



**Toward a "Green" Future for the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory**

Numerous legislators, special commissions, and presidential administrations have recommended shifting the focus of Livermore Lab from nuclear weapons to other missions. Those efforts have come to naught. However, we believe the time is right to make that transition today.

The Nation is not well served by maintaining two nuclear weapons design laboratories (Livermore and Los Alamos). Our plan would stop new weapons development at both locations, and rely primarily on Los Alamos for the residual activities necessary to caretake nuclear components in a rapidly diminishing arsenal. We would cut Livermore loose from the nuclear weapons complex by 2012 to pursue new missions.

President Barack Obama has stressed the urgency of four major challenges facing America and the world -nuclear nonproliferation, alternative energy, climate change, and "green" jobs:

"The ways we use energy strengthen our adversaries and threaten our planet," Obama declared in his Inaugural address. "We will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories." And, "We will work tirelessly to lessen the nuclear threat, and roll back the specter of a warming planet."

Since President Obama is determined to address those crises, there is a more realistic political possibility than during past administrations to transition Livermore from nuclear weapons design to non-polluting energy development, global warming research, nonproliferation and environmental technologies. Livermore Lab is uniquely qualified to contribute in all of those areas.

In addition to these four major mission areas, under our plan, Livermore Lab would maintain basic science programs. It would also retain a small near-term watchdog function for nuclear weapons, fielding two expert teams, one to peer review weapons certification and one to assist with weapons surveillance and evaluation functions consistent with the Curatorship model.

Livermore Lab already employs the right mix of physicists, other scientists, engineers, materials specialists, and support personnel for these undertakings.

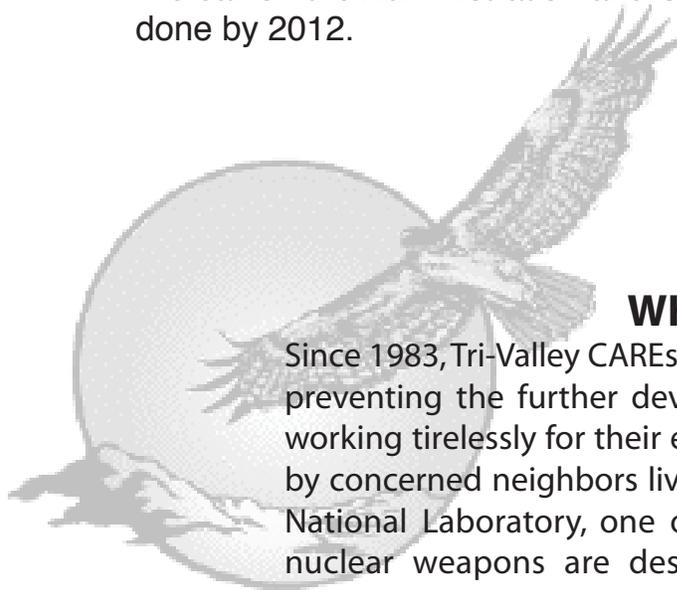
Further, Livermore Lab houses current programs in all of these areas, including global climate modeling.

Therefore, the Obama Administration can feasibly build a new and 21st Century-relevant mission for Livermore on the foundation of what today are scientifically well regarded, albeit mostly under-funded, programs.

The remissioning of Livermore Lab could also provide a means for productively utilizing the Sandia, Livermore site, and its engineering expertise. For example, the Combustion Research Facility at Sandia-Livermore is already contributing to cleaner, more efficient engines for numerous applications.

The Nation needs its national laboratories devoted to clean energy, environmental restoration, developing a "green" economy, and reducing nuclear dangers more than it needs a new or "improved" nuclear bomb. Transforming Livermore Lab to meet pressing 21st Century challenges is technically feasible.

We call on the Administration and Congress to start now and get the job done by 2012.



## **WHO WE ARE**

Since 1983, Tri-Valley CAREs has strengthened global security by preventing the further development of nuclear weapons and working tirelessly for their elimination. The group was founded by concerned neighbors living around the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, one of the two locations where all U.S. nuclear weapons are designed. Tri-Valley CAREs monitors nuclear weapons and environmental cleanup throughout the U.S. weapons complex, with a special focus on Livermore Lab and the surrounding Bay Area and Central Valley communities. Our vision for a "green lab" in Livermore provides tangible steps to move the world from reliance on nuclear weapons toward a more sustainable and just future. Find out more at [www.trivalleycares.org](http://www.trivalleycares.org).