



nuclear watch new mexico

Dear Friends,

December 2025

We are living in frustrating and perilous times. Eighty years after the atomic bombings of Japan, nuclear weapons still pose a severe and escalating threat. The expansion of nuclear weapons programs continue to contaminate our environment and drain taxpayers' resources. All of this robs from addressing other critical issues, such as water protection, wildfires, affordable medical care, and adverse climate change.

Nuclear weapons programs at the Los Alamos National Lab (LANL) are getting a full \$1 billion increase, jumping to 84% of the Lab's annual \$6 billion budget. Meanwhile, science, nonproliferation and cleanup programs have been cut, and renewable energy research entirely deleted. The Department of Energy (DOE) plans to spend a staggering \$10.8 billion in New Mexico, the same amount as the state's *entire operating budget*! LANL claims to be a "Force for Good" – but how does this benefit the average New Mexican when the Land of Enchantment is always rated dead last in the quality of public education and the lives of our children?

DOE prioritizes the expanding production of plutonium "pit" bomb cores at Los Alamos, but still hasn't cleaned up its original mess from the Manhattan Project. Instead, DOE plans "cleanup" on the cheap with "cap and cover" of more than 200,000 cubic yards of radioactive and hazardous wastes, leaving them permanently buried in unlined pits and trenches as a perpetual threat to groundwater. Nuclear Watch NM will push for full, comprehensive, job-producing cleanup – because **real security for New Mexicans is protecting our precious groundwater for future generations!**

The U.S. is now engaged in a \$2 trillion nuclear "modernization" program. It includes new-design nuclear weapons, new production facilities expected to be operational until ~2080, and new missiles, subs and bombers. **They want nuclear weapons forever – and it's up to us to stop it!** There is a unique opportunity for you to voice your opinion. Because of our successful lawsuit, DOE has to release a nationwide *Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for Pit Production* sometime this Spring. There will be a formal public comment period and hearings, for which NukeWatch NM will provide sample comments, extensive resources and technical support for you to submit comments. Stay tuned at www.nukewatch.org for the pending schedule!

In sum, in the coming year Nuclear Watch New Mexico will be fighting against:

- The expanded production of plutonium pit bomb cores at the Los Alamos Lab and the Savannah River Site in South Carolina.
- LANL's plans to leave radioactive and toxic wastes buried in the ground in unlined pits and trenches.
- DOE's planned expansion of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in southern New Mexico for dumping radioactive wastes from across the country.

Let's keep New Mexico as the Land of Enchantment, not the land of nuclear weapons and radioactive wastes! Your tax-deductible donation supporting our work is deeply appreciated. For much more, please check out www.nukewatch.org

Sincerely,

Jay Coghlan, Executive Director

Scott Kovac, Research Director

Sophie Stroud, Communications and Associate Director

Please consider a tax-deductible donation, either by mailed check or online at www.nukewatch.org

Thank you!

903 W. Alameda #325, Santa Fe, NM 87501 • Voice and fax: 505.989.7342
info@nukewatch.org • www.nukewatch.org • www.nukewatch.org/watchblog/