

Thompson, Erik

Las Vegas, NV

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Hartman, Gary S

From: Echik57@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 07, 2001 3:13 PM
To: Y12EIS
Subject: Against new Oak Ridge Facility

I strongly object to all efforts by the US government to develop new nuclear weapons facilities, including the one at Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

I believe such activities to be illegal under international law, wasteful of our human and financial resources, immoral, and impractical. (For the latter, see comments by Retired General Lee Butler, former head of the Strategic Command.)

I wish the EIS could quantify the benefits purported to be achieved in light of the costs to international security by continuing the nuclear arms industry.

Sincerely,
Erik Thompson
Las Vegas, NV

1/16

Comment No. 1

Issue Code: 16

Comment noted. Parties to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty agree not to directly or indirectly transfer nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices or control over them to any recipient; and not to in any way assist, encourage, or induce nonnuclear weapon states to manufacture or alter use, or acquire nuclear weapons, or alter nuclear explosive devices or control over them. Continuation of the Y-12 mission, and construction and operation of the HEU Materials Facility and Special Materials Complex by the United States does not conflict with such an agreement. The proposed action, which includes continuing weapons dismantlement activities at Y-12, fully supports the goals of Article VI of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, in which signatory nations agree to work toward total disarmament.

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. DOE is responsible for meeting the current requirements set forth by the President and Congress. Discussion of the need for nuclear weapons is beyond the scope of the Y-12 SWEIS.