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STOP Livermore Lab's Planned Open-Air Bomb Testing at Site 300 Using Radioactive and Toxic Materials

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Hydrodynamic (bomb core) test on firing table at Site 300, 1984. Note size of building on left in comparison to blast. These tests are ongoing at Site 300. Debris from these tests are among the contaminants that need to be remediated under the Superfund cleanup. Photo: LLNL

I write to you to oppose Livermore Lab's application to increase open-air bomb detonations at Site 300, the Lab's high explosives testing range near Tracy, California. The population of the City of Tracy and surrounding areas is on the rise. In fact, 5,500 homes are slated to be built to within a mile of the Site 300 boundary. The days when Site 300 was a "remote" location are long over. There are now roughly seven million people within a 50-mile radius of this facility.

The blasts will contain up to 8,000 pounds of high explosives annually and scores of toxic and radioactive materials such as Uranium-238 and tritium, the radioactive hydrogen in an H-bomb. These deadly materials will be detonated on outdoor "firing tables." Livermore Lab is asking to be allowed to detonate up to 4,500 pounds of Uranium-238 (also called depleted uranium or DU) per year in its bomb blasts. DU is a toxic, radioactive metal that is hazardous to human health. These tests will release 60 additional hazardous and radioactive materials into the air, including tritium (radioactive hydrogen), Thallium, Vinyl Chloride and Hydrogen Cyanide. The blasts will aerosolize these materials and spread them in the wind. Radioactive and toxic materials should NOT be exploded in open-air tests at Site 300.

I urge you to act to protect our community and halt all increased bomb testing at Site 300. The time to act is now. Site 300 is a redundant facility within the Department of Energy nuclear weapons complex. Its use as an open-air explosives testing site should be phased out, not expanded.

Sincerely,

*Check the box for
campaign updates*

Name & Email:



**Street Address/City/State/Zip:
Name & Email:**

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campaign updates*

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Tri-Valley CAREs will deliver this letter to the five addressees listed on the front for you if you mail the completed sign-on letter to us at the address below.

Tri-Valley CAREs
2582 Old First Street / Livermore, CA 94551
Telephone: 925-443-7148

