

Worth, Louise M.

Comer, GA

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PO Box 68
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Dear Mr. Hartman;

I want to comment on the environmental impact statement for the proposed Y-12 National Security Complex.

I feel that there is no need, politically, militarily, or strategically, for new bomb manufacturing operations. Y-12 violates non-proliferation goals.

The Y-12 refuses to address many critical issues. Risk scenarios based on safety claims can not be believed.

The Y-12 EIS should address the larger questions around trade-offs for an investment of \$4 billion in a new bomb plant!

Most sincerely,
Louise M. Worth

1/16

2/14

3/16

Comment No. 1

Issue Code: 16

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 and direction are contained in the Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Memorandum, which is updated annually. The issue of whether DOE should produce nuclear weapons is beyond the scope of the Y-12 SWEIS.

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. The proposed action and alternatives analyzed in the Y-12 SWEIS address the continued operation of the assigned nuclear weapons stockpile management requirement of Y-12. There is no plan or proposal to expand capabilities or to increase nuclear weapons production at Y-12.

Comment No. 2

Issue Code: 14

DOE believes that it has adequately addressed public health and safety impacts that could result from implementing the various alternatives. Volume I, Chapter 5, Section 5.12 of the Y-12 SWEIS addresses impacts to health and safety from the proposed alternatives. Volume II, Appendices D and E provide further detailed analyses

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Comment No. 2 (cont.)

Issue Code: 14

related to human health effects from normal operations/facility accidents and air quality, respectively.

Appendix A discusses the actions taken at specific facilities at Y-12 in response to fire and worker safety issues. Worker safety is always first priority at Y-12. (See also response to Comment No. 26 on page 217.)

Comment No. 3

Issue Code: 16

DOE is responsible for meeting the current requirements set forth by the President and Congress in the Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Memorandum, which is updated annually. The need for nuclear weapons and alternative uses of the Nation's funds are beyond the scope of the Y-12 SWEIS.