

Lynn, Therese Ballet, Ph.D.

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Hartman, Gary S

From: LynnBallet@aol.com  
 Sent: Friday, February 23, 2001 9:42 AM  
 To: Y12EIS  
 Subject: Y-12

Dear Gary Hartman,

The last thing the United States needs is a new bomb-making facility.

President Bush campaigned on a platform that included unilateral cuts in nuclear weapons.

In Oak Ridge (where I frequently went when we lived in Tennessee, the African American Scarboro community sits less than 1/2 mile from the Y-12 plant. The Scarboro community's soil, tested in 1998 (after the plant was on stand down for four years!) showed elevated levels of highly enriched uranium in the surface of the soils, in people's yards!

In the name of sanity and justice, do not proceed with this project.

Therese Ballet Lynn, Ph.D.

1/16

2/13

1/16 (cont.)

**Comment No. 1**

**Issue Code: 16**

Comment noted. There is no plan or proposal in the Y-12 SWEIS to build a new bomb plant or manufacture new nuclear weapons. In accordance with Section 91 of the *Atomic Energy Act*, DOE carries out its mission (i.e., atomic weapons activities) consistent with the consent of and direction from the President and Congress. This consent of and direction are contained in the Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Memorandum, which is updated annually. The issue of whether DOE should produce nuclear weapons and the actions of elected officials are beyond the scope of the Y-12 SWEIS.

Since the end of the Cold War, the United States has significantly reduced the size of the nuclear weapons stockpile, and DOE has dismantled more than 15,000 nuclear weapons. At the present time, the United States is further downsizing the nuclear weapons stockpile consistent with the terms of START I and the recently ratified START II. Although Russia suspended its nuclear weapons dismantlement activities on January 20, 2001, DOE has continued its weapons dismantlement activities. Dismantlement of nuclear weapons and environmental cleanup are ongoing activities at Y-12 (see Sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2.2, respectively).

**Comment No. 2**

**Issue Code: 13**

The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies (Center) (see Section D.6.3, Volume II) has reviewed the Scarboro Community Environmental Study along with other recent studies that pertained to the Scarboro Community. The Center has found that "The concentration of radioactive materials, mercury, and other metals of environmental concern in Scarboro soils do not exceed the concentrations in soils reported in the background study conducted at ORR, upper Anderson County, and lower Roane County." The potential radiation dose estimated for uranium in Scarboro soils is a very small fraction of the level of radiation that an average American receives in a year, suggesting that Scarboro residents are not at increased risk of health problems due to uranium (see Conclusions section of *Joint Center Summary Number 3 "Scarboro Community Environmental Study"*).