

Tri-Valley CAREs

Communities Against a Radioactive Environment

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LIVERMORE GROUP HEADS TO WASHINGTON TO EXPOSE “BILLION DOLLAR BOONDOGGLES” FOR NUCLEAR FACILITIES & WARHEADS

Livermore, CA - Members of Tri-Valley CAREs (Communities Against a Radioactive Environment) will be in Washington, DC the week of May 18 to oppose U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) nuclear projects, including work proposed for, and being done at, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, that will waste billions in taxpayer funds, damage the environment and undermine the nation’s non-proliferation goals. The group will meet with leading members of Congress, committee staffers, and top administration officials with responsibility for U. S. nuclear policies.

The Livermore delegation will be working with colleagues living around other DOE facilities, from a dozen other states, who are participating in the 26th annual Alliance for Nuclear Accountability (ANA) "DC Days." The activists will meet with California Senators and Representatives, as well as leaders of congressional committees that oversee nuclear issues, and key federal agency staffers.

On Monday, May 19, ANA will release *Billion Dollar Boondoggles*, a comprehensive analysis of the Obama Administration’s latest plans to spend more money for less security. Tri-Valley CAREs’ Executive Director, Marylia Kelley, authored several sections of the report and will speak at the Monday news conference to release it to media and the public. The report highlights the proposed use of plutonium in the National Ignition Facility at Livermore Lab and warhead “Life Extension Programs,” among other topics.

Kelley explained, “Proposals to increase spending on unnecessary nuclear bomb plants and warheads are inconsistent with budget realities as well as President Obama’s stated commitment to a nuclear weapons free world. Superior alternatives exist that will maintain the current stockpile for billions less.”

“We will press policy-makers to cut funding for these dangerous boondoggles. The money saved should be redirected to cleaning up the toxic and radioactive legacy of nuclear weapons research, testing and production,” noted the group’s Staff Attorney, Scott Yundt.

Joining Tri-Valley CAREs' staff in DC will be Board Member Gail Rieger, of Tracy. "I want to bring attention to the cleanup needs at Site 300 near my home," Rieger said. "I will also demand that the plan to truck plutonium bomb cores to Livermore Lab be abandoned. Those trucks will pass through my community of Tracy," she added.

ANA is a network of local, regional and national organizations representing the concerns of communities downwind and downstream from U.S. nuclear weapons production and radioactive waste disposal sites. Tri-Valley CAREs will host a public meeting to report back on what was accomplished in Washington at the Livermore Library in Community Room A on June 19th, at 7:30pm.

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- More information about DC Days is also available online at www.ananuclear.org and www.trivalleycares.org