Chemistry & Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) Recommendations

- Congress should support the Obama Administration’s FY 2013 request for zero funding for the CMRR project at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in New Mexico. No further funding, including funds for design work, should be committed to the project.
- A study of LANL’s plutonium infrastructure including existing and future capability needs should be required.
- The existing, older CMR Building should be decontaminated and demolished, which would result in long-term security cost savings.
- Adequate funding should be provided for comprehensive cleanup at Los Alamos Lab, which could create more than a thousand new jobs, in contrast to shrinking nuclear weapons programs.

Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) Recommendations

- Congress should reject accelerated funding for the UPF and insist on a clear system for financial accountability for major construction projects before it authorizes any construction funds. This should include cost estimates with a 90% confidence level based on 90% design completion.
- Congress and/or the Obama Administration should commission an independent evaluation of the need for Life Extension Projects for Highly Enriched Uranium secondaries similar to the JASON study on the long-term reliability of plutonium pits.
- Production facilities and operations at the Y12 facility at Oak Ridge, TN should be aligned with actual mission needs. Current operations can be right-sized (10 warheads per year), and the cost of consolidated operations in existing facilities should be fully analyzed.
- Plans for the future of uranium operations at Y12 should reflect the nation’s current nuclear policy and a realistic vision of the future. That includes a declining need for production capacity and an increasing demand for dismantlement.
- The Department of Energy (DOE) should undertake a study of the capacity and projected need for existing facilities at the Y12 complex to determine whether a dedicated dismantlement facility is advisable.

National Ignition Facility (NIF) Recommendations

- Congress should request from the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) an accounting of the costs of using plutonium and other fissile materials in this facility at Livermore, CA and then de-fund those activities.
- The Administration and Congress need to reevaluate the overall NIF project to reduce or eliminate its excessive risks and costs.
- Congress should pass legislation removing NIF from NNSA control.

Please visit ananuclear.org for more information, or to link to our member organizations.
**W78 Life Extension Program (LEP) Recommendations**

- Congress should require that all proposed LEPs be subject to independent expert review to determine if proposed changes are necessary and what potential implications they may have. A combined W78/W88 warhead program would undermine the goal of a well-tested, reliable stockpile.
- Retire the W78, in favor of the more modern W87 that is already available for Minuteman III missiles.
- Congress should support stockpile safety and reliability through surveillance and replacement of limited life components as needed. “Curatorship” is the prudent technical, fiscal and policy approach to reducing nuclear dangers.

**B61-12 Life Extension Program (LEP) Recommendations**

- Congress should halt FY 2013 funding for the B61 Life Extension Program because there are serious unanswered questions regarding its scope, need and cost. The yet-to-be-completed Phase 2/2A cost study may reveal increased costs. A Congressionally mandated JASON group analysis of the B61 LEP has not occurred. As specified by Congress, the JASONs will analyze “the extent to which the nuclear scope is needed to enhance the safety, security, and maintainability of a refurbished B61 and whether changes to the weapons will affect its long term safety, security, reliability and military characteristics.”
- Congress should suspend funding the B61-12 LEP because its mission is in flux. Changes in NATO’s emerging nuclear policy may constrain or eliminate the B61-12 mission before the LEP’s completion in 12 years.
- Congress should limit the scope of all Life Extension Programs to refurbishment of components necessary to maintain existing safety and reliability. Sticking as closely as possible to fully-tested designs and remanufacturing parts will ensure the arsenal remains safe, secure and reliable until it is dismantled.

**MOX Plutonium Fuel Program Recommendations**

- Congress should halt all funding for the MOX project, redirecting it to other nonproliferation projects.
- DOE should be directed to reinstate the program to dispose of plutonium as waste.
- The Government Accountability Office must be requested by Congress to conduct a review of the MOX program and investigate plutonium disposal options.

**Waste Treatment Plant (WTP) Recommendations**

- Work on the pretreatment part of the facility at Hanford, WA should stop now. It is clear that the design is not satisfactory, yet construction and design are continuing. Outside experts need to be engaged to figure out what steps are necessary for the plant to move ahead.
- Congress or the Administration should replace the Department of Energy as the regulator for the Waste Treatment Plant. A different federal agency should be empowered to take on the role of certifying the WTP for operation. This could be the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, an expanded Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, or another entity. The contractor should not hold the role of both design authority and design agent.
- Require DOE to build new tanks to allow waste to be removed from the older, leaky Single Shell Tanks and enable cleanup of the contamination under tanks to begin without waiting for the WTP to become operational. Use vitrification program contingency funds for construction.
- Congress should strengthen laws regarding whistleblower protection and mandate the establishment of a Safety Conscious Work Environment.