary? Why bother with algae when the administration is pushing corn?

McDonnough: This covers a number of unrelated projects that I'm working on, so let me start with producing bio-fuels from algae first. I've obtained the site <http://www.algae-biodiesel.com> and plan to develop this into an information resource and ultimately a company for producing algae-biodiesel.

The administration's push for corn-based biofuel will be a short-lived, because the world's poor will push back - the market won't allow the use of so much arable land for production of crops for fuel when people need to eat.

On the other hand, using algae to produce biofuel is a completely different story, and benefits from completely different economics. Algae have a nearly identical chemical profile to sweet crude oil. Also, algae can be produced with gray-water that isn't suited for crops, and on land with soil that isn't suited for farming. As much as 60% of the dry weight of certain algae species are composed of fatty acids suitable for conversion into bio-diesel, and it doesn't require fertilizers, insecticides, or much fuel to grow or process - corn requires a great deal of all of these things.

In fact, it doesn't take long to realize that corn isn't really that "green" after all. Much of the corn proposed for fuel will be the BT variety which is indicated as producing pollen that harms honey bees when they ingest it for food. This could end up wiping out the honey bees that we depend on them for our own survival – and as you're already aware, bee colonies all over the United States are already in trouble from other causes. Corn based biofuel just isn't a wise choice for fuel, and it will ultimately be pushed aside as more sane and intelligent methods are put forward such as algae based biofuel.

AAG: River-runoff from pig-farming in the Southern US is blamed for causing algae blooms that are currently causing major fishkills by deoxygenating the water. Could this concept for creating petroleum from algae actually be used as a form of environmental cleanup, as well?

One of the directors on Betavoltaic's corporate board has been involved in the design of aquaculture systems to clean up pig waste using algae, but they didn't attempt converting the algae into fuel. He's provided me with some mentoring in this area and I'm working on environmental proposals to cleanup river pollution using similar systems. I see algae farming as best used to treat the major source of pollution.

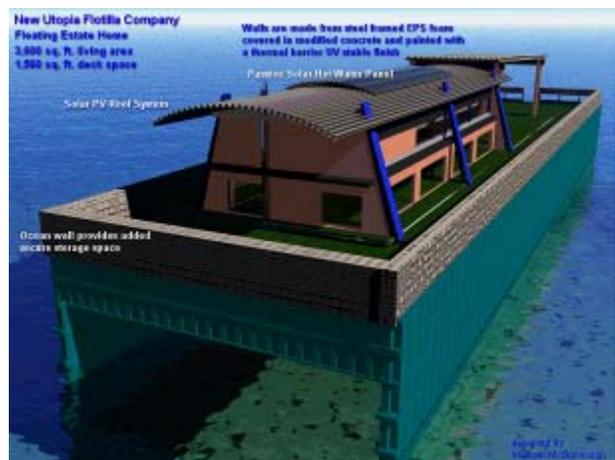
For instance, an excellent example is the treated waste-water connection in sewage treatment plants. Even though the water is treated enough to be released into the river, it is still very high in nutrients that algae love, like nitrogen and phosphorus. If an intensive algae farm is positioned where this waste-water enters the river, not only will fuel-algae grow successfully, but the river water will be filtered enough that wild algae won't grown from the treated waste water. Thus, producing biofuel can also be a means to save our very damaged domestic coral reefs.

AAG: Is Qbit the same company that's also pursuing the notion of creating an Island in the Caribbean? If I remember right, it's off the Coast of South America, where they want to build up land in the shallow water to actually create new property, and then new laws to foster innovation as well. How's that project going?

McDonnough: Qbit has an interest in the [Principality of New Utopia](#), which is a budding nation-state located on the Misteriosa bank in the Caribbean. Qbit owns a very large area they intend to develop at some point. I also have land and title from the Principality and plan to develop my area in the near future. The average depth is about 65' and the water is completely clear. I was also involved in obtaining permanent legal protecting for most productive coral reef area on Misteriosa Bank, which will be protected from development forever.

New Utopia's laws are based on the principle of "doing as you will so long as you harm no other". We also feel that if you commit to something you should see it through to completion. Other than this, all citizens of PNU are free to develop themselves and their businesses as they see fit.

The government of New Utopia is based on libertarian principles, and will not produce or protect corporate monopolies that stifle competition. Other than organizing defense and police, the government pretty much stays out of the way and allows all citizens to keep their wealth to themselves. We abhor communism and socialism in all forms and have a capitalistic outlook that empowers individual success based on hard work and innovation.



New Utopia: Schematics for the libertarian flotilla nation-state on the Misteriso Bank in the Caribbean

AAG: You briefly mentioned some *really* advanced projects - anything you can tell me about these? Based on our discussion so far, I'm almost afraid to ask...

McDonnough: I'm under a non-disclosure with Qbit, but the CEO has indicated that I can speak in generalities about some of Qbit's advanced projects. One of those is a development project for a type of nano-fusion technology they're calling "Micro-Nova". I'm working to obtain a development contract for this technology and it looks like we're going to get it. The Micro-Nova technology is unlike any other single method of fusion because it incorporates several means for producing Low Energy Nuclear Reactions (LENR). It uses water as its primary fuel, and if it's as successful as the models indicate then I think we'll end up with a reactor that's not much larger than a football and but can power an electric spacecraft. The propulsion technology for this craft is also on the drawing boards at Qbit.

The other technology I'll likely be involved with developing is *a device that produces alterations in the probability that a given event will take place*. Think about that last line for a few seconds to let

it sink in...this is big idea stuff. Basically, it's a quantum control system that increases the probability of an event happening. The primary commercial application for this is an electronic trading system that can alter the likelihood of a given commodity or derivative increasing or decreasing in value, which gives new meaning to the phrase "gaming the market".

AAG: I'd like to wrap things up by asking about your future plans. What's next for Michael McDonnough, and when can we expect to see it? Also, let's find out about web-addresses for what you have online, and maybe some contact info for the audience if possible?

McDonnough: I plan to continue researching the latest advanced technologies and positioning myself to work on the most promising applications. I also will continue in my efforts to produce floating communities in the Caribbean and elsewhere. I'm convinced that these floating enclaves will be a resource for creativity and wealth that will help everyone in the long run because they'll facilitate the development of technologies that would threaten monopolies in the established power-structures of nations like the United States.



Changing Probabilities: McDonnough's current projects include a device to influence probabilities.

I've signed into an agreement with a company for the development of this floating city concept for the Middle East region as well. They hope to move the US military completely off of their land and out into secure floating cities in the Persian Gulf – and I'll be helping to design those structures. This also dovetails into a proposal I'm finishing up for floating algae biodiesel factory farms that can be positioned in any suitable waste stream.

I enjoy working with small companies with outstanding potential like Qbit to develop their promising technologies, and I will likely be working with MagneGas on the marketing of their home-based waste-to-energy technology once they take the company public. Finally, I'll continue to work towards producing space transportation systems that are affordable for the consumer, which I think brings this interview nearly full-circle.

My web contacts are as follows: We still have betavoltaic.com, and my book is available as a [free download](#). There's also the [New Utopia Flotilla](#) site, and I have a gallery of computer artwork on display at the [CG Society](#) site online. As I mentioned earlier, there are also video-clips that I've published on YouTube under the username [vortexentity](#). Other than this, there are probably a few additional URL's that I've neglected to list, but your readers can [email me](#) for them or to learn more about my current projects.

Michael McDonnough is the former CEO of Betavoltaic Industries, author of "The UFO Hacker's Manual" and a well-known new-energy activist and researcher in the Florida area. His current projects include work with the New Utopia Flotilla Corporation and the Qbit Corporation. For additional information, contact him via email at tech1@tech-utopia.biz.