

Please join us in calling for “sanity, not nuclear production”

Hundreds of businesses, organizations, and individuals have joined. Go to stopthebomb.org to add your name!

We enter the holiday season with the scale of northern New Mexico’s commitment to manufacturing plutonium warhead cores (“pits”) hanging in the balance. Our state’s commitment will either increase gradually – or dramatically if the Senate gets its way – or it will decrease, as awareness of certain realities dawns and opposition grows.

If plutonium pits become the region’s “hard” signature activity and product, alongside its “soft” products of tourism and art, we can expect continued or even increased inequality, loss of political sovereignty, and social decline. State government would continue to be enthralled with other so-called “high-tech,” high-risk industries which take much and offer little, such as resource-squandering data centers that ultimately employ almost nobody.

“We have had the bomb on our minds since 1945. It was first our weaponry and then our diplomacy, and now it’s our economy. How can we suppose that something so monstrously powerful would not, after years, compose our identity?” (E.L. Doctorow)

To renew New Mexico will require political values and leadership qualities that exist only on the margins today.

The primary purpose of this series of ads is to help citizens understand the momentous decisions at hand regarding the future of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Citizen understanding and action comprise one of the few only available counterbalances to the immense political influence of the “(nuclear-)military industrial complex,” to paraphrase Eisenhower.

“Only he who knows the empire of might and knows how not to respect it is capable of love and justice.” (Simone Weil)

Please endorse The Call for Sanity, Not Nuclear Production!
Go to stopthebomb.org, or scan this QR code

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.

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.**



The New Mexico delegation. Will they remain reliable votes for the nuclear-military industrial complex? This complex eats half the U.S. discretionary budget, undercutting human development even as it incurs unpayable debt and fosters foreign wars.

You can find this and prior ads at <https://lasg.org/LASG-ads.html>. We hope you will read and use the facts and the arguments we present in your own outreach and letters. **First and foremost, we hope you will join with us and others in opposing the new arms race, in which LANL pits are meant to be a central enabling element, by endorsing the Call at stopthebomb.org.**

There are plans to further increase LANL production

As of this writing, congressional negotiations over the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) are not quite complete. **If the Senate version prevails – and this will likely be decided by this week or next – the required scale of plutonium pit production near Santa Fe would more than double.** Actual production may be far less.

The Senate NDAA would delay by one year LANL’s pit production requirement of 30 pits by next September, easing LANL’s embarrassment while securing the LANL contract and protecting management bonuses. **LANL’s out-year production requirements would be increased to at least 50 per year by 2029 and at least 80 per year by 2032.**

The House version left LANL’s production goals unchanged.

The Senate would not have proposed this without an underlying plan from the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and LANL. This means everything NNSA and LANL have said to date about keeping LANL production at “30” pits per year is false. The Senate’s proposed deadlines are impossible without a pre-planned crash program at LANL that goes beyond anything revealed to date.

This has happened before. NNSA and LANL assured the public for a decade that the building now called PF-400 would never be a nuclear facility. Now it is one.

Is LANL drifting toward what Heinrich and Udall wanted in 2017/18: the whole pit mission? Or is the mission itself expanding? **What does each member of New Mexico’s delegation want, at this point?** Our news media never asks.

NM’s infrastructure needs vs. LANL’s plutonium factory

U.S. News and World Report ranks NM 42nd among the states in infrastructure quality.

Many billions of dollars are needed to repair and improve NM’s roads (which are terrible), dams, bridges, water supplies, schools, and electrical grid. We need rural hospitals and better public transportation and much more.

Yet as far as we can tell, annual federal spending on all these and many other infrastructure needs in NM is roughly equal to what LANL is spending just on its pit factory. This factory, if it is built, will end up costing taxpayers about \$25 billion over the years 2005-2032, using NNSA’s actual and projected costs. It’s costing almost \$2 B per year.

We desperately need much different federal priorities, in NM and overall.

How does this compare with the costs of acquiring our public infrastructure in the first place? In constant dollars, building all three of NM’s interstate highways cost less than half as much as LANL’s pit factory. The recently completed critical care tower at UNM Hospital cost \$842 million, just 3% of LANL’s factory. Each one of the big infrastructure projects in NM’s history cost 1-2% of what LANL will spend on its factory, in constant dollars.

Zooming out, the U.S. spends roughly \$7,600 per household on “national defense,” including nuclear weapons. *Our society will never thrive under this crippling burden.*

Elected officials who consistently prioritize nuclear weapons spending over human needs should not be in government.

We want public statements from the NM delegation opposing new nuclear weapons, supporting extension of the New START treaty, and asking for an end to LANL pit production. Absent such statements, we will know exactly where they stand.

New START is due to expire on Feb. 6, 2026 unless it is extended (as Russia has offered) or renewed as-is, with contentious issues shifted to later negotiations.

We want you to request those statements from them.

Our political system provides only two ways to get rid of elected officials who insist upon representing the interests of nuclear weapons contractors over the needs of New Mexicans. They can be voted out in primaries or they can be voted out in general elections.

There is a legal obligation to negotiate disarmament

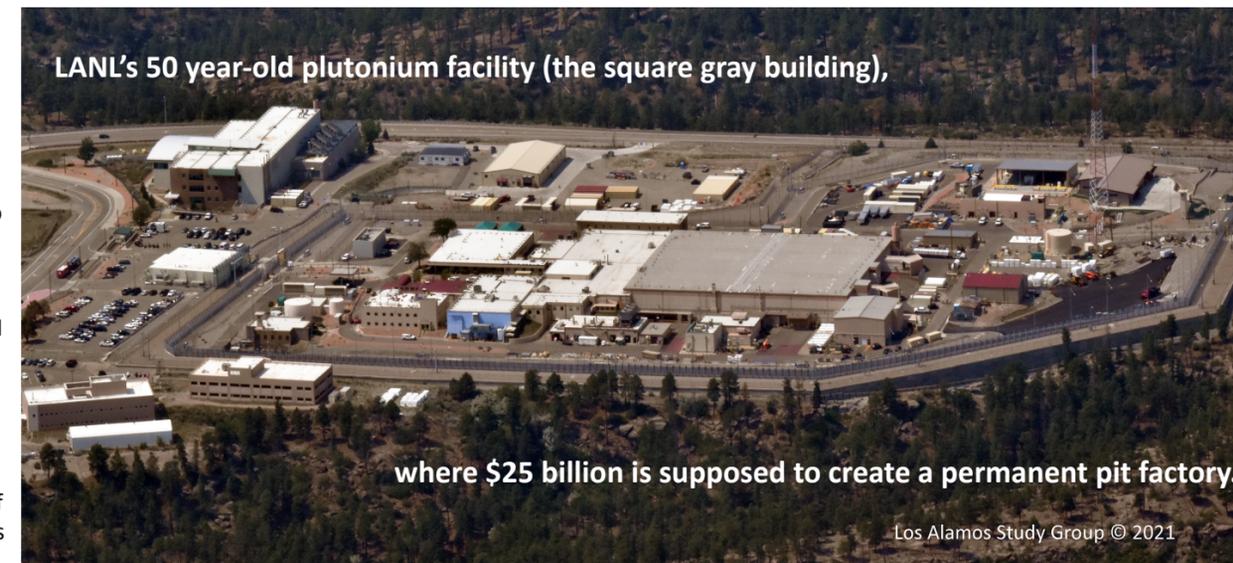
The U.S. is an original signatory of the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). Our Constitution says that such treaties, like acts of Congress, are part of “the supreme Law of the Land.” Article VI of the NPT reads:

Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes 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, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.

Regarding this, in 1996 the International Court of Justice in The Hague ruled unanimously that:

There exists an obligation to pursue in good faith *and bring to a conclusion* negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control. (emphasis added)

Notwithstanding the laws authorizing and funding nuclear weapons, when new law is made – as in this year’s NDAA and funding bills – we must ask whether those we elect



LANL’s 50 year-old plutonium facility (the square gray building),

where \$25 billion is supposed to create a permanent pit factory.

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are cognizant of their moral and legal obligations to protect their constituents and indeed all life from the existential dangers posed by a nuclear arms race.

LET’S WORK TOGETHER TO STOP NUCLEAR WEAPONS

We seldom ask for financial support. This the time of year when we must do so. You can simply mail a check (our address is below), or securely contribute on-line at <https://lasg.org/contribute.htm>, where you can also see other ways to give. Growing a campaign takes money. To those who have already contributed this year – thank you!

Other ways you can help turn the tide:

• Scan the QR code at left or go to stopthebomb.org to endorse the “Call for Sanity, not Nuclear Production”;

• Recruit organizations, businesses, religious organizations and individuals to this Call. Start with your friends!

• Write the members of our delegation asking for statements from them 1) opposing new nuclear weapons, 2) supporting extension of New START, and 3) asking to end LANL pit production before it even starts. Make your letter public however you can – for example on social media.

• Write letters to newspaper editors and other community leaders expressing your opposition to LANL’s wasteful and destructive pit factory. Get the word out as publicly as possible!

• Sign up for email bulletins. Send a blank email to lasg-subscribe@lists.riseup.net.

Thank you for your support!

Los Alamos Study Group, 2901 Summit Place NE, ABQ, NM 87106
<https://lasg.org>

Nuclear disarmament • Environmental, economic, and social resilience • Peace, not war

