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US Dept of Energy
Oak Ridge Operations, DP-80
P O Box 2001
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Dear Sirs / Madams

I am alarmed and disillusioned by the proposed "upgrade" of the Y-12 so-called National Security Complex. I wish to add my voice in the movement negative on this project. The US has exhibited an appalling lack of leadership in issues of nuclear arms production. Our country ought to be pursuing and serious exploring ways of drastically reducing our nuclear arms toward a complete divestment, and not upgrading and increasing them as is now happening. In addition to the so-called National Missile Defense, the upgrade of Y-12 is in the complete wrong direction.

I would strongly favor a large investment in Y-12 as a plant at which nuclear arms are disarmed and decommissioned,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the issue.

Sincerely,

Franz McLeller

1/16

Comment No. 1

Issue Code: 16

Comment noted. Since the end of the Cold War, the United States has significantly reduced the size of its nuclear weapons stockpile, and DOE has dismantled more than 15,000 nuclear weapons. At the present time, the United States is further downsizing its deployed nuclear weapons stockpile consistent with the terms of the START I and START II. Although Russia suspended its nuclear weapons dismantlement activities on January 20, 2001, DOE has continued its weapons dismantlement activities. While future arms control reductions may change requirements for maintaining the weapons stockpile, DOE is responsible for meeting the current requirements set forth by the President and Congress. The need for nuclear weapons and the issue of how many nuclear weapons the United States maintains in its nuclear arsenal are beyond the scope of the Y-12 SWEIS.

Modernization of Y-12 is seen as necessary in order to maximize the attainment of worker and public health and safety as well as efficiency and cost effectiveness. The actions at Y-12 emphasize downsizing based on reduced nuclear weapons stockpile requirements, weapons dismantlement, safety, and cost effectiveness.