



**Alliance for  
Nuclear  
Accountability**

**PROTECT COMMUNITIES**

**REDUCE**

**NUCLEAR RISK**



**ANA DC Days  
May 31-June 3**

**2026**

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# DC DAYS 2026

## Protect Communities - Reduce Nuclear Risk

No matter your view, **nuclear is wasteful**. It is **extraordinarily expensive** in all of its forms and creates radioactive waste which poses a **forever threat to human and environmental health**.

You can **protect communities and reduce nuclear risk by embracing**:

- a **nuclear weapons policy** that is neither provocative nor aggressive,
- a **nuclear waste policy** that prioritizes health and safety for the lifetime of risk, from workers on the front lines to future generations who inherit the nuclear legacy we create,
- a **nuclear power phase-out** to prevent never-ending radioactive waste generation.



**Alliance for Nuclear Accountability** groups focus on:

- Stopping new nuclear weapons design, engineering, production, and testing.
- Addressing challenges from cleanup and waste management, processing, storage, and disposal.
- Stopping the creation of new nuclear waste.

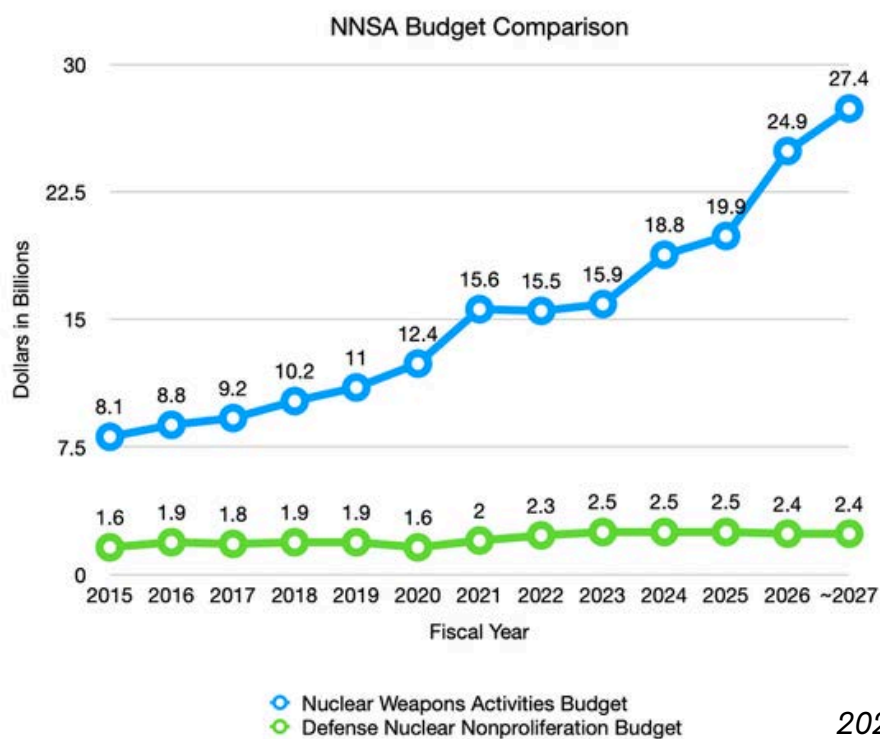
ANA's collaboration of grassroots groups has worked for 39 years at local, regional, state, and national levels to address health and safety issues at Department of Energy (DOE) and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) sites for workers, the public, and the environment.

# NUCLEAR WEAPONS BACKGROUND

Escalating the funding for multiple novel warheads and plutonium pit production carries financial and technical risks, while intensifying nuclear dangers and adding fuel to the fire of a spiraling global arms race. The costs for U.S. nuclear weapons “modernization” (nearly \$2 trillion and growing) paired with stagnant funding for defense nuclear nonproliferation, illustrates backwards spending priorities that put the U.S. and world at a greater risk of nuclear war. The President’s dangerous statements about resuming explosive nuclear testing adds more fuel to this fire, along with grave environmental and public health risks. Congress must turn this tide before it is too late.

With New START having expired in February 2026, the threat of a worsening nuclear arms race becomes reality. The U.S. and Russia still hold 90% of the world’s nuclear weapons. Bilateral and multilateral diplomacy must be soberly considered and creatively centered in our actions. As Reagan and Gorbachev observed in 1985, a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought.

The U.S and other nuclear weapons states have failed to comply with requirements of Article VI of the 1970 Non-Proliferation Treaty. The entry into force in 2021 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) challenges the nuclear weapons states and their allies to disarm.



*2027 values are projected*

# 2026 NUCLEAR WEAPONS RECOMMENDATIONS

## Stop New Warheads

- Cut funding for the W87-1 for the Sentinel Intercontinental Ballistic Missile.
- Terminate the W93 for the submarine-launched ballistic missile and W80-5 for the sea-launched cruise missile.
- Retire and dismantle the 1.2 megaton B83 bomb, and terminate the B61-13 bomb.
- Reallocate the \$99.8 million for "Future (nuclear weapons) Programs" including the Nuclear Deterrent System-Air-delivered.

## Stop New Bomb Plants

- Cut funding for NNSA's "Plutonium Modernization." Require credible cost estimates and the completion of the court-ordered Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement before NNSA aggressively pursues expanded plutonium pit production.
- Restrain the expansion of tritium production.
- Cut funding for the Kansas City National Security Complex.
- Require NNSA and DOE to improve its cost growth notification process. Congress should demand a full accounting of cost overruns at the Uranium Processing Facility.

## Support Rule of Law and Nuclear Disarmament

- The U.S. should adhere to New START's numerical cap on strategic warheads and delivery vehicles, while pursuing negotiations for a new arms control treaty with meaningful reductions.
- The U.S. should support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
- Pass House Resolution 317 and Senate Resolution 323 to lead the world back from the brink of nuclear war.

## No to Nuclear Testing

- Reject calls to resume explosive nuclear testing at any yield. Pass House Resolution 5894 (The RESTRAIN Act) and Senate Bill 3090 (the No Nuclear Testing Act).



# 2026 CLEANUP & WASTE MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

## Fully Fund Cleanup, Protect Everyone

- Fully fund cleanup. Dramatically increase well-managed spending on cleanup now to save billions of dollars in the future. Stop paying to babysit waste; focus on comprehensive cleanup, not new “innovation” missions.
- Protect communities from radioactive & toxic contamination now & in the future. Transparency is critical.

## Protect Environmental Laws

- Require NRC to maintain the long-standing scientific basis underpinning radiation protection standards. Don't weaken NRC or DOE controls over radioactive materials and wastes.
- Retain the ban on commercial recycling and release of metal from radioactive areas of DOE sites.

## Stop Making Long-Lasting, Intensely Radioactive Waste

### No Funding for New Reactors, No Reprocessing, No Subsidies

- Don't fund massive nuclear centers (so-called “Innovation Hubs”)
- No funding or subsidies for new nuclear reactors or restart of closed reactors, which are dangerous and embrittled.
- No funding for reprocessing.

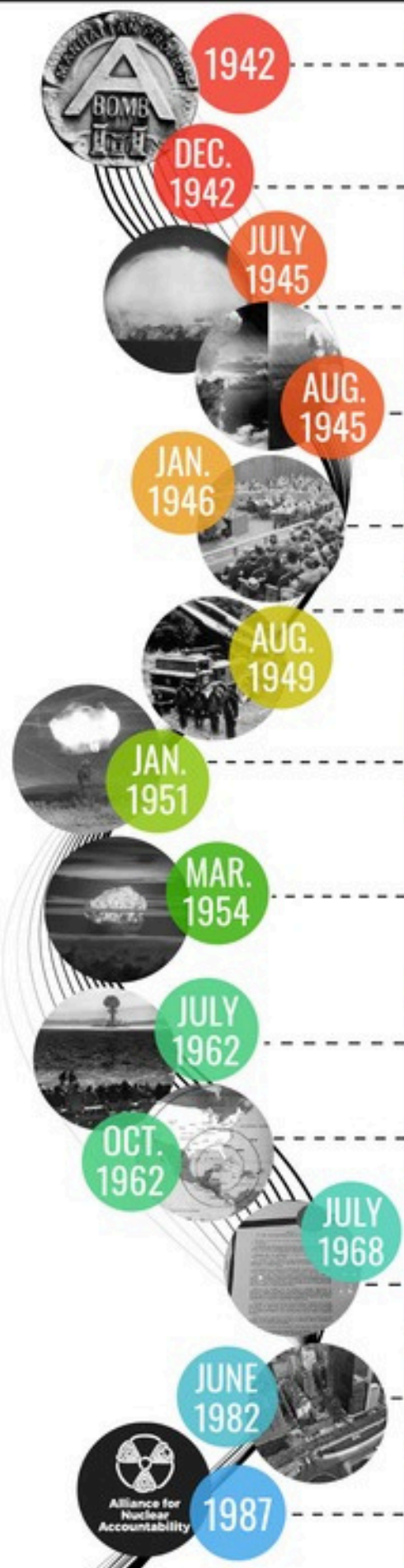
## Support the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB)

- Ensure full funding authorization for the DNFSB (at least \$45 million) in the National Defense Authorization Act and that full funding is appropriated.
- Senate Armed Services Committee members should recommend at least three nominees to the White House and confirm qualified new board members to ensure a quorum of the Board.

# Timeline: Nuclear Weapons History



Alliance for  
Nuclear  
Accountability



1942

**1942: Manhattan Project established** in US to develop atomic weapons

DEC.  
1942

**December 2, 1942: Chicago Pile-1 reactor generates the first highly radioactive waste** as part of the Manhattan Project, under the direction of Enrico Fermi (and we still don't know what to do with the first cupful)

JULY  
1945

**July 16, 1945: US conducts first ever nuclear detonation in New Mexico, "Trinity Test"**

AUG.  
1945

**August 6 and 9, 1945: US drops atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki**

JAN.  
1946

**January 24, 1946: UN General Assembly calls for complete elimination of nuclear weapons**

AUG.  
1949

**August 29, 1949: Soviet Union tests its first nuclear bomb**

JAN.  
1951

**January 27, 1951: Nevada Test Site atomic bomb detonations begin** on Western Shoshone land, in violation of 1863 "peace and friendship" Treaty of Ruby Valley

MAR.  
1954

**March 1, 1954: "Castle Bravo," a 15 megaton hydrogen bomb, detonated in the Marshall Islands** — one of 67 known atmospheric nuclear tests between 1946 and 1958 — resulting in an ongoing legacy of death, illness and contamination

JULY  
1962

**July 17, 1962: Last above-ground test-detonation** at Nevada Test Site (underground testing continued)

OCT.  
1962

**October 16-29, 1962: Cuban Missile Crisis** brings US and Soviet Union to **brink of nuclear war**

JULY  
1968

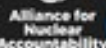
**July 1, 1968: Nonproliferation Treaty** opens for signatures with non-nuclear-weapon states agreeing never to acquire nuclear weapons, and nuclear-weapon states agreeing to disarm

JUNE  
1982

**June 12, 1982: More than one million people rally in NYC for disarmament, the largest anti-war demonstration in history**

1987

**1987: Alliance for Nuclear Accountability founded** under the name the Military Production Network



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Accountability

# Timeline: Nuclear Weapons History



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Accountability

DEC.  
1987

**December 22, 1987: "Screw Nevada" bill** singles out Yucca Mountain on Western Shoshone land as only national site considered for both commercial and military high-level radioactive wastes

OCT.  
1990

**October 5, 1990: Radiation Exposure Compensation Act enacted**, limits coverage to specific individuals and diseases, focused on those exposed to radiation from nuclear testing or uranium mining

SEPT.  
1992

**September 23, 1992: Last full-scale underground test-detonation** conducted at Nevada Test Site, (sub-critical testing continued)

SEPT.  
1996

**September 24, 1996: U.S. signs Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty**, prohibiting all nuclear weapons tests, but the Senate rejects ratification in 1999 and the treaty has yet to enter into force

MAR.  
1999

**March 26, 1999: Waste Isolation Pilot Plant** opens in New Mexico for disposal of military transuranic wastes in a geologic repository

JAN.  
2021

**January 22, 2021: Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons** enters into force without any nuclear-armed states

NUCLEAR WEAPONS  
ARE ILLEGAL

JULY  
2025

**July 4, 2025: Radiation Exposure Compensation Act is expanded** and reauthorized through December 31, 2027, a hard-fought victory for communities harmed by U.S. nuclear weapons testing, waste, and uranium exposure (yet many impacted communities are still excluded)

Expand RECA  
The Radiation  
Exposure  
Compensation Act

FALL  
2025

**October 2025: Trump states a desire to resume nuclear testing**, causing confusion over whether it would be explosive, after which the U.S. publishes intelligence that China conducted low-yield nuclear tests

**2026:  
WHERE ARE  
WE NOW?**

- **Over \$12 trillion** spent by U.S. on nuclear weapons from 1940-2026

- **Total U.S. nuclear weapons programs expenditure was more than \$137 billion** in FY26 (Tax Year 2025): **\$261,092 per minute**

- **Radioactive & chemical contamination** threaten our water, wildlife, and way of life

- **Environmental & public health consequences** of radioactive contamination impact communities around the world

- **Frontline communities** teach the world about the **burden of nuclear waste** in bodies, land, and home; and the power of community to foster strength and resilience in the fight for nuclear justice

- **Cleanup & management** of nuclear legacy is a multi-generational challenge with monitoring of radioactive waste required forever

# 2026 NUCLEAR WEAPONS

## STOP NEW WARHEADS

The U.S. is undertaking a massively expensive, multi-decade modernization of its nuclear arsenal with all new warheads for each of its new delivery vehicles.

Together the costs are projected to exceed \$1.7 trillion.

**CUT FUNDING  
FOR NEW  
WARHEADS**

Five new or "life extending" warhead programs (W80-4, W80-5, W87-1, W88, W93) and two gravity bombs (B61-12/13) are currently in development or transitioning to stockpile operations — stretching the capabilities of the NNSA nuclear weapons complex and leading to scheduling delays & cost overruns.

**The following common-sense cuts will save taxpayer dollars, alleviate nuclear proliferation, limit system redundancies, and make us safer.**

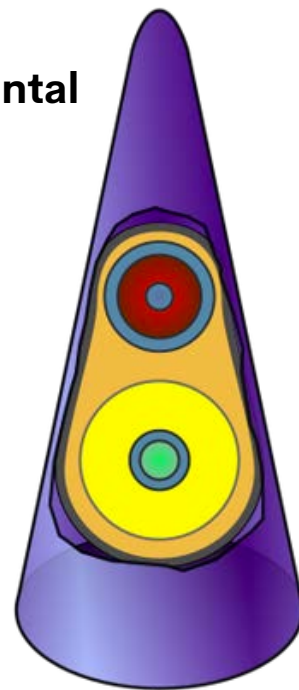
- **Cut funding for the W87-1 for the Sentinel Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM).**

The ground-based, ICBM leg of the nuclear triad is extremely expensive to maintain, destabilizing, and redundant of existing submarine and bomber capabilities. ICBMs are vulnerable to attack and require a "launch on warning" strategy, increasing the risk of miscalculation or accidental nuclear war.

Yet, the NNSA is developing the new W87-1 at Livermore Lab as the new warhead for the next generation ICBM - the Sentinel, which is being designed by the Pentagon (and is already famously over budget). Slated to replace the existing 400 Minuteman III ICBMs over the coming decades, \$4.6 billion is requested for the Sentinel missile program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027, with full costs estimated to be at least \$140 billion (81% over its initial cost estimate), making it the most expensive nuclear weapon ever!

**The Fiscal Year 2027 budget request for the W87-1 is \$913 million**, which is an increase of more than 40% over FY2026. The warhead's anticipated "outyear" costs are \$14 billion for the next four years.

Due to delays of the Sentinel and its W87-1 warhead, the Air Force is also funding additional "sustainment" of Minuteman III's and its W87-0 warheads into the 2030s. Rather than spending more on the W87-1 development, its plutonium pits, or the Sentinel Missile program generally, Congress should instead extend the life of Minuteman III's and their W87-0 warheads and formally explore retiring the ICBM leg of the nuclear triad.



*The W87-1 warhead with its new plutonium pits (bottom) is intended to sit on top of new Sentinel ICBMs.*

- **Terminate the W93 for the submarine-launched ballistic missile and W80-5 for the sea-launched cruise missile.**

The W93, a new submarine-launched ballistic missile warhead, could receive \$1.2 billion for its development (along with its aeroshell) under the FY 2027 budget request. This entirely new warhead is in the design definition stage and would not begin production until around 2035, with its new plutonium pits produced in the new Plutonium Processing Facility at Savannah River Site (SRS). The total cost estimate of the W93 program is more than \$15 billion with a planned deployment on new Columbia-class submarines. The W93 is unnecessary because the Navy already has two strategic warhead designs for submarine-launched ballistic missiles and both have been upgraded recently. In addition, the United Kingdom's warhead program (based on U.S. design) is the major drive for the W93. Thus, **this warhead is a waste of taxpayer dollars and should be terminated**

Reinstating a Sea Launched Cruise Missile (SLCM), which was withdrawn from attack submarines in 1991 by George H.W. Bush and subsequently retired, is wasteful and dangerous. A new SLCM was said to have "zero value" according to the Defense Department's briefings and it could be uniquely destabilizing because it will be indistinguishable to adversaries from conventional sea-launched cruise missiles.

In Fiscal Year 2027, funding for the SLCM's new warhead, the W80-5, comes entirely from "carryover dollars." The budget request notes specifically that the W80-5 will get \$400 million from the so-called "Working Families Tax Cut Act." This \$400 million is part of nearly \$3.9 billion that has been redirected from climate and people-centered projects into NNSA nuclear weapons programs – and is not going into the pockets of taxpayers despite the name. The FY 2027 budget's predicted "outyear" costs for the W80-5 top \$5.6 billion during Fiscal Years 2028-2031.

This warhead lacks a master schedule and lifetime costs, among other things, Congress should cut this program and divert the resources to other urgent necessities. This costly, dangerous, and proliferation-provoking SLCM program should be terminated.



***Sea-launched cruise missile are a bad idea.***  
*Image courtesy: Council for a Livable World*

- **Retire and dismantle the 1.2 megaton B83 bomb, and terminate the B61-13 bomb.**

FY 2027 budget request includes \$46.4 million for a feasibility study for the B61-13, a guided, high-yield gravity bomb capable of being delivered by stealth bombers (such as the B-2 and B-21) to strike hardened or deeply buried targets. The program is transitioning toward production, with a full \$1 billion budget request projected for FY 2028. It is redundant of other weapons already entering the arsenal, including the B61-12 (currently being fielded) and the upcoming Long-Range Standoff (LRSO) cruise missile.

The 1.2 megaton B83 bomb (designed as a “bunker buster,” with a massive yield that still would leave deep enough targets undamaged), was placed on a path to retirement in 2024. The Trump administration has instead decided to “sustain and retain” the B83. Keeping both of these weapons creates unnecessary redundancies and wastes taxpayer dollars, while proliferating high-yield nuclear weapons development by our adversaries. Instead, the B61-13 should be canceled and the B83’s retirement and dismantlement should be completed in FY 2027.



**Retire and dismantle the B83 bomb.**

*Image courtesy: The U.S. National Archives*

- **Reallocate the \$99.8 million for “Future (nuclear weapons) Programs” including the Nuclear Deterrent System-Air-delivered (NDS-A).**

The FY 2027 NNSA budget request includes a new line under (Nuclear) Weapons Activities for “Future Programs. The \$99.8 million requested will fund feasibility studies on future new-design nuclear weapons. Sources have reported that this funding will largely go to further the development of a prototype of a new nuclear “bunker-buster” referred to as the Nuclear Deterrent System-Air-delivered (NDS-A) which received \$96 million in appropriations from various line items in the last two years. This proliferating and vaguely described system should not be funded until Congress is provided clear details about the design of the weapon (including what aircraft it will be integrated onto operationally), its scope, purpose, need, and cost estimates for its development.



**(Continued) Funding for NNSA's "Plutonium Modernization" should be cut:** In September 2024 a federal judge ruled that the NNSA violated the National Environmental Policy Act by not completing a new Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) on expanded plutonium pit production. The Draft PEIS is open for public comment until July 16, 2026 and members of Congress, federal and state regulators, and concerned federal employees should submit comments in opposition to the NNSA's current plan. Funding for "Plutonium Modernization" should be cut until the PEIS reaches a Record of Decision and credible cost estimates and schedules for plutonium pit production are completed.

- **Restrain the expansion of tritium production.**

Tritium, a radioactive isotope of hydrogen, is used to boost the immense destructive power of nuclear weapons. Reactor rods are irradiated at two Tennessee Valley Authority reactors and shipped to the Savannah River Site for tritium extraction and purification. As a measure of the U.S.' aggressive nuclear arms buildup, funding for tritium operations is being increased 69% to \$880 million in FY 2027 and after that more than doubled in FY 2028 to \$1.8 billion.

- **Funding for the Kansas City National Security Complex (KCNSC) should be cut.**

The Kansas City National Security Complex is key to the new nuclear arms race given that it supplies 80% of the components for nuclear weapons. Its FY 2027 budget is being increased to \$2.2 billion, a 64% jump in two years. This budget is for "Life Extension Programs" that give warheads new military capabilities as well as for future new-design nuclear weapons.



*Ann Suellentrop of Peaceworks Kansas City protests outside of the NNSA PEIS Public Hearing on its plutonium pit production plan.*

*Image courtesy: Peaceworks Kansas City*

- **NNSA should be required to improve its cost growth notification process. Congress should demand a full accounting of cost overruns at the Uranium Processing Facility.**



In 2025, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) reviewed the NNSA's cost growth notification process after ANA brought concerns to members of Congress. The GAO's report on September 30, 2025 found serious flaws with NNSA's cost growth reporting to Congress ([GAO-25-107767](#)). It found that NNSA had recently failed to report five major construction programs' cost overruns as required. Additionally, they had not developed the required "root cause assessments" despite having years to do so. **The GAO report makes "Recommendations for Executive Action" and other opportunities for improvements to NNSA's cost growth reporting on which Congress should take action.** These changes would bring the NNSA's process in line with The Department of War's Nunn-McCurdy Act.



**The GAO found that NNSA had recently failed to report five major construction programs' cost overruns as required.**

**Demand a full accounting of cost overruns!**

NNSA is building the Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) at the Y-12 Plant near Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The agency repeatedly promised to Congress that the UPF would never cost more than \$6.5 billion. NNSA then moved the goal posts by stripping all non-production missions from the UPF and continuing highly enriched uranium operations at two contaminated facilities previously slated for decontamination and decommissioning. Even with these dramatic reductions in mission scope, **the UPF costs are up to \$10.4 billion and still climbing.** It is one of the facilities noted by the GAO to have not reported its cost overruns to Congress according to NNSA's reporting process. Congress should insist on full cost reporting in accordance with NNSA requirements for the overruns at UPF as soon as possible!

# 2026 NUCLEAR WEAPONS SUPPORT RULE OF LAW & NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

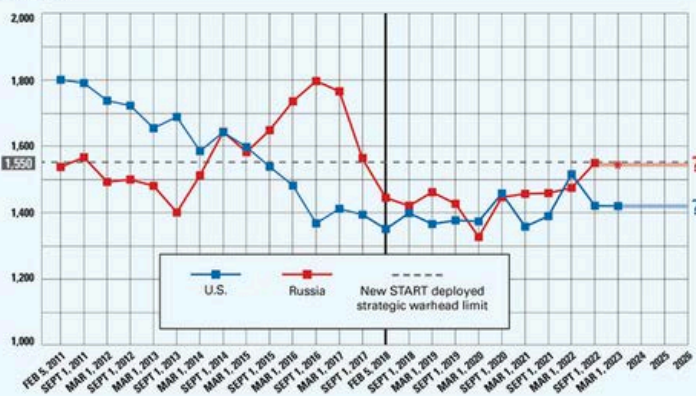
- **The U.S. should adhere to New START's numerical cap on strategic warheads and delivery vehicles, while pursuing negotiations for a new arms control treaty with meaningful reductions.**

The New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), the last arms control treaty between the U.S. and Russia, **expired in February**, leaving the countries without numerical caps on weapons and delivery systems for the first time in 35 years. Without a follow-on agreement, it is likely that both countries will expand their arsenals and initiate a new nuclear arms race with new technology, such as AI. Thereby increasing the risk of nuclear conflict and unleashing an enormous new wave of unnecessary spending on weapons. Russia has invited the U.S. to join them in maintaining the numerical caps and measures that the New START Agreement imposes for one additional year. The U.S., however, did not send Russia an official reply to its offer. The informal extension offered by Russia is a key first step toward stabilization. The time it buys can be used for negotiations to replace the New START Agreement and stop a new nuclear arms race. **Congress should facilitate diplomacy, not a rush to arms.**

## New START 2011-2026

The New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty started a countdown to deployment limits that took effect February 5, 2018. The uneven path toward the limits reflects the nuclear weapons modernization programs implemented by both nuclear powers.

The treaty permits each side to have no more than 1,550 warheads on deployed intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), deployed submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), and deployed heavy bombers assigned to nuclear missions (each heavy bomber is counted as one warhead).



Updated October 24, 2025

\* On Feb. 21, 2023, Russia suspended implementation of New START and stopped bilateral semiannual data exchanges. The United States made public its deployed warhead figures for March 2023 unilaterally.

Arms Control Association

# 87%

**of voters believe the U.S. should accept Russia's offer to continue limiting both countries' nuclear weapons for at least another year**

Jan 2026 YouGov poll commissioned by ReThink Media and the Nuclear Threat Initiative



- **The U.S. Should Support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.**

Article VI of the 1970 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), ratified by the U.S., mandates the U.S. to “pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament...” The U.S., along with other nuclear weapons states, has failed to do so. The NPT recently had its 5-year-review conference, which ended without a consensus document due to disagreement from the United States and Iran. This is the third review conference in a row without a consensus document.

In part as a response to the failure of weapons states to honor the Non-Proliferation Treaty’s obligation to pursue nuclear disarmament, 122 countries voted to adopt the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) in 2017. The TPNW entered into force and became part of international law in January 2021. The treaty is significant because under international law, all facets of nuclear weapons are now illegal. **As of 2026, 95 countries have signed and 74 countries (“states parties”) have ratified the treaty;** however, no nuclear weapons states have done so. The U.S. should support this treaty and be a leader for other nuclear weapons states to follow.

*By signing the NPT, the U.S. agreed to take steps towards nuclear disarmament, yet has failed to honor its obligation. It is time to follow through!*

- **Pass House Resolution 317 and Senate Resolution 323 to lead the world back from the brink of nuclear war.**

House Resolution 317 (H.Res.317) and its Senate companion resolution 323 (S.Res.323), make nuclear disarmament the centerpiece of the national security policy of the U.S. The bills call on the U.S. to lead the world back from the brink of nuclear war and halt and reverse the nuclear arms race. Currently, the President has sole authority to launch a nuclear attack. These bills seek to change this by “implementing effective checks and balances on the Commander in Chief’s sole authority to order the use of United States nuclear weapons.” They also preserve the moratorium on nuclear testing and protecting radiation-impacted communities and workers through full remediation, compensation, and expanded health care, including an expanded Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA).

H.Res.317 and S.Res. 323 lay out plans for a just economic transition for the civilian and military workforce involved in the development, testing, production, management, and dismantlement of nuclear weapons and for the communities that are economically dependent on nuclear weapons laboratories, production facilities, and military bases. **These calls tie into ANA’s other asks, making H.Res.317 and S.Res. 323 comprehensive nuclear disarmament efforts.**



**FIGHT FOR A  
SAFER WORLD  
WITHOUT  
NUCLEAR  
WEAPONS**

*Representatives:  
Co-Sponsor  
House Res # 317*

**BACK  
FROM THE  
BRINK**

# 2026 NUCLEAR WEAPONS

## NO TO NUCLEAR TESTING

- **Reject calls to resume explosive nuclear testing at any yield. Pass House Resolution 5894 (the RESTRAIN Act) and Senate Bill 3090 (the No Nuclear Testing Act).**

Since 1992, the United States has refrained from conducting explosive nuclear tests, maintaining a moratorium. In 1996 the U.S. signed (but never ratified) the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. However, in October 2025, President Trump announced on social media that “because of other countries' nuclear testing programs,” he wants the “Department of War to start testing our nuclear weapons on an equal basis.”

**A resumption of nuclear explosive testing poses grave human and environmental health threats caused by radioactive material in the air and groundwater.** Resumption of testing could disrupt global security, prompting other countries to test their nuclear weapons.

Brandon Williams, the Administrator of the NNSA, recommended reliance on scientific information rather than restarting nuclear testing at his confirmation hearing. When asked if he believes that the United States currently possesses the capabilities to ensure the stockpile is safe, secure, and reliable – without the need to resume nuclear explosive testing – he responded “yes.” Additionally, directors of the national labs and previous NNSA Administrator Jill Hruby repeatedly confirmed there was no need to return to nuclear testing. **Reject calls to resume explosive nuclear testing at any yield.**



*ANA, along with frontline Indigenous communities, advocating against the resumption of nuclear testing at the Nevada National Security Site in 2025.*

The government has not analyzed the environmental impacts that could result from explosive nuclear testing in Nevada as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. That analysis would have to be carried out before any test could take place. **Over 72% of Nevada voters oppose the resumption of underground testing of nuclear weapons.** The federal government should listen to the state of Nevada's concerns and not resume explosive nuclear testing.

**Representatives should co-sponsor and support House Resolution 5894, *The Renewing Efforts to Suspend Testing and Reinforce Arms Control Initiatives Now (RESTRAIN) Act* introduced by Rep. Titus (NV-1), which amends U.S. Code to insert a prohibition of explosive nuclear testing while simultaneously preventing any funding from going toward the Administration's effort to conduct explosive nuclear tests.**

**Senators can co-sponsor and support Senate Bill 3090, *The No Nuclear Testing Act of 2025*, introduced by Senator Markey (MA) that prohibits the use of funds for explosive nuclear testing.**



Nuclear weapons testing craters in Nevada  
Image courtesy: Atomic Heritage Foundation

**72%**  
**of Nevada voters oppose the resumption of underground nuclear weapons testing**

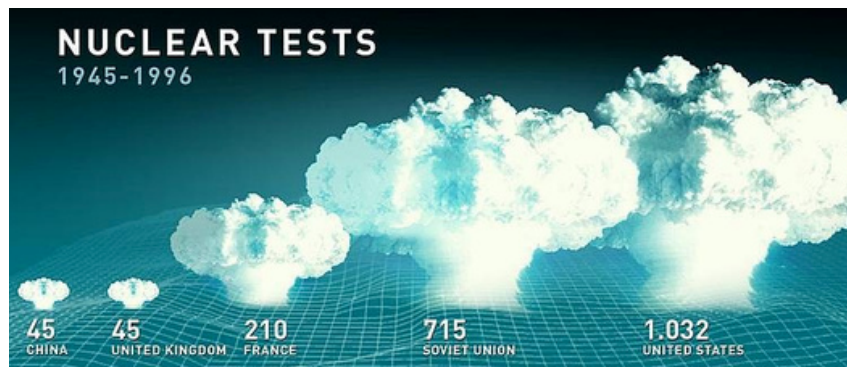


Image courtesy: American Security Project



March 1, 1954 "Castle Bravo" test by the United States is one of 67 known atmospheric nuclear tests in the Marshall Islands between 1946-1958, resulted in an ongoing legacy of death, illness, and contamination.

# 2026 CLEANUP & WASTE MANAGEMENT

## Fully Fund Cleanup, Protect *Everyone*

- Fully fund cleanup. Dramatically increase well-managed spending on cleanup now to save billions of dollars in the future. Stop paying to babysit waste; focus on comprehensive cleanup, not new “innovation” missions.
- Protect communities from radioactive & toxic contamination now & in the future. Transparency is critical.

We are calling on Congress to protect everyone by spending radically more on cleanup of the Cold War mess now to avoid exponentially higher costs in the future. The atomic workers and the downwind public must continue to receive funding to reimburse costs they have incurred and are incurring due to past weapons programs.

Most of DOE’s environmental liabilities are managed by the Environmental Management (EM) program, which addresses the legacy of contamination from the nuclear weapons complex. This includes managing thousands of contaminated facilities formerly used in the nuclear weapons program, overseeing the safe management of large quantities of radioactive waste and nuclear materials, and cleaning up large volumes of contaminated soil and water.

**U.S.  
Department of  
Energy  
Office of  
Environmental  
Management**

**Fiscal Year  
2027 Budget  
Request**



Image courtesy: USDOE EM

# 2026 CLEANUP & WASTE MANAGEMENT

## Fully Fund Cleanup, Protect Everyone

DOE chronically under-requests funding for cleanup in contrast to weapons production spending. Congress typically increases cleanup funding above the President's request. We're calling on Congress to do more. **By investing more taxpayer dollars in cleanup, Congress can reduce long-term costs and protect the health of future generations.** Estimated life-cycle costs have increased from \$475.2 billion in FY 2015 to \$1.032 trillion in FY 2027. **It is time to stop paying contractors to babysit waste sites.** Dramatically increased, well-managed spending on cleanup in the next few years will save billions in the future and protect the health of workers and the public. Spending money on new "innovation" missions will further delay cleanup and create more waste.

“

**Consistent, compliant funding will save taxpayers billions in the long term, complete cleanup decades sooner, and reduce the chance of a contamination release or infrastructure collapse.**

*Washington State Department of Ecology*

”

Despite the high price tag, the estimated environmental liabilities include the versions of cleanup that DOE can justify while leaving much of the waste behind. We want more cleanup, less shortcuts. For instance:

- **DOE wants to cap and cover Los Alamos's Materials Disposal Area C (MDA C) for ~\$12 million:** leaving the wastes above the regional aquifer forever.
- **The New Mexico Environment Department is requiring DOE to complete excavation of Area C for ~ \$805 million.** (\$790 million more than DOE has in its current estimate.)
- **DOE says they must defer cleanup at MDA C until at least 2080,** when pit production is complete.
- Instead of paying for this cleanup and getting it off the books, **this 50-year delay will substantially increase the total cost of cleaning up MDA C.**



# 2026 CLEANUP & WASTE MANAGEMENT

## Protect Environmental Laws

- **Require the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to maintain the long-standing scientific basis underpinning radiation protection standards. Don't weaken NRC or DOE controls over radioactive materials and wastes.**

As a result of Executive Orders 14300 and 14301 published in 2025, the NRC and DOE are weakening and proposing to weaken radiation protections.

The scientific community has been unanimous that there is no safe level of exposure to ionizing radiation and that every exposure could cause or contribute to cancer - both fatal and nonfatal.

Require the NRC to maintain this long-standing scientific basis underpinning radiation protection.

Do not allow the NRC and DOE to weaken protections that could result in higher legally allowable radiation exposure to the public and workers and more radioactive releases to our land, air, and water. If radiation protection standards are changing, they should be strengthened, not weakened.



Additionally, if NRC weakens its radiation protection standards, this could allow the deliberate release of radioactively contaminated materials into recycling streams.

“

...the human epidemiological evidence establishes—by any reasonable standard of proof—that there is no safe dose or dose-rate...the safe-dose hypothesis is not merely implausible—it is disproven.

*Dr. John W. Gofman*

”

# 2026 CLEANUP & WASTE MANAGEMENT

## Protect Environmental Laws

The “clearance” or release of radioactive waste was banned by Congress in 1992. By preventing the weakening of these radiation protection standards, Congress can keep radioactive contaminants from ending up in everyday household items like zippers, baby toys, cookware, and building materials unbeknownst to consumers.

NRC is proposing to weaken radiation standards (10 CFR 20) by:

1

Setting a determinant or clearance level of radiation that doesn't need regulatory control which *could allow radioactively contaminated materials to go into recycled metals and into everyday household items unbeknownst to consumers.*

2

Eliminating the linear no-threshold limit which says every amount of radiation can cause cancer and there is no level below which you are safe. If NRC eliminates this limit, *it will legalize higher human and environmental exposures to radiation and allow more radioactivity to flow into our air, water, and shared resources.*

3

Eliminating the ALARA (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) program which requires that doses of radiation to workers, public, and medical patients be kept as low as reasonably achievable.

- **Retain the ban on commercial recycling & release of metal from radioactive areas of Department of Energy sites.**

DOE has controls in place since 2000 which ban (suspension and moratorium) metal from radioactive areas of DOE sites from going into commercial recycling. **Please retain DOE's commitment to treat radioactive metal as waste—not raw materials for unregulated disposal or recycling** that could end up in everyday household items like frying pans, belt buckles, jewelry, and baby furniture.

**Protect environmental laws,**  
 **reject these changes.**

“

The elimination of ALARA protections is likely to **increase radiation exposures to workers and weaken cleanup standards** at contaminated sites where DOE has binding legal requirements.

[NukeWatch New Mexico](#)

”



**Learn more** about the implications of weakening radiation protection standards!

# 2026 CLEANUP & WASTE MANAGEMENT

## Stop Making Long-Lasting, Intensely Radioactive Waste No Funding for New Reactors, No Reprocessing, No Subsidies

- **Don't Fund Massive Nuclear Centers** (So-called "Nuclear Innovation hubs")

As of early 2026, DOE is pursuing the establishment of Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campuses, often termed "nuclear hubs" or "nuclear mini cities." These massive nuclear centers could combine nuclear reactors, high-level nuclear waste storage, & reprocessing facilities in one site.

**Congress should refuse to provide funding for Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campuses** for the following reasons:

- The "hubs" are a thinly veiled effort to lure states and communities into agreeing to nuclear waste dumps.
- The "hubs" increase proliferation risks by concentrating nuclear activities in one location.
- The "nuclear hubs" initiative paves the way for illegal consolidated nuclear waste storage sites (CIS). When host states agree to store nuclear waste they may not realize the waste could stay forever, since there is no plan or location for permanent disposal.
- The "hubs" create new deadly waste streams, which require long-term monitoring forever to keep chemical and radioactive contamination out of our water, wildlife, and shared resources.
- The "hubs" are likely to disproportionately burden low-income and/or Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities with high-level nuclear waste storage facilities.



Additionally, DOE adopted a policy that would allow building and running nuclear reactors without NRC-licensing—which violates the Atomic Energy Act. **Reverse DOE's adoption of categorical exclusions in permitting nuclear reactors on DOE property.** Reaffirm the requirement of NRC-licensing for all nuclear power reactors and related fuel chain facilities.



# 2026 CLEANUP & WASTE MANAGEMENT

## Stop Making Long-Lasting, Intensely Radioactive Waste

- **No funding or subsidies for new nuclear reactors or restart of closed reactors, which are dangerous and embrittled.**

Nuclear power is extraordinarily expensive and creates radioactive waste which poses a forever threat to human & environmental health. All costs involved in building new nuclear power & weapons facilities need to be factored in, including the cost of isolating the radioactive waste in perpetuity, and the cost to human health & safety. **When nuclear's true cost is revealed, it doesn't make sense.**

**Subsidies & bailouts mask the prohibitive cost of nuclear power.**

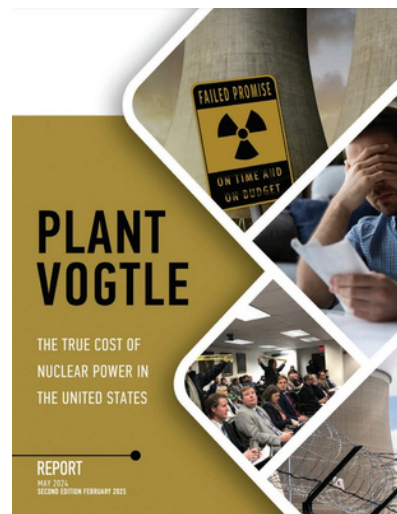
New nuclear reactors are a bad idea. The lead "Small Modular Reactor" (SMR) development scheme — NuScale's SMR in Idaho — was cancelled. Most other SMR designs have yet to be certified, despite large federal subsidies. SMRs are repeating the failure of the large-scale reactor building "renaissance" (relapse) during the George W. Bush administration: of three-dozen proposed reactors, only two slogged into operation. **Vogtle 3 and 4 in Georgia arrived 7 years behind schedule; their price tag more than doubled since 2012, from \$15 billion to \$38 billion.**

Reactor license extensions pose catastrophic risks in the short and long-term. A growing number of reactors are applying for "subsequent license renewal," for 80-years of operations, twice their initial 40-year licenses. Once approved, **age-related degradation risks of reactor core meltdowns increase dramatically** and reactors continue to generate more metric tons of irradiated fuel. **Nuclear reactor license extensions should be denied.**



Dangerous zombie reactor restarts that don't correct safety defects & technical flaws need to **STOP.**

**Reactor meltdown and irradiated fuel risks increase when restarting closed, age-degraded reactors.** Holtec requested \$8.3 billion in public bailouts to restart Palisades in Michigan, while ignoring extreme safety risks at the 60-year old reactor. Holtec has also requested more than \$7 billion in federal subsidies to build new small nuclear reactors at Palisades, bringing the total to more than \$15 billion. **\$3.52 billion has been awarded to Holtec so far in bailouts and subsidies.** Three Mile Island Unit 1 in Pennsylvania and Duane Arnold in Iowa, are also being threatened with reopening.



2025 Report by Georgia WAND, Nuclear Watch South & Cool Planet Solutions [truthaboutvogtle.com](http://truthaboutvogtle.com)

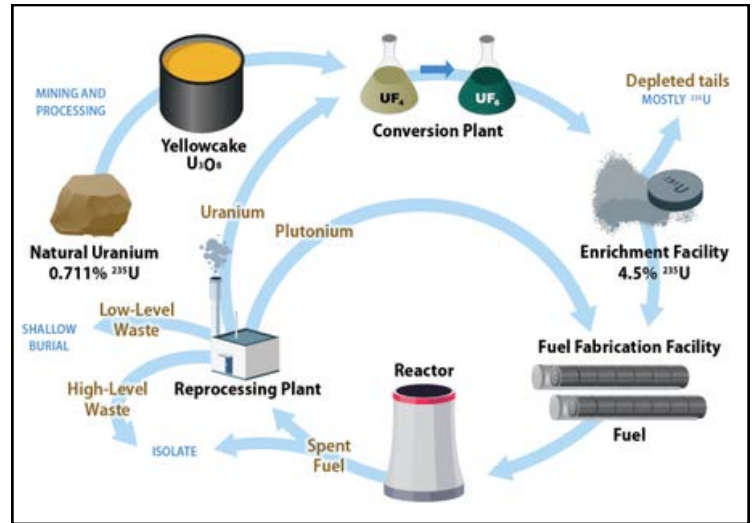
**Subsidies mask the prohibitive cost of nuclear power.** As reported by Nuclear Information and Research Service (NIRS), nuclear power subsidies in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (\$383 billion) are larger than the law's climate spending (\$369 billion). **Nuclear power costs too much, takes too long, and makes too much radioactive waste.** Nuclear power creates more problems than it solves.

# 2026 CLEANUP & WASTE MANAGEMENT

## Stop Making Long-Lasting, Intensely Radioactive Waste

- **No funding for reprocessing.**

Reprocessing is mischaracterized as 'recycling' but this is not accurate. Irradiated or 'spent' fuel (from the reactor core) is reprocessed by disassembling the rods, chopping them up, and dissolving them in chemicals to separate the uranium and plutonium from the hundreds of other radioactive isotopes that were created while the fuel was in the core. The fuel is so radioactive that reprocessing must be carried out remotely behind leaded glass. Unshielded exposure is lethal within minutes.



**Radioactive Waste At Every Step**

Source: U.S. Government Accountability Office, Commercial Spent Nuclear Fuel - Congressional Action Needed to Break Impasse and Develop a Permanent Disposal Solution, GAO-21-603, 2021.

Reprocessing facilities extensively contaminate the surrounding environment and create many new and deadly waste streams such as radioactive salt cake, transuranic wastes, liquid high-level waste, toxic chemicals, and sludge which must then be contained and isolated forever.

Irradiated or "spent" nuclear fuel makes up only about 1% of the total volume of all radioactive wastes generated in the U.S., but it contains about 95% of the radioactivity. The use of spent fuel with higher concentrations of uranium, such as high-burnup fuel and High-Assay Low-Enriched Uranium (HALEU), will result in even more concentrated waste. The hot fission products like radioactive cesium and strontium, stay dangerous for hundreds of years and cause cancer, heart disease, reduced immunity, genetic damage, and birth defects. **Don't waste our tax dollars on reprocessing; it is NOT recycling and it makes the radioactive waste problem worse.**



### Reprocessing makes the waste problem worse:

- more worker exposures;
- more high-level radioactive waste in the land, water, & food chain;
- more waste streams to manage & isolate forever.

Reprocessing facilities extensively contaminate the surrounding environment, creating new & deadly waste streams.

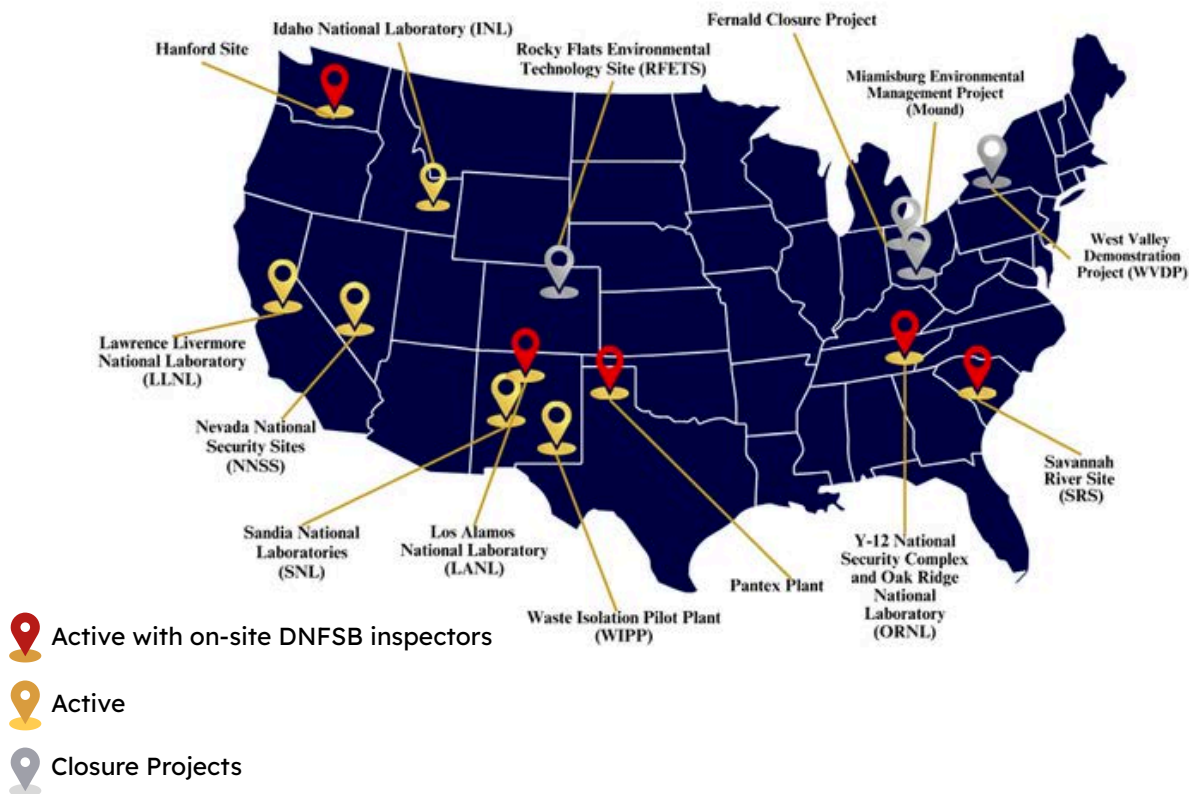


# 2026 CLEANUP & WASTE MANAGEMENT PROTECT THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD (DNFSB)

- Ensure full funding authorization (at least \$45 million) in the National Defense Authorization Act and that full funding is appropriated.
- Senate Armed Services Committee members should recommend at least three nominees to the White House and confirm qualified new board members to ensure a quorum of the Board

The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB or Board) is an independent organization within the executive branch of the Federal Government. The DNFSB is chartered with the responsibility to provide recommendations and advice to the Secretary of Energy regarding public health and safety issues at DOE defense nuclear facilities, including with respect to the health and safety of employees and contractors. Congress established the Board in 1988 in response to longtime, ongoing concerns about the level of health and safety protection that DOE was providing the public and workers at defense nuclear facilities, including concerns from ANA groups.

**DOE Sites with Defense Nuclear Facilities**



# 2026 CLEANUP & WASTE MANAGEMENT

## PROTECT THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD (DNFSB)

There are five positions on the Board for experts in the field of nuclear safety with demonstrated competence and knowledge relevant to its independent investigative and oversight functions. Since October 18, 2025, the Board has been reduced to just one member – Dr. Patricia L. Lee. Thus, **the Board lacks a quorum and cannot make recommendations to DOE, hold hearings, or carry out other activities.** The Senate Armed Services Committee should encourage the White House to make nominations. Qualified nominees should be approved by that Committee and the entire Senate.

The Board receives its funding authorization through the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and its appropriation in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill. The NDAA should authorize at least \$45 million for FY 2027 and Congress should appropriate at least that amount of funding, which is included in the President’s Budget Request.

**We're all safer because of the**

**DNFSB**

**BUT**

**Without quorum, the DNFSB can't provide recommendations to the Secretary of Energy to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety at defense nuclear facilities, including the health and safety of employees and contractors.**

As the U.S. continues its nuclear weapons modernization plans, including the plan to produce new plutonium pits (the plutonium trigger at the core of all nuclear weapons), the DNFSB provides essential independent analysis and expert recommendations to DOE. The Board ensures accountability in regard to safety standards and increased public transparency during this dangerous expansion. **Board recommendations have also resulted in saving millions of dollars by preventing accidents and providing a basis to modify or not build facilities.**

Maintaining a Board quorum preserves the DNFSB’s ability to issue formal recommendations, impose reporting requirements, and conduct hearings, thus ensuring that DOE avoids accidents and remains accountable. ANA has supported the DNFSB since its beginnings and has relied on its reports, recommendations and public transparency to supplement our calls for safety and accountability across the sites it oversees. At this dangerous time of rapid program expansion to carry out nuclear weapons modernization, the DNFSB’s work is more important than ever!

# ANA Member Groups

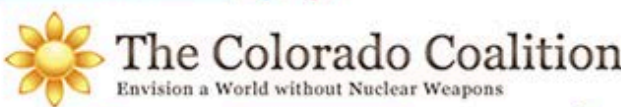
- Beyond Nuclear
- Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League
- Colorado Coalition for the Prevention of Nuclear War
- Columbia Riverkeeper
- Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety
- Don't Waste Michigan
- Fernald Residents for Environmental Safety and Health
- Georgia Women's Action for New Directions
- Hanford Challenge
- Heart of America Northwest
- Justpeace
- Marshallese Educational Initiative
- Miamisburg Environmental Safety & Health
- Native Community Action Council
- Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
- Nuclear Energy Information Services
- Nuclear Watch New Mexico
- Nuclear Watch South
- Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance
- Parents Against Santa Susana Field Laboratory
- Peace Action
- Peace Farm
- Peaceworks Kansas City
- Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR)
  - PSR Los Angeles
  - PSR Kansas City
- Portsmouth/Piketon Residents for Environmental Safety and Security
- Rocky Mountain Peace & Justice Center
- Savannah River Site Watch
- Snake River Alliance
- Southwest Research & Information Center
- Tri-Valley Communities Against a Radioactive Environment
- Women's Action for New Directions
- Women's International League for Peace & Freedom



## Friends of ANA

- Institute for Energy and Environmental Research
- Lawyer's Committee on Nuclear Policy
- Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment
- Nuclear Free Hawai'i
- Nuclear Information and Resource Service
- San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace
- Social and Environmental Research Institute
- Western States Legal Foundation

# DC DAYS 2026



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