

Tri-Valley CAREs

Communities Against a Radioactive Environment

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*Peace Justice Environment
since 1983*

April 8, 2016

Dear Tri-Valley CAREs supporter,

From time to time I write to keep you informed about what we are tangibly accomplishing – **together** – to rip away the veil of secrecy that Livermore Lab tries to hide behind, compel cleanup of its awful pollution, and move national and international policy toward a nuclear weapons-free world.

At this time I can tell you that the Fiscal Year 2017 budget request **freezes** Livermore Lab's program to design a nuclear "Interoperable Warhead" to be launched interchangeably from land-based silos and submarines. It's getting no funding for the third year in a row, despite the Lab's behind-the-scenes attempts to get it reinstated.

You make successes like this possible. You have written letters, made calls and signed petitions. You have come to meetings and demonstrations. You have reached deep into your pocket and contributed. Whenever I have asked for your help, you have responded, every time. Thank you!

Over the past 33 years together we have built an organization that is considered powerful, balanced, innovative, and principled – by our colleagues, by key elected officials and regulatory agencies, and even by some of our adversaries.

Today I also want to focus on a particularly essential part of Tri-Valley CAREs' national work - bringing the voices of our communities directly to Washington, DC.

Later this month I will travel to DC with a great team to represent all of our membership in **speaking truth to power** – to the House, the Senate, key congressional committee staff, and regulatory agencies.

Your Tri-Valley CAREs team, joined by colleagues who are impacted by other U.S. nuclear weapons sites, will conduct **80 meetings** with decision-makers during our "DC Days."

Here are some of our objectives:

- *win* more money for cleanup and prevention of Livermore Lab pollution;
- *cut* funding for nuclear weapons, with a focus on preventing the development of a new warhead for a new destabilizing cruise missile, called the Long-Range Stand Off weapon;
- *build* on our success freezing funds for an "Interoperable Warhead" by persuading Congress and Administration officials to cancel it permanently;
- *terminate* the program to create plutonium mixed oxide fuel (MOX); and more!

(turn over)

Each year I invite you to participate with us in “DC Days” by helping financially, and I thank you for all of your contributions. **This year, however, I must also share a few facts about Tri-Valley CAREs that you may not know:**

- Your financial contributions, along with other individual donors, are an essential 26% of our yearly budget. That’s a good thing!
- But, raising other sources of funds is increasingly difficult.
- Although the dangers posed by nuclear weapons have *not* gone away, foundation support for confronting nuclear weapons has shrunk dramatically, with many foundations simply leaving the field altogether.
- As a result, I have had to cut back Tri-Valley CAREs’ budget by 5% from last year.

There are very few grassroots groups like Tri-Valley CAREs that have the experience and capacity to tackle both the contamination at their local nuclear weapons site and contribute significantly to larger nuclear policy issues. **We are one of only a small handful of groups able to create change locally *and* nationally.**

This means that we have more and more responsibilities, yet fewer and fewer resources. Can I count on your generous financial help at this critical time?

Throughout 2016, I will keep you informed about ways you can contribute your time, ideas, words, and creativity. Together, we will organize in communities - alerting residents to the radioactive dangers they face and holding the government’s feet to the fire to stop the pollution.

Moreover, in collaboration with peace groups throughout the Bay Area, we will host a major demonstration at Livermore Lab on August 9 (the anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of Nagasaki). Our keynote speaker will be the former Foreign Minister of the Marshall Islands, **Tony de Brum**, who is leading this Pacific Island nation in its brave and historic litigation against the nuclear weapons states for their failure to disarm.

From our upcoming “DC Days” meetings and beyond, we are well positioned to have real impact in the coming months. But we may fall short if we do not raise enough money. So, I am simply asking you to help with a financial donation. **Thank you for your support and for being part of Tri-Valley CAREs!**

For peace, justice and a healthy environment,

Marylia Kelley
Executive Director

P.S. Your **tax-deductible contribution** can be made at www.trivalleycares.org where we have set up a secure portal for credit cards. Or just send a check to our office. **THANK YOU!**