

The Sins of Mankind?

(Exclusive to the Tundra Times)

Recent discoveries of a vast reserve of oil in the Arctic has stirred world-wide attention in business. Alaska will contribute greatly to this need of oil resources. This of course means fuels for various needs in home and industrial uses.

This subject of oil and gas is related to vast consumption and combustion. Combustion then leads to the problem of smog (ice-fog in Alaska).

Unless research scientists find a way or means to alleviate this problem, it is here to stay. Very little is known yet on how to arrest air pollution. The most probable cause of pollution are the chemical additives used with oil and gas. (Which include all oil-based products such as paints, plastics, and coal.)

Although the amount of contamination in oil-derivate based products may show insignificant, further extensive research may show otherwise, based on the use of gas concentrates used in combustion engines. Contamination from one source, such as gas, may not be the greatest threat, but, rather a complex combustion of different sources.

This may be called the contamination carriers, such as air or water, which are used extensively either by force or natural means. If research scientists can create or harness a substance or material that can adhere to contaminants, it can pinpoint the exact cause and cure.

To further define various causes of contamination, here are several examples—paper matches—these use oil distillates, chemicals, and phosphorous. Gas lighters emit toxic fumes or vapors before or after ignition. As far as using cigarettes perhaps the paper or adhesive used to roll them may be a factor.

This again leads to the related subject-reaction. Reaction of foreign materials or substances that may change once it is received in the body. All these contaminants may be linked with illnesses which may result in death.

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