We Call for Sanity, Not Nuclear Production

New Mexico’s two nuclear weapons labs lead the world in spending for weapons of mass destruction. But as the labs have grown, our state’s relative economic standing has declined and now trails almost all other states. We are consistently ranked at or near the bottom of all states in overall child well-being.

We cannot build our society, nurture our children, inspire our youth, or improve our communities by investing in apocalyptic nightmares.

At Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), plutonium warhead core (“pit”) production is slated to begin in about 2024 (one pit) and slowly ramp up to about 30 “war reserve” pits per year in the early 2030s, long before any “need” for new pits. No new pits are needed during this period to maintain US nuclear weapons. LANL’s pit production program is required only for producing new warheads as soon as possible.

We call upon our elected officials to:

- Oppose plutonium warhead core (“pit”) production at LANL first and foremost, but also elsewhere.
- Oppose the design, testing, and production of new and “upgraded” nuclear weapons.
- Prioritize removal and disposal of legacy plutonium waste from LANL over production of additional nuclear waste from nuclear weapons.
- Choose human security, community resilience, and environmental protection over nuclear weapons production and our bloated military. We can no longer delay.

We must use every opportunity, at every level of government, to prioritize human needs, invest in our communities, and build a more just and sustainable society.

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LANL and NNSA seek to expand into surrounding communities, including Santa Fe, Bernalillo, and as is likely, the Indian Pueblos, for parking lots. Office and conference space has been leased in Santa Fe; pit production training space has been leased in Los Alamos. "Light" lab space is being sought, as well as warehousing, construction laydown areas, and trailer parks for construction crews. New parking lots capable of feeding dozens of coach-class buses are said to be needed, as LANL has announced plans to bring 2,000 – 3,000 people to the site daily by bus, to alleviate some of the road congestion LANL is causing. Skilled labor shortages and the inadequacy of the site’s infrastructure and its safety continue. LANL may move some classified office and lab work off-site to “mini-campuses” in Santa Fe and/or Bernalillo, unless LANL is stopped.