The cold war is over. With the Soviet Union gone the impetus behind our old nuclear weapons complex is gone as well. Yet we have allowed the government to maintain a stockpile of nearly 10,000 weapons. We could start moving toward a more peaceful world.

Instead the Department of Energy has introduced ... 

Complex 2030

... its plan to rebuild and revitalize the nuclear weapons complex by the year 2030

The purpose of the Bombplex is to create the infrastructure for producing new nuclear weapons at a “... level of capability comparable to what we had during the cold war”\(^1\), including a new plutonium pit production facility. Livermore Lab has already begun designing the first of these new nuclear bombs, dubbed RRW-1\(^2\). The Bombplex involves 8 sites across the nation.

Complex 2030 is the wrong path

(1) Producing new nuclear weapons violates our legal obligations under international law\(^3\).

(2) It increases the risk of proliferation by lessening our capability to criticize other nations for producing nuclear weapons. Instead, it legitimizes the role of nuclear weapons and threatens to start a new arms race.

(3) It poses a significant threat to the environment by continuing to contaminate sites and nearby communities, including Livermore.

(4) All of this comes with a price tag of at least 150 billion dollars that could be spent on other, more beneficial projects.

You can help stop Complex 2030

Here are three ways you can make your opinion count: First, you can take part in a public hearing. Under the National Environmental Policy Act, the Department of Energy must produce an environmental analysis before it can proceed. Furthermore, the law says that the public must have an opportunity to comment and that the government must respond to all comments in a written document. Second, you can write a letter to the editor of your favorite newspaper. Third, you can call or write congress. Funding for Complex 2030 is not a sure thing and your voice is crucial in making a difference.

www.trivalleycares.org or (925) 443-7148 to learn more about Complex 2030 and how you can take action to stop it. Let’s put the U.S. on the path toward a more peaceful world.

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1 Tom D’Agostino, Administrator for the National Nuclear Security Administration
2 RRW stands for Reliable Replacement Warhead
3 Specifically the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which we have signed and ratified