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WATCH OF NEW MEXICO, MARYLIA KELLEY,  
11 JANIS KATE TURNER, TARA DORABJI,  
HENRY C. FINNEY and CATHERINE SULLIVAN

12  
13 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
14 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

15 TRI-VALLEY CARES, NUCLEAR )  
16 WATCH OF NEW MEXICO, MARYLIA )  
KELLEY, JANIS KATE TURNER, )  
17 TARA DORABJI, HENRY C. FINNEY )  
18 and CATHERINE SULLIVAN, )

19 )  
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25 )  
26 )  
27 )  
28 )  
Plaintiffs, )

v. )

22 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF )  
ENERGY, NATIONAL NUCLEAR )  
23 SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, )  
24 LAWRENCE LIVERMORE NATIONAL )  
LABORATORY, and LOS ALAMOS )  
25 NATIONAL LABORATORY, )

26 )  
27 )  
28 )  
Defendants. )

Civ. No. C-0-3-3926 SBA

**CORRECTED PLAINTIFFS’  
NOTICE OF MOTION AND  
MOTION FOR SUMMARY  
JUDGMENT OR  
ALTERNATIVELY, FOR PARTIAL  
SUMMARY JUDGMENT;  
SUPPORTING MEMORANDUM  
OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

Date: No Hearing Set  
Time: No Hearing Set  
Judge: Hon. Sandra B. Armstrong

1                                   **NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

2 TO DEFENDANTS AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

3                   PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that plaintiffs Tri-Valley Cares, et al. hereby move the Court for  
4 an order granting summary judgment on the grounds that there are no genuine issues of material  
5 fact in dispute, and plaintiffs are entitled to judgment as a matter of law. This motion is based on:  
6 this Notice of Motion and Motion; the accompanying Memorandum of Points and Authorities; the  
7 Declarations of James Coghlan, Robert R. Curry, PhD., Marion Fulk, Linda Gallego, Edward  
8 Hammond, Marylia Kelley, Colin King, Matthew G. McKinzie, Ph.D., Scott Ritter, Peter  
9 Stockton, Peter Strauss, Terrell Watt, Mark Wheelis, Ph.D., Susan Wright, PhD., and Mathew  
10 Zipoli; the Administrative Record lodged in this matter; the pleadings and records on file in this  
11 matter; and on such argument as counsel may present if the Court orders a hearing on this motion.  
12  
13

14                   Plaintiffs seek an order granting summary judgment in their favor on all claims for relief  
15 alleged in plaintiffs' Complaint, for the reasons set forth below. A proposed order and findings in  
16 support thereof is lodged concurrently.  
17

18 Dated: February 19, 2004

LAW OFFICES OF STEPHAN C. VOLKER

19 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
20                   STEPHAN C. VOLKER

21 BELIN & SUGARMAN

22 Dated: February 19, 2004

23 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
24                   ALLETTA BELIN, Esq.

25 Attorneys for Plaintiffs  
26 TRI-VALLEY CARES, NUCLEAR  
27 WATCH OF NEW MEXICO, MARYLIA KELLEY,  
28 HENRY C. FINNEY and CATHERINE SULLIVAN

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1 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

2 **I. INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF ISSUES**

3 This case seeks judicial review of a decision to introduce extremely potent biological  
4 poisons – the kind that the former Iraqi regime was accused of developing for “weapons of mass  
5 destruction” – into the populous and seismically unstable Bay Area for highly risky aerosol  
6 testing and experimentation on live animals. This decision by the National Nuclear Security  
7 Administration (“NNSA”), an agency within the United States Department of Energy (“DOE”),  
8 to construct and operate bioagent testing facilities at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory  
9 (“Livermore Lab”) – and initially at Los Alamos National Laboratory (“Los Alamos Lab”) as  
10 well – would expose lab workers and potentially the public to some of the most dangerous  
11 organisms and related toxins known to man, including bacteria such as anthrax, tularaemia,  
12 plague, Q fever, botulism, brucellosis, rickettsia, tuberculosis, staphylococcus and salmonella,  
13 and viruses such as HIV, herpes, hantavirus, influenza, and hepatitis. Livermore Lab Admin.  
14 Rec. (“AR”) 1:1:A-24-38.

15 The proposed facilities, each styled a “Biosafety Level 3” (“BSL-3”) laboratory, would  
16 be the first BSL-3 facilities ever constructed and operated at a DOE facility, and would establish  
17 a precedent for creating BSL-3 facilities at other DOE sites. Strauss Dec. (“Strauss”) ¶ 39.  
18 Unlike the 250-300 existing BSL-3 facilities in the United States, the Livermore facility would  
19 perform experiments with *weaponized* pathogens in an effort to replicate a terrorist attack, a  
20 critical distinction not disclosed in DOE’s Environmental Assessment for the facility. Wheelis  
21 ¶ 6; Hammond ¶¶ 4, 6, 12, 17. Moreover, defendants would deliberately *aerosolize* these  
22 virulent toxins and pathogens, and apply them to small animals to gauge their effectiveness and  
23 potentially develop counter-measures. AR 1:1:C-28-29,-61; Hammond ¶ 17.

24 These facilities may perform experiments with hundreds of infectious bacterial and viral  
25 agents, fungi, and parasites, many of them extremely virulent, and potentially fatal, as well as  
26 agents not currently categorized in any BSL-3 “risk group” (and perhaps not even conceived of  
27 at this time). AR 1:1:8-9, 18-19. The facilities could also use and develop genetically-modified  
28 versions of any of these agents, posing a virtually infinite array of such agents, and could

1 employ all of these agents in infectious or poisonous forms. *Id.*; Wright ¶¶ 3-6.

2 Plaintiffs challenge defendants’ decision, styled a Finding of No Significant Impact  
3 (“FONSI”), to construct and operate the Livermore Lab on the basis of a grossly deficient  
4 Environmental Assessment (“EA”), rather than a full Environmental Impact Statement (“EIS”)  
5 as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. section 4321, *et seq.*  
6 (“NEPA”). AR 1:1:ii-65. Coghlan ¶ 4. Plaintiffs further challenge defendants’ failure to  
7 prepare a programmatic EIS on the environmental effects of DOE’s entire nationwide Chemical  
8 and Biological National Security Program (“CBNP”), pursuant to which these challenged BSL-3  
9 facilities are being proposed, and a sitewide EIS on the numerous biomedical research facilities  
10 at the Livermore Lab. Plaintiffs also challenge defendants’ failure and refusal to produce  
11 documents related to these facilities requested by plaintiffs under the Freedom of Information  
12 Act, 5 U.S.C. section 552 (“FOIA”), in violation of that act.

13 Because defendants threaten construction and operation of the Livermore Lab BSL-3  
14 facility in the near future, plaintiffs seek an injunction pending defendants’ full compliance with  
15 NEPA and FOIA.

## 16 II. STATEMENT OF FACTS

17 The Livermore Lab BSL-3 facility would handle extremely dangerous biological agents  
18 with “grossly inadequate” security. AR1:1:C-61; Zipoli ¶¶ 5-16; Stockton ¶¶ 15-25. The  
19 facility would house three BSL-3 laboratories, one of which would have rodent handling and  
20 maintenance capabilities. AR 1:1:12. Dangerous pathogens would be aerosolized in this BSL-3  
21 lab. AR1:1:C-28-29, 61; Hammond ¶ 17. Each of the three BSL-3 laboratories would have at  
22 least one Class II Type B Biological Safety Cabinet (“BSC”) including a HEPA (“High  
23 Efficiency Particulate Arrestor”) filtration system. AR1:1:12. All BSC air would be exhausted  
24 to the outside air through the building’s heating, ventilation and air conditioning system. *Id.*  
25 The BSL-3 laboratory used for rodent testing would contain a maximum of 100 rodents,  
26 including mice, rats and guinea pigs. AR1:1:16. The EA for the Livermore Lab facility does  
27 not disclose measures proposed to assure the physical security of the facility building because  
28 security measures – a key environmental safeguard – have not yet been determined. AR1:1:17;

1 Zipoli ¶ 13. Biological materials or infectious agents would be shipped to the Livermore Lab  
2 BSL-3 facility via commercial package delivery services, the U.S. Postal Service, or other  
3 “authorized entities,” including couriers. AR1:1:22. As many as 40 shipments in and 20  
4 shipments out of the facility are anticipated each month. *Id.* The procedure for handling  
5 damaged packages is not described in the EA, as this procedure was “to be developed once the  
6 project obtains approval.” AR1:1:23. The EA estimates that laboratory research experiments  
7 would generate about 22 lbs. of lab trash per week, or about 1,144 lbs. per year. AR1:1:24-25.  
8 The “operational design life” of the proposed facility would be at least 30 years. AR1:1:26.

9 Plaintiffs and others submitted about 100 written or oral comments critical of the EA.  
10 AR1:1:C-1-73; Kelley ¶ 2. The vast majority requested a more thorough environmental review  
11 under NEPA. *Id.* DOE failed to include some of these comment letters in the final EA as  
12 required by law. Supp. AR1, 2. Additionally, the draft EA was released without any address,  
13 phone, fax or email to which interested parties could send comments, or even the due date for  
14 comments. AR 1:2:7; Kelley ¶ 20. Plaintiffs had to make multiple phone calls to Livermore  
15 Lab and DOE just to find out where comments could be sent (and by what date). AR1:1:C-35;  
16 Kelley ¶ 20. Plaintiff CAREs requested that DOE reissue the draft EA with the missing  
17 information. Kelley ¶ 20. DOE refused. *Id.*

18 Defendants issued the Final EA and FONSI, and purported to authorize construction of  
19 the BSL-3 facility, on December 16, 2002. Coghlan Dec ¶ 4.

20 The EA fails to provide an adequate description of the purpose and need for the  
21 proposed facility. AR1:1:C-14, C-35-36. It provides less than one page of vague  
22 generalizations which fail entirely to reveal any of the facility’s specific experiments or  
23 programs. AR1:1:7; AR1:1:C-14; King ¶ 16; Wheelis ¶¶ 16-18; Wright ¶ 8. The EA also fails  
24 to describe precisely what activities would be undertaken that are not presently being conducted  
25 at the lab’s BSL-2, and what biological agents and related toxins would be used. AR1:1:1-9;  
26 King ¶ 16; Wright ¶¶ 5-8. The EA allows up to 10 liters of cultured microorganisms in the BSL-  
27 3 facility at any one time. AR1:1:21. The EA lists the allowable concentration as 100,000,000  
28 organisms per milliliter. *Id.* One milliliter would contain 100 million cells, one liter would

1 hold 100 billion cells and 10 liters would contain one trillion. Fulk ¶18. By way of comparison,  
2 50 tularemia organisms is an infectious dose; one liter of such organisms contains two *billion*  
3 infectious doses. AR1:1:51-52. Less than 10 Q fever organisms is an infectious dose; one liter  
4 could cause 10 *billion* illnesses. Fulk ¶21; Hammond ¶15. The EA fails to reveal the expected  
5 diversity or range of agents that would be in use at the facilities at any one time, or over the  
6 facility lifetime, providing a virtual *carte blanche* for the lab to choose any BSL-3 pathogens for  
7 future use, devoid of any analysis of each microorganism’s particular risk. AR1:1:6, 8-9, 19;  
8 Wright ¶¶ 5-8.

9 The EA fails to address a reasonable range of alternatives to the facilities by location,  
10 function, or size. AR1:1:26-28; C-56. It considered only minor variations in the proposed  
11 facility such as different ways of constructing the *same* facility, and a no action alternative. *Id.*  
12 The EA did not even consider alternate locations away from other employees, or from the  
13 surrounding urban area. *Id.*

14 The EA presumes the BSL-3 lab will cause no adverse environmental effects based on  
15 the unsupportable assumption that it will comply with all of the CDC requirements and  
16 guidelines concerning such facilities. AR1:1:38-55. But as numerous comments pointed out,  
17 the lab and DOE have poor safety, security and compliance records, rendering a presumption of  
18 full compliance unreasonable. AR1:1:C-21, 26, 37-39, 48, 62; Kelley Dec ¶¶ 11-19; Strauss ¶¶  
19 15-39. Moreover, as the Los Alamos EA points out, “CDC does not, per se, have jurisdiction by  
20 law over the NNSA with regard to the required approval of procedures used in NNSA biological  
21 research activities and does not have a local presence with regard to [this lab].” Los Alamos  
22 National Laboratory (“LANL”) AR1:1:15. Furthermore, many of the labs’ supposed safeguards  
23 are ineffective. AR1:1:C-49, 62-65; Fulk ¶¶ 12-24; Strauss ¶¶ 15-18. The proposed reliance on  
24 HEPA filters, for example, is fraught with peril because many of the test organisms, such as  
25 rickettsia, cannot be effectively captured in such filters due to their physical characteristics.  
26 AR1:1:C-49, 62; Fulk ¶¶ 12-24; Strauss ¶¶ 15-18. Moreover, 12 percent of all installed paper-  
27 glue HEPA filters, such as the kind in use at Livermore, fail. Fulk ¶ 13.

28 The EA’s errors and omissions confirm a pattern of laxity and neglect. In February

1 2001, the DOE Office of Inspector General released a report entitled, “Inspection of Department  
2 of Energy Activities Involving Biological Select Agents” – agents used for biowarfare. LANL  
3 AR1:1:B1-40; Coghlan ¶ 9. The report concluded that DOE’s biological agent research  
4 activities “lacked appropriate Federal oversight, consistent policy, and standardized  
5 implementing procedures, resulting in the potential for greater risk to workers and possibly  
6 others from exposure to biological select agents and select agent materials.” LANL AR1:1:B3;  
7 King ¶ 5; Coghlan ¶¶ 9-14. The report found that some DOE laboratories “were not adhering to  
8 [CDC] requirements,” that procedures for conducting research activities involving these agents  
9 varied significantly among the laboratories, and that DOE had not developed policies to ensure  
10 that the laboratories follow “best practices” in the conduct of their biological activities. LANL  
11 AR1:1:B4; King ¶ 5; Coghlan ¶ 11. The EA fails to address, much less resolve, the deficiencies  
12 this report reveals. King ¶¶ 6-8.

13 The Livermore Lab’s history is replete with examples of lax administration, unsafe  
14 laboratory practices, potentially lethal releases of radioactive and other toxic materials to the  
15 atmosphere, and failures to promptly and fully disclose these incidents for public review and  
16 corrective action. Kelley ¶¶ 6-7, 11-19. In 1987, the Livermore Lab’s Main Site was placed on  
17 the National Priorities List as an extremely contaminated “Superfund” site. Strauss ¶ 22.  
18 Livermore Lab’s Site 300 was added to the “Superfund” list in 1990. Strauss ¶ 31. Recent  
19 excavation of Livermore Lab’s National Ignition Facility construction site has uncovered DOE’s  
20 unauthorized waste dumping of over 100 huge capacitors leaking highly toxic PCBs and large  
21 quantities of contaminated soil. Strauss ¶ 24. In 1990, the Livermore Lab accidentally released  
22 tritium (radioactive hydrogen) at a tank at the lab’s Building 292, resulting in soil and  
23 groundwater contamination. Kelley ¶ 7. Numerous workers at Livermore Lab have been  
24 contaminated with plutonium, uranium, curium, chlorine gas, and many other highly hazardous  
25 and potentially lethal contaminants due to the laboratory’s violations of applicable safety  
26 procedures. Kelley ¶¶ 14-19; Strauss Exhibit 2; Gallego ¶ 8. On numerous occasions,  
27 hazardous and radioactive materials have accidentally been flushed down drains at Livermore  
28 Lab and have entered the City of Livermore’s Sewage Treatment Plant. Strauss ¶ 28.

1 Plutonium and Americium are among the contaminants that have been released in this manner.  
2 Strauss ¶ 28. Over a 15-month period in the late 1990s, Livermore Lab’s releases to the City  
3 Sewage Treatment Plant (“CSTP”) violated its permit limit on 14 occasions, illegally  
4 discharging heavy metals and chemical pollutants. Kelley ¶ 11. Yet the EA summarily  
5 dismisses potential harm from its BSL-3 releases to the CSTP. AR1:1:C-3.

6 The EA’s accident and “abnormal event” analysis understates and or ignores obvious  
7 risks and potential impacts. AR1:1:40-54, C-26, 49-50, 71; Curry ¶¶ 6-14; Watt ¶¶ 7-8;  
8 McKinzie ¶¶ 2-12; Fulk ¶¶ 27-29. It dismisses potential pathogen releases during earthquakes  
9 on the grounds “[t]he probability of catastrophic events (due to earthquake) is already very low.”  
10 AR 1:1:50. The EA falsely claims that “[n]one” of “the active faults in the Livermore Region . .  
11 . are in proximity to the location of the proposed facility.” AR 1:1:36. In fact, the Livermore  
12 Lab is near several active earthquake faults, which have caused structural damage and injuries  
13 within the recent past, and which pose a substantial and unacceptable risk of a catastrophic  
14 event. AR 1:1:37 (Fig. 3-3); Curry ¶¶ 6-10.

15 Although the nearby Greenville and Mount Diablo Faults are capable of generating  
16 accelerations of almost 1.0 g, the EA assumes, and the proposed BSL-3 facilities are designed to  
17 withstand, g forces of only .6, thus creating a serious risk of seismic failure within the design  
18 life of the facilities. AR 1:1:36; Curry ¶¶ 11-14.

19 Similarly, the EA ignores the risk of fire on the grounds that “fire is not a credible hazard  
20 with regard to the potential release of infectious biological materials or toxins.” AR 2:27:A9-  
21 57. But this conclusion is premised on the baseless assumption that “[i]f the fire became so  
22 large that structural damage occurred, . . . then the heat would destroy any pathogen or toxin,  
23 thereby precluding its spread and release from the facility.” *Id.* Yet increases in air pressure or  
24 activation of sprinklers due to fire, smoke or heat would cause failure of the Lab’s HEPA filters  
25 – its primary bulwark against the escape of pathogens. Fulk ¶¶ 13,23. Although due to their  
26 fragility, HEPA filters should be replaced every six years, at Livermore HEPA filters have  
27 remained unchanged for more than a quarter century. Fulk ¶ 26.

28 The EA does not provide *any* analysis of internal or external threats to security, from

1 terrorists, disgruntled employees, or otherwise, involving transportation, storage and use of the  
2 biological agents. AR1:1:49-54, C-12-13; Ritter ¶ 7. Yet the strain of anthrax used in the recent  
3 attacks on the East Coast emanated from a United States facility, according to the U.S.  
4 government, and may have involved a former employee of a federal biological weapons facility.  
5 AR1:1:C-49; Ritter ¶ 7. No analysis of the facility’s vulnerability to direct terrorist attacks  
6 using trucks as in the Oklahoma City bombing, or planes as in the “9/11” attacks, is provided.  
7 AR1:1:49-54; C-49.

8 The EA provides only a severely truncated discussion of cumulative impacts, limited  
9 entirely to a simple listing of possible future construction and related activities. AR1:1:56. The  
10 EA does not discuss the cumulative effects of other new construction and operations under the  
11 CBNP at Livermore and at the other NNSA facilities. *Id.* Indeed, the Livermore EA largely  
12 ignores the Los Alamos BSL-3 facility, making reference to it only in passing. AR1:1:6, C-56.  
13 Neither EA analyzes the cumulative environmental effects of the CBNP. AR1:1:56; Wright ¶  
14 12. Yet by contrast, DOE and the Department of Army have prepared programmatic EISs  
15 addressing the cumulative effects of other nationwide research programs that pose similar  
16 cumulative effects issues. Wheelis ¶ 8; Coghlan ¶¶ 15-18.

17 The EA fails entirely to analyze the risks associated with transportation of biological  
18 select agents to and from the labs. AR1:1:49-54. The potential risks include damage to  
19 containers and dispersal or diversion of agents through terrorism, theft or sabotage, and other  
20 errors and accidents associated with shipping infectious agents. AR1:1:C-71; Zipoli ¶¶ 7-16;  
21 Strauss ¶¶ 36-41; Stockton ¶¶ 8-27; King ¶¶ 5-8; Kelley ¶¶ 14-21.

22 The EA fails to disclose and address the fact that the BSL-3 facilities would be built over  
23 existing contamination from past lab operations. Kelley ¶¶ 3-4. The BSL-3 facility would be  
24 located over soils and groundwater that are so severely contaminated they are now designated a  
25 Superfund site. *Id.* At minimum, the EAs must address the environmental effects of  
26 construction at the contaminated locations.

27 The EAs also fail to adequately analyze the proliferation risks associated with co-  
28 locating a biodefense facility at a nuclear weapons design and development laboratory.

1 AR1:1:C-5-7, C-70; Ritter ¶ 7-9; Wheelis ¶¶ 4-21. For example, the Livermore Lab operates six  
2 fermenters whose function is to grow microorganisms. AR1:1:C-6; Ritter ¶ 10. The lab’s 1500  
3 liter fermenter has the capacity to produce enough anthrax for a theater-scale war. Ritter ¶ 10;  
4 AR1:1:C-25. Developing bio-defense facilities at these labs creates a precedent that may  
5 prompt other nations to develop similar joint facilities, threatening proliferation of weapons  
6 facilities that conduct research on biological warfare. Ritter ¶ 13. Such joint weapons and  
7 biological warfare research facilities pose potential violations to and may weaken the  
8 international Biological and Toxic Weapons Convention. AR1:1:C-5-6; Wheelis ¶ 11; Ritter ¶  
9 13. The EA fails to address these proliferation risks.

10 Each of the foregoing undisclosed and understated environmental risks may significantly  
11 affect the environment, a fact mandating preparation of an EIS.

12 Plaintiffs attempted to fill these informational voids in the EA by submitting requests to  
13 DOE under FOIA. Kelley ¶ 21; King ¶ 29. DOE refused to provide the requested information,  
14 violating FOIA. *Id.*

### 15 III. ARGUMENT

#### 16 A. Standard for Summary Judgment

17 Summary judgment is proper if there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and the  
18 moving party is entitled to judgment on a particular claim or defense as a matter of law.  
19 Fed.R.Civ.P. 56(c): *see also, Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 322 (1986). Upon a  
20 showing that there is no genuine issue as to a claim, the court may grant summary judgment in  
21 the party’s favor “upon all or any part thereof.” Fed.R.Civ.P. 56(b). Plaintiffs satisfy this  
22 standard here.

#### 23 B. Standard of Review

24 Under the Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”), an agency’s action may be set aside  
25 only if it is “arbitrary, capricious, and abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with  
26 law.” 5 U.S.C. §706(2)(A)(D). In exercising its narrowly defined duty under the APA, the  
27 Court must consider whether the agency acted within the scope of its legal authority, adequately  
28 explained its decision, based its decision on facts in the record, and considered the relevant

1 factors. *National Park and Conservation Assn. v. Stanton*, 54 F.Supp.2d 7, 11 (D.D.C. 1999),  
2 citing *Marsh v. Oregon Natural Resources Council*, 490 U.S. 360, 378 (1989); *Citizens to*  
3 *Preserve Overton Park, Inc. v. Volpe*, 401 U.S. 402, 415-16, (1971).

4 In *Sierra Club v. Babbitt*, 69 F.Supp.2d 1202 (E.D. Cal. 1999), the district court held  
5 that the National Park Service had violated both NEPA and the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act,  
6 applying the APA’s standard of review as follows:

7 We must determine whether the agency’s decision was made after considering  
8 the relevant factors and whether the agency made a clear error of judgment.  
9 [Citation omitted.] We may reverse the agency’s decision as arbitrary or  
10 capricious only if the agency relied on factors Congress did not intend it to  
11 consider, entirely failed to consider an important aspect of the problem, offered  
12 an explanation that ran counter to the evidence before the agency, or offered one  
13 that is so implausible that it could not be ascribed to a difference in view or the  
14 product of agency expertise. [Citation omitted.]

15 69 F.Supp.2d at 1211, quoting from *Western Radio Services Co., Inc. v. Espy*, 79 F.3d 896, 900  
16 (9th Cir. 1996), *cert. den.*, 519 U.S. 822 (1996).

17 In the case at bar, DOE conducted an inadequate environmental review that failed to  
18 consider important aspects of the project and offered explanations that run counter to the  
19 evidence before the DOE decisionmakers, as the Argument below demonstrates.

### 20 **C. Scope of Review**

21 This Court’s review of DOE’s FONSI and EA for the Livermore Lab is governed by the  
22 APA. 5 U.S.C. § 702. Under the APA, the “reviewing court shall . . . (2) hold unlawful and set  
23 aside agency action, . . . not in accordance with law . . . [or] . . . without observance of  
24 procedure required by law . . . .” 5 U.S.C. § 706(2). “In making the foregoing determinations,  
25 the court shall review the whole record or those parts of it cited by a party . . . .” 5 U.S.C. § 706.

26 The Ninth Circuit recognizes four exceptions to the APA rule that judicial review is  
27 limited to materials within the agency’s administrative record. These exceptions are (1) to  
28 determine whether the agency has considered all relevant factors and has explained its decision;  
determine whether the agency has considered all relevant factors and has explained its decision;  
(2) when the agency has relied upon documents or materials not included in the record; (3) when  
necessary to explain technical terms or complex matters; and (4) when plaintiffs make a  
showing of agency bad faith. *Southwest Center for Biological Diversity v. United States Forest*

1 *Service*, 100 F.3d 1443, 1450 (9th Cir. 1996).

2 As the Ninth Circuit explained in *Asarco, Inc. v. EPA*, 616 F.2d 1153, 1160 (9th Cir.  
3 1980), "[i]t is both unrealistic and unwise to 'straight-jacket' the reviewing court with the  
4 administrative record. It will often be impossible, especially when highly technical matters are  
5 involved, for the Court to determine whether the agency took into consideration all relevant  
6 factors unless it looks outside the record to determine what matters the agency should have  
7 considered but did not. The Court cannot adequately discharge its duty to engage in a  
8 'substantial inquiry' if it is required to take the agency's word that it considered all relevant  
9 matters." *Id.* at 1160.

10 Consequently, this Court may consider extra-record evidence in order to "ascertain  
11 whether the agency considered all the relevant factors or fully explicated its course of conduct or  
12 grounds of decision." *Id.*; *accord, Public Power Co. v. Johnson*, 674 F.2d 791, 793 (9th Cir.  
13 1982) ("The broadest exception to the general rule that review is to be restricted to the record  
14 certified by the agency is one which permits expansion of the record when necessary to explain  
15 agency action."); *Kunaknana v. Clark*, 742 F.2d 1145, 1149 (9th Cir. 1984) (same, quoting  
16 from *Asarco, supra*); *Animal Defense Council v. Hodel*, 840 F.2d 1432, 1436 (9th Cir. 1988)  
17 (judicial review may be extended beyond the agency's record if necessary to explain the agency's  
18 decisions). Other circuits are in agreement. *See, e.g., County of Suffolk v. Secretary of the*  
19 *Interior*, 562 F.2d 1368, 1384-85 (2d Cir. 1977) ("allegations that an EIS has neglected to  
20 mention a serious environmental consequence, failed adequately to discuss some reasonable  
21 alternative, or otherwise swept stubborn problems 'under the rug' . . . raise issues sufficiently  
22 important to permit the introduction of new evidence in the district court, including expert  
23 testimony with regard to technical matters.")

24 In making a determination whether the defendants considered all relevant factors, this  
25 Court is not limited to considering extra-record information submitted by the defendant  
26 agencies, but may consider extra-record information submitted by plaintiffs. *National Audubon*  
27 *Society v. U. S. Forest Service*, 46 F.3d 1437, 1447-48 (9th Cir.1993) (holding that the district  
28 court's use of an affidavit submitted by plaintiffs' expert who reviewed the administrative

1 record and conducted his own field review of the timber sales in question, was proper under  
2 *Public Power Company v. Johnson, supra and County of Suffolk, supra*); *County of Suffolk,*  
3 *supra*, 562 F.2d at 1385-86 (holding that the “district court properly admitted the testimony of  
4 [plaintiff’s expert] and the data on which it was based”); *Greenpeace U.S.A. v. Evans*, 688  
5 F.Supp. 579, 584-85 (W.D. Wash. 1987) (same).

6 Each of the fifteen declarations submitted by plaintiffs in support of this summary  
7 judgment motion may be considered by this Court under the foregoing exceptions to the APA’s  
8 record review restriction. Each of these declarations is offered to document the defendants’  
9 failure to consider all relevant factors, both in preparing the challenged Livermore EA, and in  
10 adopting defendants’ FONSI purporting to find that the Livermore BSL-3 will not pose any  
11 potential to significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Additionally, the  
12 declarations of Ms. Kelley and Mr. Coghlan document plaintiffs’ standing to bring this action.  
13 Kelley ¶ 2; Coghlan ¶ 3. Further, the declarations of Ms. Kelley and Mr. King document  
14 defendants’ failure to provide plaintiffs with documents requested under FOIA. Kelly ¶ 21;  
15 King ¶ 29.

16 All of the declarations also assist this Court in understanding the complex, highly  
17 technical subject matter. The declarations also bridge gaps left by defendants’ misleading and  
18 inadequate EA, and deficient administrative record. The facts documenting application of these  
19 exceptions to these declarations are set forth in the declarations.

#### 20 **D. Plaintiffs Have Standing**

21 The doctrine of standing comprises both constitutional requirements and prudential  
22 considerations. *Gladstone Realtors v. Village of Bellwood*, 441 U.S. 91, 99 (1979); *LaKuke v.*  
23 *Nelson*, 762 F.2d 1318, 1323 (9th Cir. 1985). To come within the “case or controversy”  
24 requirement of Article III of the United States Constitution, a plaintiff must show that he has or  
25 will suffer an “injury in fact,” a causal connection between defendant’s behavior and that injury,  
26 and a likelihood that the injury will be redressed by the relief sought by a favorable decision.  
27 *Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife*, 504 U.S. 555, 560-61 (1992). In addition to the Article III  
28 requirements, federal courts apply “prudential considerations” that must be met. In particular,

1 the plaintiff's claim must fall within the "zone of interest" sought to be protected or regulated by  
2 the statute in question. *Valley Forge Christian College v. Americans United for Separation of*  
3 *Church & State, Inc.*, 454 U.S. 464, 475-76 (1982).

4 In this case, plaintiffs have standing under both the Article III requirements, as well as  
5 judicially-mandated prudential considerations. Defendants' approval of the Livermore BSL-3  
6 facility threatens direct harm to plaintiffs Tri-Valley CAREs, Marylia Kelley, Janis Kate Turner,  
7 and Tara Dorabji. Kelley ¶¶ 2, 12. Each of these individual plaintiffs lives or works within the  
8 vicinity of this proposed facility, and would be exposed to its potential release of harmful  
9 pathogens. *Id.* These individual plaintiffs are also members of Tri-Valley CAREs, which has  
10 standing to represent their interests as well as its separate, organizational interests in securing  
11 the environmental disclosures required under NEPA. *Idaho Conservation League v. Mumma*,  
12 956 F.2d 1508, 1514-18 (9th Cir. 1992); Kelley ¶ 2. Each of these plaintiffs also has prudential  
13 standing to enforce NEPA and FOIA, because "the interest that the plaintiff seeks to protect [is]  
14 arguably within the zone of interests to be protected or regulated by" these statutes. *National*  
15 *Credit Union Admin. v. First National Bank & Trust Co.*, 522 U.S. 479, 488 (1998).

16 Plaintiffs Nuclear Watch of New Mexico, Henry C. Finney and Catherine Sullivan  
17 likewise have standing because defendants' approval of the Livermore BSL-3 facility is part of a  
18 nationwide program to develop such facilities throughout the country, including the Los Alamos  
19 National Laboratory. Coghlan ¶ 2. Both Ms. Sullivan and Mr. Finney reside or work in the  
20 vicinity of the Los Alamos Lab wherein defendants propose to operate a second BSL-3 facility,  
21 and plaintiff Nuclear Watch of New Mexico's members, including Catherine Sullivan, reside,  
22 work or recreate in the vicinity of this site. Coghlan ¶ 3. Additionally, Nuclear Watch of New  
23 Mexico has organizational standing to seek the disclosures and analysis of potential  
24 environmental impacts required under NEPA for defendants' CBNP program.

25 All of these plaintiffs also have standing under FOIA to seek this Court's redress for  
26 defendants' failure to furnish documents that plaintiffs have requested under FOIA but  
27 defendants have refused to provide in violation of this statute.

1           **E.       Plaintiffs Are Entitled to Summary Judgment Because DOE Failed to**  
2           **Prepare a EIS for the BSL-3 Livermore Lab**

3           NEPA requires the preparation of an EIS if the proposed federal action has the *potential*  
4           to significantly affect the quality of the human environment. 42 U.S.C. § 4332; *Foundation for*  
5           *North American Wild Sheep v. United States*, 681 F.2d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 1982). Because  
6           NEPA requires an EIS for actions that may significantly affect the quality of the human  
7           environment, a proper finding by an agency that the proposed action will produce no significant  
8           impact on the environment relieves the agency of its duty to prepare an extensive EIS. An  
9           agency cannot, however, simply issue a conclusory statement claiming the absence of significant  
10          impacts. Instead, the agency must support each finding of “no significant impact” with a  
11          “concise public document,” known as an environmental assessment. 40 C.F.R. 1501.4(a)-(b),  
12          1508.9. The EA must “[b]riefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining  
13          whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact.” 40  
14          CFR § 1508.9.

15          Although an EA need not be as thorough as an EIS, the agency must still conduct a  
16          “comprehensive assessment of the expected effects of a proposed action” to determine if that  
17          action is significant. *Foundation on Economic Trends v. Weinberger*, 610 F.Supp. 829, 837  
18          (D.C.D.C. 1985), *quoting Lower Alloways Creek Tp. v. Public Service Elec.*, 687 F.2d 732, 740  
19          (3rd Cir. 1982). The significance of the actions’ environmental impact is based on various  
20          factors, such as “the degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety,” the  
21          “[u]nique characteristics of the geographic area,” the “degree to which the effects on the quality  
22          of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial,” the “degree to which the  
23          possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown  
24          risks,” the “degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with  
25          significant effects,” and whether “the action is related to other actions with individually  
26          insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.” 40 CFR § 1508.27.

27          The Livermore BSL-3 facility is clearly a major federal action that may significantly  
28          affect the quality of the human environment in each of these respects, as the following

1 discussion demonstrates:

2 1. Uncertain effects posing substantial risks.

3 An EIS is required if a project poses uncertain, but potentially significant, risks of  
4 environment harm. *City of Davis v. Coleman*, 521 F.2d 661, 676 (9th Cir. 1975). An EIS is  
5 required here because the possible effects of this facility on public health and safety are highly  
6 uncertain and involve significant risks due to a substantial and inadequately disclosed risk of  
7 seismically-induced structural failure leading to the release of pathogens. Curry ¶¶ 6-15;  
8 McKinzie ¶ 3; Fulk ¶ 28; Watt ¶¶ 7-8. Defendants’ well-documented history of toxic dumping  
9 and unlawful emissions, security lapses, and violations of state and federal water quality and  
10 other environmental laws establishes a pattern of environmental laxity and neglect which  
11 defendants’ EA fails to acknowledge, much less rebut with specific plans for assuring safe  
12 operation of the facility. Kelley ¶¶ 6-19; Strauss ¶¶ 13-18, 22-37; Fulk ¶¶ 11-33; Zipoli ¶¶ 5-15.  
13 Defendants’ EA fails to address the adequacy of even the most basic safety and handling  
14 procedures, including transportation of biological agents to and from the lab, procedures to be  
15 followed in the event of structural failure due to earthquake, fire or terrorist attack, and inherent  
16 deficiencies in the BSL-3 facilities’ HEPA filtration system. *Id.*

17 2. Potentially significant precedential effects.

18 An EIS is required if a project may have potentially significant precedential effects. 40  
19 C.F.R. § 1508.27(b)(6). In *Anderson v. Evans*, 314 F.3d 1006, 1021-22 (9th Cir. 2002), the  
20 court held that the National Marine Fisheries’ Services’ approval of a whale hunting quota for  
21 an Indian tribe “could be used as precedent for other countries to declare the subsidence need of  
22 their own aboriginal groups,” an impact requiring an EIS. Similarly, in *Friends of the Earth,*  
23 *Inc. v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*, 109 F.Supp.2d 30, 43 (D.D.C. 2000), the Corps’ approval  
24 of casinos on the Mississippi coast had a precedential effect sufficient to require an EIS. In  
25 *State of North Carolina v. Hudson*, 655 F.Supp. 428, 444 (E.D.M.C. 1987), the Corps properly  
26 considered a water transfer’s precedential effect on future inter-basin transfers. Likewise here,  
27 DOE should have addressed the Livermore Lab’s precedential effect not only on other DOE  
28 facilities, but its potential impact on world-wide proliferation of biological weapons research

1 and the public health and safety dangers posed thereby. Hammond ¶¶ 5, 14, 21; Coghlan ¶ 3;  
2 Wright ¶¶ 4-12. The Livermore BSL-3 will have such effects. Construction of the Livermore  
3 and Los Alamos BSL-3 facilities, since they are the first DOE BSL-3 facilities, will establish a  
4 precedent for future BSL-3's and related biological and chemical agent research facilities and  
5 actions at DOE facilities, raising unstudied risks that other nations may seek to conduct such  
6 research activities at facilities engaged in the development of nuclear or other weapons of mass  
7 destruction. *Id.*; Strauss ¶ 39.

8 3. Potentially significant cumulative effects.

9 An EIS is required if a project poses potentially significant cumulative effects. 40 C.F.R.  
10 § 1508.27(b)(7). The Livermore BSL-3 facility threatens such effects. Each facility, as part of  
11 the CBNP, is related to other CBNP actions and facilities with cumulatively significant impacts.  
12 Coghlan ¶ 2. As BSL-3 labs experimenting with weaponized, highly contagious and potentially  
13 deadly pathogens and toxins proliferate, the threat of releases of these poisons into the human  
14 environment grows. Wheelis ¶¶ 6-21; Ritter ¶¶ 6-16. The threat of terrorist attacks grows.  
15 Ritter ¶ 15; Stockton ¶¶ 10-17; Zipoli ¶¶ 7-16. The threat of proliferation of such facilities  
16 world wide, potentially prompting a biological and chemical arms race, grows. Wright ¶¶ 10-  
17 12; Ritter ¶¶ 6-14; Wheelis ¶¶ 10-21.

18 4. Public controversy.

19 An EIS is required if a project generates extensive public controversy over its potential  
20 environmental effects. *Foundation for North American Wild Sheep v. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture*,  
21 *supra*, 681 F.2d at 1182; 40 C.F.R. § 1508.27(b)(4). Both the Livermore and the Los Alamos  
22 facilities are highly controversial. Each proposed facility prompted extensive critical comments  
23 from the public. AR 1:1:C-1-73; LANL AR 1:1:C-1-137.

24 5. Potentially significant effects on public health and safety.

25 An EIS is required if a project poses potentially significant effects on public health and  
26 safety. 40 C.F.R. 1508.27(b)(2); *Scientists' Institute for Public Information v. A.E.C.* 481 F.2d  
27 1079, 1092 (D.C. Cir. 1973). Operation of each proposed facility, including the risks of  
28 accident, theft, earthquake, fire, sabotage, or terrorism, has the potential for very significant

1 effects on public health and safety and environmental quality. Curry ¶¶ 4-15; McKinzie ¶¶ 8-  
2 12; Watt ¶¶ 6-8; Fulk ¶¶ 13-33; Strauss ¶¶ 36-41.

3 DOE's approval of the EA and FONSI for the proposed Livermore facility is arbitrary  
4 and capricious, and not in accordance with NEPA and the APA, as defendants were required to  
5 prepare an EIS because operation of the facility may significantly affect the quality of the human  
6 environment.

7 **F. Plaintiffs Are Entitled to Summary Judgment Because DOE Failed to Prepare a**  
8 **Programmatic EIS for the CBNP**

9 NEPA and its regulations require environmental review of "major federal actions."  
10 "Actions" include programs financed, assisted, conducted, regulated, or approved by the federal  
11 government. The CBNP is a "major federal action" which requires environmental review  
12 pursuant to NEPA.

13 Under the Council on Environmental Quality's ("CEQ's") NEPA regulations, a  
14 programmatic EIS should be prepared if actions are "connected," "cumulative," or sufficiently  
15 "similar" that a programmatic EIS is "the best way" to identify the environmental effects. 40  
16 C.F.R § 1508.25. Similarly, the regulations require that "[p]roposals or parts of proposals  
17 which are related to each other closely enough to be, in effect, a single course of action shall be  
18 evaluated in a single impact statement." 40 C.F.R. § 1502.4(a). In 40 Questions and Answers  
19 (46 Fed.Reg. 16343 (Mar. 23, 1981), the CEQ also directs agencies to include related actions in  
20 one study:

21 An EIS must be prepared if an agency proposes to implement a specific policy, to adopt  
22 a plan for a group of related actions, or to implement a specific statutory program or  
23 executive directive. Section 1508.18. . . . In all cases, the policy, plan, or program must  
24 have the potential for significantly affecting the quality of the human environment in  
25 order to require an EIS.

26 40 Questions and Answers (46 Fed.Reg. 16343), ¶ 24a.

27 Agencies must take into account two important considerations when deciding whether  
28 or not to prepare a programmatic EIS: (1) whether the programmatic EIS could be sufficiently  
forward-looking to contribute to the decisionmakers' basic planning of the overall program; and

1 (2) whether a decision not to prepare a programmatic EIS would “segment” the overall program  
2 and thereby unreasonably constrict the scope of environmental evaluation. *NWF v.*  
3 *Appalachian Regional Comm’n*, 677 F.2d 883, 889 (D.C. Cir. 1981).

4 DOE has failed to analyze the environmental effects of the CBNP, including its  
5 facilities (particularly the newly proposed facilities such as the Los Alamos and Livermore BSL-  
6 3 facilities) and actions, in a “programmatic” document, as required by NEPA. Coghlan ¶ 2;  
7 Wheelis ¶¶ 11-21; Wright ¶¶ 10-12; Ritter ¶¶ 6-16. The proliferation of biological agent  
8 research labs throughout the nation poses important and far reaching questions that demand  
9 environmental review. Coghlan ¶¶ 3, 6-11, 15-21; Wheelis ¶¶ 6-8; Wright ¶¶ 10-12; Ritter ¶¶ 5-  
10 14. Because the CBNP may have significant effects on the human environment, a programmatic  
11 EIS must be prepared to analyze its environmental effects. *Id.* DOE’s failure to prepare a  
12 programmatic analysis of the environmental effects of the CBNP, and particularly its failure to  
13 prepare a programmatic EIS for the CBNP, are arbitrary and capricious, and violate NEPA and  
14 the APA.

15 **G. Plaintiffs Are Entitled to Summary Judgment Because DOE Failed to Address**  
16 **Site-wide, Cumulative Impacts in a Comprehensive EIS**

17 NEPA and its regulations require preparation of a programmatic EIS where a series of  
18 closely related “major federal actions” poses a greater effect cumulatively than each action does  
19 individually, particularly where they constitute successive phases of an overall program. 40  
20 C.F.R. § 1508.7; 40 C.F.R. § 1508.18 (b)(3). The CEQ Guidelines explain that “[p]roposals or  
21 parts of proposals which are related to each other closely enough to be, in effect, a single course  
22 of action shall be evaluated in a single impact statement.” 40 C.F.R. 1502.4(a).

23 Despite this requirement, defendants failed to prepare a programmatic EIS on DOE’s  
24 Livermore Lab Biology and Biotechnology Research Program (BBRP), thereby failing to  
25 address the cumulative and interconnected impacts of the existing LLNL bio-programs with the  
26 new BSL-3 facility. This violates NEPA for several reasons.

27 First, DOE must complete a programmatic environmental impact statement on all of the  
28 BBRP components, including the BSL-3 proposal because it is interconnected with the existing

1 BBRP facilities which include BSL-1 and BSL-2 labs. AR 1:1:8-9. The BSL-3 facility will not  
2 be able to function independently but instead will rely upon other areas of the LLNL bio-  
3 programs for office space, personnel, and storage space.

4 NEPA requires that all major federal actions that are sufficiently “connected” and  
5 “inextricably intertwined” must be evaluated in a single EIS. The regulation that governs the  
6 scope of EISs specifically provides for the consideration of:

7 (I) Connected actions, which means they are closely related and therefore should be  
8 discussed in the same impact statement. Actions are connected if they:

9 (i) Automatically trigger other actions, which may require environmental impact  
10 statements.

11 (ii) Cannot or will not proceed unless other actions are taken previously or  
12 simultaneously.

13 (iii) Are interdependent parts of a larger action and depend upon the larger action  
14 for their justification.

15 40 C.F.R. § 1508.25(a).

16 In *Thomas v. Peterson*, 753 F.2d 754 (9th Cir. 1985), plaintiffs sued the United States  
17 Forest Service for failure to prepare an EIS that analyzed the combined environmental effects of  
18 proposed road construction and ongoing timber sales rather than the Environmental Assessments  
19 that had been prepared analyzing the impacts of each road and each timber sale individually. The  
20 court held that the Forest Service was required to prepare an EIS analyzing the combined  
21 environmental impacts of the road and timber sales because failure to do so would permit the  
22 Forest Service to divide a project into multiple actions, each of which individually had an  
23 insignificant environmental impact, but which collectively had a substantial impact. *Id.* at 758.

24 Similarly, here, DOE erroneously prepared only an EA on the proposed BSL-3 laboratory  
25 without completing any programmatic review of LLNL's BBRP. The BSL-3 will rely upon the  
26 unstudied infrastructure of the BBRP to conduct its daily operations. AR 1:1:8. The BSL-3 will  
27 not be a self-sufficient unit but will share storage and chemical management space with other  
28 BBRP facilities. AR 1:1:8-9. The program infrastructure between the BSL-3 and the BBRP is  
so intertwined that the personnel at the BSL-2 labs will be integrated into the BSL-3 facilities.

1 AR 1:1:9. For example, the BSL-3's staff will be relocated from the adjacent Building 360  
2 BBRP labs with no requirement for permanent relocation. AR 1:1:8.

3 Without the shared office space, personnel and infrastructure from the BBRP program,  
4 DOE indicates that the BSL-3 facility may not have been sited at LLNL at all. AR 1:1:21-28.  
5 LLNL has qualified and experienced personnel and a sophisticated existing biological  
6 infrastructure in the BBRP. AR 1:1:27. Placing the BSL-3 laboratory at another NNSA  
7 laboratory would require significant duplication of this capability. AR 1:1:27-28.

8 Courts have looked to a project's independence from other programs as a factor in  
9 deciding whether or not a programmatic EIS is required. *Thomas* at 758. The proposed BSL-3 is  
10 inextricably linked to the overarching Biology and Biotechnology Research Program at LLNL.  
11 The BSL-3 serves the core program objectives for the BBRP, which include understanding  
12 genetic and biochemical causes of disease, countering biological terrorism, and bioengineering  
13 research. AR 1:1:4. Programmatic NEPA review must incorporate the BBRP and the BSL-3 in  
14 order to ensure that there are no unstudied hazards to the community.

15 Second, DOE must study the impacts arising from all the activities conducted by the  
16 BBRP, rather than simply the incremental increases in environmental impacts posed by the  
17 addition of the BSL-3 facility to the existing BBRP infrastructure, because the impacts are  
18 cumulative. An agency is required to consider cumulative impacts in an EIS, meaning actions  
19 that "when viewed with other proposed actions have cumulatively significant impacts." 40  
20 C.F.R. § 1508.25(a)(2). A cumulative impact on the environment "results from the incremental  
21 impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future  
22 actions...." 40 C.F.R. § 1508.7. Cumulative impacts may result from "individually minor but  
23 collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time." In determining whether a  
24 project will have a "significant" impact on the environment, an agency must consider whether the  
25 action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant  
26 impacts. 40 C.F.R. § 1508.27(b)(7). If several actions have a cumulative environmental effect,  
27 "this consequence must be considered in an EIS." *Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project v.*  
28 *Blackwood*, 161 F.3d 1208, 1214 (9th Cir. 1998) (quotation omitted).

1 In *Blue Mountains*, environmental groups sought to enjoin timber salvage sales in a  
2 national forest, alleging that the United States Forest Service failed to comply with procedural  
3 requirements of NEPA in awarding contracts for sales. The court held that the Forest Service was  
4 required to prepare a single EIS that addressed cumulative effects of five salvage logging projects  
5 proposed for the same watershed. *Id.*

6 Performing an EA solely on the BSL-3 facility at LLNL, while failing to study the  
7 environmental impacts of the entire BBRP, is similar to conducting discrete EAs on each timber  
8 sale in *Blue Mountain*. The end result of a failure to conduct an EIS on the BBRP is that the  
9 BSL-3 EA will understate the cumulative impacts of the overall project. Contrary to NEPA,  
10 DOE has never completed a NEPA document that focuses on the program-wide impacts of the  
11 BBRP at LLNL.

12 Moreover, there are significant cumulative impacts associated with the increased bio-  
13 activities at LLNL in the areas of shipping hazards, hazardous waste disposal, accidents,  
14 unforeseen results from genetic modifications, risk of release to the public, lack of management  
15 oversight and coordination to accompany expanded projects. Kelley ¶¶ 6-19; Strauss ¶ 41;  
16 Wright ¶¶ 4-9, 12. Additionally, the BSL-3 facility would vastly increase the laboratory trash  
17 stream for BBRP. The BSL-3 is expected to generate 1,144 lbs of solid waste annually, roughly  
18 50 percent as much medical/laboratory waste as the entire LLNL main site combined. AR  
19 1:1:24. With these increases in medical waste taken cumulatively, a programmatic review is  
20 needed to ensure that best practices are achieved. When several commenters to the BSL-3 EA  
21 asked DOE to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement to study the increased  
22 impacts posed by the BSL-3 facility on the as yet unstudied BBRP program, DOE responded that  
23 the bioscience research has been ongoing for over four decades. AR 1:1:C-1. But DOE failed to  
24 mention that there has been no programmatic review of this expanded bio-work over the decades.  
25 *Id.*

26 The urgent need to coordinate management practices, transportation controls and  
27 handling procedures for select agents, program-wide, for the BBRP could not be clearer. The  
28 DOE's Inspector General office audited the DOE's select agent program in 2001 and concluded

1 that there was insufficient organization, coordination, and direction in the Department's  
2 biological select agent activities; “specifically, the Department's activities lacked sufficient  
3 Federal oversight, consistent policy, and standardized implementing procedures.” Coghlan ¶ 11.

4 DOE claims that “LLNL has operated BSL-1 and BSL-2 equivalent laboratories for the  
5 last 20 years without any infections associated with their operations and no unintentional releases  
6 to the environment or public.” AR 1:1:C-3. This assertion does not comport with the recent  
7 admission from LLNL that equipment and utensils contaminated with a virulent strain of *Bacillus*  
8 anthracis, the causative agent for anthrax, were mistakenly disposed of in the “general trash.”  
9 Kelley ¶ 19. Plaintiffs obtained this admission in response to a FOIA request. *Id.* This fact  
10 should have been disclosed in the EA.

11 The impacts of the proposed BSL-3, when added to the present impacts of the BBRP,  
12 clearly constitute potentially significant cumulative impacts on the environment that have not  
13 been studied. Reviewing the BSL-3 as an isolated project ignores the combined cumulative  
14 effects of the BBRP and the BSL-3 and masks the fact that the BSL-3 is one aspect of the larger  
15 BBRP program.

16 **H. Plaintiffs are entitled to Summary Judgment because DOE withheld crucial**  
17 **documents in violation of FOIA**

18 The Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. section 552 (“FOIA”), directs that “each  
19 [federal] agency upon any request for records which (i) reasonably describes such records and (ii)  
20 is made in accordance with published rules stating the time, place, fees (if any), and procedures  
21 to be followed, shall make the records promptly available to any person.” 5 U.S.C.  
22 §552(a)(3)(A); *Lissner v. U.S. Customs Service*, 241 F.3d 1220 (9th Cir. 2001). FOIA thus  
23 assures that members of the public have access to the factual information and documentation on  
24 which federal agencies such as defendants rely in making management decisions. This  
25 information is vitally necessary to informed public participation in environmental decision  
26 making by federal agencies regarding management of the public’s resources.

27 Contrary to this requirement of FOIA, defendants repeatedly failed to provide  
28 plaintiffs with information and documentation essential to plaintiffs’ informed review of and

1 comment upon defendants' programs, actions and decisions challenged in this lawsuit. For  
2 example, on September 23, 2002 and March 10, 2003, plaintiff Nuclear Watch submitted  
3 detailed requests under FOIA to defendant DOE requesting nonprivileged documents pertaining  
4 to DOE's decisions challenged herein, including but not limited to (1) agreements between DOE  
5 and the federal Department of Health and Human Services ("DHS") for the use by DOE or its  
6 contractors of the BSL-2, BSL-3 and BSL-4 facilities operated by DHS' Centers for Disease  
7 Control and Prevention; (2) DOE planning documents regarding the siting of the proposed BSL-3  
8 facilities at Livermore Lab; (3) the names of the federal agencies such as the Centers for Disease  
9 Control and Prevention and other public and private entities that have conducted research under  
10 contract for Livermore Lab regarding development and implementation of the CBNP; and (4)  
11 documents regarding its preliminary scoping study and white paper regarding the "concept for  
12 homeland security research facility" document specifically referenced in DOE's Oak Ridge  
13 National Laboratory Institutional Plan, FY 2003-FY 2007 at page 4-9. King ¶ 29. Contrary to  
14 FOIA, DOE has failed to provide the requested documents. *Id.*

15 Plaintiff CAREs likewise on May 19, 2003, submitted a detailed request under FOIA to  
16 DOE requesting nonprivileged documents including (1) agreements between DOE and DHS  
17 concerning use by DOE of the BSL-3 facility in Fort Collins, Colorado; (2) agreements between  
18 DOE and DHS for use of any other BSL-3 or BSL-4 facilities in the United States; and (3) any  
19 other documents that discuss BSL-2, BSL-3 or BSL-4 activities at DHS-owned or operated  
20 facilities. Contrary to FOIA, DOE has failed to provide these requested documents. Kelly ¶ 19.

21 DOE's continuing failure and refusal to provide these and other nonprivileged  
22 documents requested by plaintiffs under FOIA is arbitrary and capricious and not in accordance  
23 with applicable law, in violation of FOIA and the APA.

#### 24 **IV. CONCLUSION**

25 For the foregoing reasons, defendants' approval of the FONSI and preparation of the EA  
26 for the Livermore Lab BSL-3 facility is contrary to NEPA. Because this project poses numerous  
27 potentially significant effects on the environment, an EIS is required. Additionally, because  
28 defendants' plans for developing and implementing the CBNP, including development of BSL-3

1 facilities at Livermore and Los Alamos, represent an interconnected and interdependent program  
2 whose cumulative effects are far greater than the impacts of any of these BSL-3 facilities taken  
3 alone, defendants' failure to prepare a programmatic EIS on the CBNP violates NEPA.  
4 Likewise, defendants' failure to prepare a site-wide EIS for the myriad related biological agent  
5 testing facilities at the Livermore Lab violates NEPA's command that interconnected and  
6 interdependent activities posing potentially significant cumulative effects must be addressed in a  
7 single NEPA document. Furthermore, defendants' failure to furnish plaintiffs with the  
8 documents sought in plaintiffs' FOIA requests violates that statute.

9         Accordingly, this Court should grant summary judgment for plaintiffs as prayed in the  
10 Complaint herein.

11  
12 Dated: February 19, 2004

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