

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

COMPLEX TRANSFORMATION
DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL PROGRAMMATIC
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (SPEIS)
PUBLIC HEARINGS
National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)
U.S. Department of Energy

New Hope Center
Oak Ridge, Tennessee

February 26, 2008
Evening Session

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

INTRODUCTION BY MR. BARRY LAWSON 3

OPENING COMMENTS BY MR. TOM SHERRY 4

PURPOSE AND FORMAT BY MR. BARRY LAWSON 5

FORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC 11

CLOSING COMMENTS BY MR. BARRY LAWSON 95

LIST OF SPEAKERS 97

(Note: Unless provided to the court reporter, all names are spelled to the best phonetic approximation.)

1 INTRODUCTION

2 FACILITATOR MR. BARRY LAWSON

3 Good evening and thank you all for taking time
4 to participate in this important public hearing on the
5 National Nuclear Security Administration's Supplemental
6 Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (SPEIS) or
7 Supplemental PEIS for the transformation of the nation's
8 Nuclear Weapons Complex.

9 I hope you had an opportunity to browse the
10 displays and talk to project staff during the just
11 completed open house. If not, there will be other
12 opportunities before you leave this evening.

13 My name is Barry Lawson, and I'm pleased to
14 serve as moderator for this hearing. My roles this
15 afternoon and this evening are to ensure, number one, that
16 each person has an opportunity to obtain information about
17 the proposed program and to provide your comments and also
18 that everybody observes a few basic ground rules intended
19 to provide for fair and respectful participation by all.

20 As you can tell, seated in front of me we have
21 two signers Holly and Brian Tipman, and we are pleased to
22 have them joining us this evening. And they will be here
23 I guess for the duration.

24 At this point before we go on I'd like to
25 introduce to you Ted Sherry, who is the Site Office

1 Manager here at Oak Ridge, for some greetings and opening
2 comments.

3 OPENING COMMENTS

4 BY MR. SHERRY

5 Thank you, Barry.

6 Good evening and welcome to today's public
7 hearing on the NNSA's Supplemental Programmatic
8 Environmental Impact Statement (SPEIS).

9 I would like to take a moment to acknowledge our
10 local and regional elected officials and representatives.

11 First, we have Gina Broome with Congressman Zack
12 Wamp's office.

13 Where did she go? She's back there.

14 And Gary Human with the State of Tennessee's
15 Department of Economic & Community Development. I saw
16 Gary earlier.

17 And also we have several City Council members.
18 We have Jane Miller, Mayor Pro Tem, and Charlie Hensley,
19 also on the City Council.

20 Again, welcome to all.

21 This is the second set of 19 public hearings
22 being conducted in communities across and near NNSA sites.
23 The purpose is to get your comments and inputs on the
24 analysis, environmental impacts and on the alternatives of
25 the Draft SPEIS. We have a preferred alternative, but no

1 decisions have been made.

2 This Draft Programmatic EIS is a key part of the
3 NNSA Complex Transformation. This SPEIS focuses on the
4 infrastructure changes. This Draft SPEIS builds upon the
5 good work that has been done and is currently underway.

6 The preferred alternative would result in
7 significant transformational changes here at Y-12, and
8 these include a 90 percent reduction in the high security
9 area, 60 percent reduction in the footprint for nuclear
10 operations, and a 50 percent reduction in the total
11 building footprint here at Y-12.

12 This is possible because of our talented
13 workforce, all working to make this site more safe, more
14 secure and responsive, cost effective and less expensive.

15 Again, I welcome your comments on this Draft
16 SPEIS, and I realize you all have taken off time today to
17 come here and provide us your input, so this is extremely
18 important to you and also to us.

19 Thank you.

20 FORMAT AND PURPOSE

21 BY MR. BARRY LAWSON

22 Great. Thanks.

23 As you signed in at the registration table this
24 evening, you should have received a participant's packet
25 which contains information on the transformation of the

1 Nuclear Weapons Complex.

2 There are two parts to this hearing, the
3 informal segment began with the open house and continues
4 after my remarks with a brief welcome video by Mr. Robert
5 Smolen, who is the Deputy Administrator for Defense
6 Programs, and then a 20-minute presentation by Ted Wyka,
7 who is the Supplemental PEIS Document Manager.

8 Mr. Wyka will discuss the Complex Transformation
9 Project and the contents of the Supplemental PEIS.

10 The formal segment of tonight's program will
11 begin following Mr. Wyka's presentation. During that
12 formal segment members of the public will be called to
13 make oral comments on the Supplemental PEIS.

14 The court reporter will then begin making a
15 verbatim record of your comments. There will be no
16 exchange of questions and answers. An NNSA official will
17 be here to listen to your comments but will not be
18 engaging in dialogue.

19 If you wish to make an oral comment during the
20 formal comment segment, you will need to have signed up at
21 the registration table if you haven't already.

22 I will be recognizing speakers as their names
23 appear on the registration list that will be provided to
24 me when we begin the formal segment. The ground rules for
25 speakers provide additional information on providing those

1 oral comments.

2 In the formal session you will be allotted two
3 minutes or three -- a maximum of three each to make your
4 comments. I urge you to make your oral comments concise
5 and to the point of the content of the PEIS.

6 If you have a longer written statement, please
7 summarize those comments orally and submit the written
8 document in its entirety. If you believe you will need
9 more than the allotted time, let me know, and if there is
10 time remaining after everyone else has had a chance to
11 speak once, I'll be pleased to provide you with additional
12 time. We will be here to take all of your comments.

13 Now, that's it for the agenda and the hearing
14 format. Are there any questions? Okay. Great.

15 I thank you in advance for your cooperation in
16 making this a productive and respectful hearing, and I
17 look forward to your participation.

18 Now, for the eight-minute video to be followed
19 directly by Mr. Wyka's presentation, and then we'll begin
20 the formal segment.

21 (The video was shown, not reported.)

22 (Mr. Wyka gave his presentation, not reported.)

23 MR. BARRY LAWSON

24 Okay. Before we go forward, I've been reminded
25 that the Fire Code does not allow people to sit in the

1 aisles, as comfortable as it seems. So I have to ask you
2 to either stand in the back or take one of the seats that
3 are available in the auditorium.

4 Sorry about that, but laws are laws. There are
5 plenty of seats available throughout. We will take a
6 minute or two to get people settled, if you'd like.

7 Okay. I need to have a few words into the
8 public record before we begin with your formal comments,
9 and just be patient with me.

10 This portion of our hearing is officially
11 designated as the Oak Ridge Public Hearing for the
12 National Nuclear Security Administration Supplemental PEIS
13 for the Complex Transformation Program.

14 This hearing is being held in the evening of
15 February 26th in the New Hope Center in Oak Ridge. It's
16 being held to receive comments on the contents of the
17 Supplemental PEIS.

18 And we are commencing the public comment portion
19 of this hearing at 7:45 p.m. and are scheduled to adjourn
20 once all participants have had a chance to make their
21 comments.

22 Each speaker will have between two and three
23 minutes. Now, let me explain that. I would love to have
24 you have more time. We have nearly 50 speakers who have
25 signed up already. If you do the math, you can see we

1 could be here for some time. So I'm going to ask you to
2 try to keep your comments within two minutes. If you hit
3 two minutes and you're still going, I will give you a
4 brief reminder to ask you to finish up in 30 seconds if
5 you would. And in no cases would I really appreciate
6 going beyond three minutes so that we can get everybody
7 in.

8 I also have been told, although this will not
9 influence me, that UT has a basketball game in which some
10 of you may have an interest.

11 (Laughter)

12 This hearing was preceded by a presentation by
13 NNSA's PEIS Document Manager, Mr. Ted Wyka. Mr. Wyka will
14 represent the NNSA in listening to and accepting your
15 comments.

16 For the record, my name is Barry Lawson. I have
17 been asked by NNSA to conduct this comment period, and as
18 an independent and neutral moderator I will ensure that
19 the ground rules reviewed earlier in the evening are
20 followed.

21 Our court reporter this evening is Lynda Clark,
22 who is seated over here in the middle section. Her task
23 is to create a complete and accurate transcription of this
24 hearing.

25 NNSA will place copies of the transcript from

1 this and other public hearings in its Freedom of
2 Information Act designated reading rooms as soon as
3 practicable.

4 If you wish to make oral comments tonight, you
5 must have first signed up at the registration table. I
6 will recognize speakers in the order in which they have
7 registered, allowing elected federal and state officials,
8 if any, to go upfront.

9 Please remain in this room if you are scheduled
10 to speak. I will be calling three speakers at a time,
11 current and the next two, so that you will have some
12 warning before you are to speak.

13 After you have heard your name announced as an
14 on-deck speaker would you please move to the front of the
15 room. There are some chairs that are available here. If
16 you do that, it will give just that much more time for
17 testimony this evening. And when it is your turn to
18 speak, please come forward to the podium that's right in
19 front of the court reporter.

20 As I say, if you're approaching the time limit,
21 I will remind you you have 30 seconds left and will ask
22 you to summarize your comments as quickly and as
23 gracefully as possible.

24 I may call for a break or recess, if necessary,
25 if we need to take a breather.

1 Also I would ask you to please conduct
2 conversations outside of this room and take a moment or
3 two to shut off your cell phones, if you would, please.

4 Commenters are recommended to state their name
5 for the court reporter's record. And if you have a
6 written copy of your comments or if you have a written
7 document you would like to submit, please bring it to me
8 after you have spoken.

9 Written materials will be formally accepted into
10 the record as exhibits to this hearing in addition to oral
11 comments. And very importantly each, whether they are
12 written or oral comments, are weighed equally by NNSA.

13 Okay. Our first speaker will be Gina Broome,
14 and she would be followed by Gary Human and Charlie
15 Hensley.

16 Miss Broome.

17 MS. GINA BROOME

18 Hello and good evening. I'm Gina Broome,
19 District Representative for Congressman Zack Wamp. He
20 could not be here today. He is in Washington.

21 I was here earlier and brought the comments, but
22 he's asked me to come and bring them again so everyone
23 else can have an opportunity to hear his feelings.

24 "Thank you for the opportunity to provide
25 comments on the NNSA's study on transforming the Nuclear

1 Weapons Complex. This process is a very important step
2 that I strongly support to make our Nuclear Weapons
3 Complex more responsive, secure and cost effective. It's
4 crucial to engage communities like Oak Ridge, made up of
5 cold war heroes who carry the banner for the Manhattan
6 Project legacy proudly.

7 "As the NNSA is evaluating all the options to
8 transform the Nuclear Weapons Complex, the primary focus
9 should be on producing the most efficient complex to meet
10 our national security needs for the next century.

11 "Since it was first proposed I have actively
12 supported the Y-12 National Security Complex's
13 modernization efforts, including the construction of the
14 highly enriched uranium manufacturing facility, the
15 uranium processing facility and accelerated cleanup.

16 "These efforts for a smaller, safer site
17 preceded the overarching goals of a complex transformation
18 well before it became a national policy focus.

19 "As we examine the future of the nation's
20 Nuclear Weapons Complex, it's important to maintain vital
21 missions at Y-12 and support its designation as the Center
22 of Excellence for uranium and canned subassemblies.

23 "My position in Congress allows me to take a
24 leadership role in overseeing NNSA's reconfiguration of
25 the Nuclear Weapons Complex. It is an honor to work with

1 the men and women of Y-12 and the Oak Ridge community.

2 Zack Wamp, member of Congress."

3 MR. BARRY LAWSON

4 Thank you very much.

5 All right. Our next speaker is Gary Human to be
6 followed by Charlie Hensley and Wayman McLaughlin.

7 MR. GARY HUMAN

8 Yes, I'm Gary Human with the Tennessee
9 Department of Economic & Community Development. I'm here
10 reading two statements, one of them by Governor Phil
11 Bredesen and one on behalf of Matt Kisber, Commissioner of
12 the Tennessee Department of Economic & Community
13 Development.

14 Governor Bredesen's letter: "On behalf of the
15 people of Tennessee let me thank you for the efforts of
16 the National Nuclear Security Administration to transform
17 the Nuclear Weapons Complex into a cost effective and
18 responsive array of facilities, capable of meeting our
19 country's needs into the next century.

20 "In a complex and uncertain world I understand
21 the need to maintain our nation's strength in the areas of
22 national security. The Y-12 National Security Complex in
23 Oak Ridge is a source of pride for the people of Tennessee
24 and our nation, and I believe its role is essential to
25 protecting America.

1 "I am aware that in your preferred alternative
2 the uranium and canned subassembly mission would remain at
3 the Y-12 NSC. I'm confident in saying the NNSA's
4 preferred alternative to transform the Nuclear Weapons
5 Complex to continue the uranium mission at the Y-12 NSC
6 has my full support as well as the people of Tennessee.

7 "I believe the continuation of the Y-12's
8 mission and the proposed transformation and modernization
9 of the Y-12 NSC will allow the NNSA to fully utilize the
10 skills and productivity of proud Tennesseans committed to
11 our nation's defense and will provide a safer, more secure
12 and truly efficient site in support of our national
13 security.

14 "Thank you for all that you do to protect
15 America's future.

16 "Sincerely, Phil Bredesen, Governor of
17 Tennessee."

18 The second letter from Commissioner Kisberg:
19 "For more than 60 years the Y-12 National Security Complex
20 in Oak Ridge has been a Center of Excellence in the
21 handling and processing of uranium vital to America's
22 national security.

23 "Thousands of proud Tennesseans have devoted
24 their lives to developing the skills necessary to
25 undertake this important work in a productivity and cost

1 efficient manner. For that reason I am writing to express
2 my support of the Y-12 NSC's continued role in the defense
3 of our country.

4 "You have my thanks and the thanks of the people
5 of Tennessee for your efforts to transform the Nuclear
6 Weapons Complex into a safer, more secure and more
7 efficient program. It is my belief that Y-12 and the
8 people of Tennessee can play a vital role in that
9 transformation.

10 "The availability of the latest generation in
11 high security buildings at Y-12 NSC positions the facility
12 well for the future, and the skilled workers at Y-12 are
13 committed to the facility's continued productivity and
14 success.

15 "The NNSA's preferred alternative, continuing
16 the uranium mission of Y-12, has the support of our
17 department and the people of Tennessee. Please do not
18 hesitate to contact my office if I can assist you in your
19 very important work.

20 "Thank you for your efforts on behalf of
21 America's security.

22 "Sincerely, Matt Kisberg, Tennessee Department
23 of Economic & Community Development."

24 MR. BARRY LAWSON

25 Thank you, sir.

1 Our next speaker will be Charlie Hensley to be
2 followed by Wayman McLaughlin and Carol Green.

3 MR. CHARLIE HENSLEY

4 Thank you very much. My name is Charlie
5 Hensley. I'm a member of the Oak Ridge City Council, and
6 I'm proud to have been a part of the unanimous vote of the
7 Oak Ridge City Council in response to Resolution number
8 21208. And it was read into the record earlier today in
9 its entirety, but what I would like to do for the purposes
10 of this meeting is just to hit some of the highlights

11 "WHEREAS, the City of Oak Ridge commends NNSA
12 for its ongoing efforts to improve operating efficiencies,
13 enhance safety and environmental management programs and
14 to accelerate the nuclear weapons dismantlement
15 activities; and

16 "WHEREAS, an investment in the modernization of
17 the Nuclear Weapons Complex will help ensure that the
18 vital national security missions are performed in a safe
19 and efficient manner; and

20 "WHEREAS, the City of Oak Ridge desires to
21 officially comment to the NNSA on the SPEIS; and

22 "WHEREAS, the NNSA's preferred alternative as
23 described in the SPEIS is to pursue a Center for Uranium
24 Manufacturing and R&D at Y-12 National Security Complex;
25 as such, Y-12 would continue to serve as the primary

1 uranium center, providing components and subassembly
2 production, surveillance and dismantlement; and

3 "WHEREAS, the City Manager further recommends
4 that the NNSA locate the UPF at the Y-12 National Security
5 Complex.

6 "Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Council
7 of the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, that the
8 recommendation of the City Manager is approved endorsing
9 the preferred alternative for the Y-12 National Security
10 Complex as described in the Supplemental Programmatic EIS
11 as the Center of Excellence for Uranium Manufacturing and
12 R&D at the Y-12 National Security Complex; and as such,
13 Y-12 should and would continue to serve as the primary
14 uranium center providing components and subassembly
15 production, surveillance and dismantlement and allow NNSA
16 to proceed with the preliminary design of a Uranium
17 Processing Facility, the UPF.

18 "Be it further resolved, that the NNSA is urged
19 to locate the UPF at Y-12 National Security Complex.

20 "Be it further resolved, that this Resolution be
21 transmitted to the NNSA as the official comments of the
22 City of Oak Ridge.

23 "This the 18th day of February, 2008."

24 And that is signed by the Honorable Thomas L.
25 Beehan, Mayor of Oak Ridge.

1 Thank you.

2 MR. BARRY LAWSON

3 Thank you.

4 Okay. Our next speaker is Raymond McLaughlin
5 and Carol Green and Reverend Howard Box.

6 MR. WAYMAN McLAUGHLIN, JR.

7 Good evening. My name is Wayman McLaughlin, and
8 I'm the Vice President of Engineering with G-2 Engineering
9 and Management.

10 I've read the Draft SPEIS. I believe Y-12 is
11 definitely a Center of Excellence and support the
12 preferred alternative discussed for Complex
13 Transformation.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. BARRY LAWSON

16 Thank you, sir.

17 I call on Carol Green, and Miss Green will be
18 followed by Reverend Howard Box and Rex Jones.

19 MS. CAROL GREEN

20 This little light of mine, I'm going to let it
21 shine. This little light of mine, I'm going to let it
22 shine.

23 This little candle goes around the world and
24 millions and millions of people are joining in calling for
25 the abolition of nuclear weapons, not the stewardship of

1 stockpiles of nuclear weapons but the stewardship of
2 creation.

3 The Mayors for Peace originating from the Mayors
4 of Hiroshima and Nagasaki now have about two thousand
5 Mayors who have joined in calling for nuclear free zones
6 in their cities around the world and calling for the
7 abolition of nuclear weapons.

8 I have more to say but I'm going to skip to what
9 -- In our Sunday school classes we have been examining the
10 Sermon on the Mount. And in the Gospel of Matthew Jesus
11 presents his new hope vision for the beatitudes. We're in
12 a New Hope facility based on a New Hope Baptist Church,
13 and I want to bring that theme forward.

14 Included in the right side up world is the
15 message "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be
16 called the children of God." As United Methodists we take
17 that message and declare in our social principles we
18 believe war is incompatible with the teachings and example
19 of Christ.

20 We, therefore, reject war as an instrument of
21 national foreign policy, to be employed only as a last
22 resort in the prevention of such evils as genocide, brutal
23 aggression, suppression of human rights and unprovoked
24 international aggression.

25 We insist that the first moral duty of all

1 nations is to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that
2 arises between and among them, that human values must
3 outweigh military claims as governments determine their
4 priorities, which is what we are deliberating tonight,
5 that the militarization must be challenged and stopped,
6 that the manufacture, sale and deployment of armaments
7 must be reduced and controlled and that the production,
8 possession or use of nuclear weapons be condemned.

9 Consequently, we endorse the general and
10 complete disarmament under strict and effective
11 international control.

12 So I ask you to honor the International Nuclear
13 Nonproliferation Treaty and build down, not up. Let's not
14 sacrifice more children, nor the earth itself, to Gods of
15 War. In the name of the God of life I ask you to stop the
16 bombs and defend creation.

17 And I offer this bouquet of daffodils as a
18 reminder of the new hope and the grace of God.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. BARRY LAWSON

21 Thank you.

22 REV. HOWARD BOX

23 I'm not quite a public servant in the official
24 sense, but I have served and been served by many people
25 involved in the Oak Ridge projects over the years as a

1 Unitarian Minister.

2 It's almost unfair not so much to us as to NNSA
3 to sit in any kind of judgment. We all should have read
4 at least Volume I and II. I won't ask for a poll of who
5 has. I obviously haven't. I didn't know it existed.

6 Indeed, I think there are few, even in Oak
7 Ridge, who can truly evaluate even the scientific and
8 military situations.

9 I have no quarrel with the proposals and perhaps
10 no way to quarrel with them. I will say that to move from
11 20 pits a year to 80 pits a year does not strike me as a
12 deescalation.

13 What I miss, and what doesn't belong here they
14 tell me even -- and I don't mean that in a nasty sense --
15 is the place all of this has in our national life and in
16 the world life and in our national life at a time of great
17 crisis and I would add of great confusion as to how and
18 where we should be going in foreign policy. Where is the
19 relation to the whole?

20 We have environmental input. Well, the
21 environment includes everything. Where is the relation to
22 the whole international effort to reduce atomic warfare
23 potential toward the elimination of it?

24 This is our official commitment. I endorse the
25 commitment no less than the speaker before me. It would

1 even seem great effort proposing, maybe even enlarging --
2 The voice on the screen said no, but the press says
3 otherwise -- enlarging our ability with a weapon that no
4 civilized state will use --

5 MR. BARRY LAWSON

6 Thirty seconds, please.

7 REV. HOWARD BOX

8 -- and should not. The message to the world,
9 which this project will give, is one that we are back in
10 the atomic business. And the effect will be that even our
11 friends will intensive their efforts in the same
12 direction. And the smaller states around them and around
13 us will want their part of the pie. And we will have much
14 more, not less.

15 Thank you all for hearing me and thank you to
16 the administration for offering this opportunity.

17 MR. BARRY LAWSON

18 Thank you.

19 And to the court reporter, I did not properly
20 introduce -- That was Reverend Howard Box.

21 The next speaker will be Rex Jones to be
22 followed by Elizabeth Henault and Charles Samuels.

23 MR. REX JONES

24 My name is Rex Jones. I'm a commercial banker.
25 And in this room and in other forums in Oak Ridge I've had

1 the opportunity to learn quite a bit about Y-12 and how
2 important it is. And I've learned that this is a very
3 innovative place; innovation in manufacturing and the
4 quality of manufacturing, the efficiencies of
5 manufacturing, also in the management, the cost
6 efficiencies in management, and the special partnerships
7 that I know that management and labor have put together at
8 this facility.

9 And also from my background I also appreciate
10 the innovation in finance. This building was done as a
11 private financing as well as the building somewhat close
12 by, the Case Building.

13 But coming here tonight when I walked in the
14 door, I met somebody that I realized what was really
15 important. I met Frank Anderson with the International
16 Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and I realized his work
17 and his fellow workers -- What they do is important to
18 this country. It's important to the security of our
19 country. And it's also -- Their jobs and their wages are
20 important to the economy of this region.

21 And for that I want to thank Frank and his
22 fellow workers, and many of them are here tonight. Thank
23 you very much. Thank you for what you do at your work
24 that provides the economic benefit for this region and
25 especially thank you for what you do for this country and

1 the security of this country.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. BARRY LAWSON

4 Thank you.

5 Our next speaker is Elizabeth Henault to be
6 followed by Charles Samuels and Bill Wilcox.

7 MS. ELIZABETH HENAULT

8 Thank you. I'm Elizabeth Henault, and I'm
9 wanting to express my deep concern for this project. It
10 seems like it's a regeneration and a renewal of the
11 nuclear arms race.

12 I feel like now is the time for us to embrace
13 disarmament as the true path to global and national
14 security. As global tensions are increasing and the
15 hatefulness toward the U.S. is mounting, I feel that it's
16 more important than ever for us to take a stand and to
17 take a lead on stopping the nuclear war race.

18 Your proposal said that this defense plan
19 dissuades our adversaries. I'm afraid it will do just the
20 opposite. I think it will persuade them to protect
21 themselves.

22 We went to war supposedly because we were
23 concerned about one of our adversaries having weapons of
24 mass destruction, so it's a very serious thing to
25 undertake and to continue. We need to be sure that we are

1 not giving other countries more reasons to hate us and
2 more reasons to fear us.

3 Another concern I have as a resident of this
4 region is that we are at a greater risk for a terrorist
5 attack. If we are seen as one of the key players in
6 developing nuclear weapons and continuing stockpiling and
7 testing and all the different research -- whatever goes
8 on -- then we would be a prime target for somebody who
9 wanted to do harm to our country.

10 And I really have enjoyed living here. This is
11 the one thing that -- I would consider moving away from
12 this area. And I think this is the time for DOE to change
13 from making deadly, devastating bombs to dismantling
14 nuclear weapons. The report talks about dismantling, but
15 it's also talking about building new and more advanced
16 weapons.

17 MR. BARRY LAWSON

18 Thirty seconds, please.

19 MS. ELIZABETH HENAULT

20 It's finally time to develop nuclear waste
21 technologies, which will safeguard our air, water and
22 earth from the poisonous radioactive nuclear bombs. And I
23 believe we have the workforce here with the capabilities
24 to embark on that very important thing.

25 So I ask that we reconsider what is best for our

1 defense and our country.

2 Thank you for your consideration.

3 MR. BARRY LAWSON

4 Thank you.

5 The next speaker is Charles Samuels to be
6 followed by Bill Wilcox and Judy Quinn.

7 MR. CHARLES SAMUELS

8 Hello. My name is Charles Samuels. I represent
9 Information International Associates, a local company.
10 I'm here speaking as a private citizen and resident of Oak
11 Ridge.

12 My friends, in a perfect world there would be no
13 need for the Y-12 facility or any similar facilities, and
14 in a perfect world Oak Ridge wouldn't need the Y-12
15 facility. But we don't live in a perfect world.

16 The Y-12 facility is a national resource that is
17 needed. It is needed continuously and for the foreseeable
18 future.

19 We live in an imperfect world, and Oak Ridge
20 needs the Y-12 plant. We have not matured to the point
21 where it is not a resource that helps feed us and the
22 communities around us. So I stand here to support the
23 preferred alternative.

24 Let me also assure all of you that as a veteran
25 of 23 years in the Army that no one loves peace more than

1 the warrior. No one seeks peace more than the warrior.
2 We would like to work ourselves out of the business.

3 The Y-12 plant remains one of the most
4 professional and dedicated facilities in our nuclear
5 complex.

6 I offer my support to the preferred alternative.
7 Thank you for this opportunity to speak and let you know
8 that one of the most distinguished members -- one of the
9 most distinguished people that you could ever meet, as far
10 as the defense of this country, is about to speak next.

11 Thank you.

12 MR. BARRY LAWSON

13 Thank you, sir.

14 And our next speaker is Bill Wilcox, and he will
15 be followed by Judy Quinn and Jason Coker.

16 MR. BILL WILCOX

17 I wish to speak in favor of two parts of this
18 EIS of the Distributed Centers of Excellence alternative;
19 and, secondly, with regard to a restructuring of the R&D
20 and testing facilities, I want to speak in favor of
21 consolidation to one site of each of those many
22 alternatives.

23 I became a proud Y-12er 64 years ago in 1943,
24 and ever since I've been a booster and a student, a
25 manager and a supporter of Y-12.

1 I've watched with great interest in the last
2 half dozen years how the new management of Y-12 under
3 NNSA's leadership has been challenging their managers in
4 new directions, striving for what it seems to me to be
5 exactly the directions that this EIS is urging the entire
6 Nuclear Weapons Complex to move in.

7 And as a result, Y-12 is already delivering --
8 has made real progress, as Ted Sherry mentioned, on the
9 EIS goals for transformation of the complex's enriched
10 uranium facilities with its 75 percent finished, entirely
11 new storage facility and its planned, entirely new,
12 uranium processing facility.

13 So Y-12 is already committed and is well on
14 their way to a transformed Uranium Center of Excellence
15 that will in a timely manner reach NNSA goals of smaller,
16 safer, less expensive, most cost effective and more secure
17 uranium facilities.

18 A notable testimony to this and Y-12's
19 leadership is that NNSA's Deputy Administrator Tom
20 D'Agostino has used Y-12 as a model for transformation
21 according to Y-12's Tom Snell.

22 As a person who worked closely with the design
23 labs and with the other sites of complex throughout the
24 1970s and over half of the 1980s as Y-12's Technical
25 Director, I urge the selection of the alternative

1 Distributed Centers of Excellence for continuing our
2 enriched uranium facilities at Y-12.

3 In my opinion it's the only alternative that
4 will prove both cost effective over a period of years and
5 which also can be fully responsible to the changes
6 mandated by future nuclear posture reviews, either up or
7 down.

8 The enthusiastic community support that you've
9 seen for this large nuclear defense plant so close to our
10 cities ought to be given a great deal of weight by NNSA.

11 And I wish to commend NNSA for tackling the
12 previously untouchable matter of the programmatic
13 redundancies between the National Security Labs which we
14 just haven't in previous transformation studies been able
15 to do. I think this is great.

16 Surely, with the Nuclear Posture Review of 2001
17 and with the Moscow Treaty of 2003 NNSA ought to be able
18 to assign most of these programs to one or the other of
19 the National Security Labs rather than continuing the
20 decades of duplication that we felt were justifiable in
21 the days of the cold war.

22 Thank you so very much.

23 MR. BARRY LAWSON

24 Thank you sir.

25 My next speaker is Judy Quinn to be followed by

1 Jason Coker and Tom Trew.

2 MS. JUDY QUINN

3 I'm here just as an individual, but I've worked
4 at Y-12 for the past 20 years. For the past eight years
5 I've worked in Environment, Safety & Health and Production
6 and most recently in Nuclear Materials Control and
7 Accountability.

8 And I've been just very impressed with what I've
9 seen -- the efforts in all those organizations. They're
10 always striving for improvement, never satisfied with the
11 status quo. And in my current job when assessments are
12 done of our program, I get involved in findings and causal
13 analyses.

14 Although things are good, I do see from a
15 personal standpoint that management and individuals all
16 down the line -- they are very interested in seeing that
17 improvements are made and much more open to change. They
18 understand that the world is changing, the way we do
19 business is changing, missions -- and that we're adaptable
20 and committed to -- We can do it. We have can-do
21 attitude, and we can do a job for you.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. BARRY LAWSON

24 Thank you.

25 Our next speaker is Jason Coker, then Tom Trew

1 and Gail Mattson.

2 MR. JASON COKER

3 Hi. Good evening. My name is Jason Coker. I'm
4 with IBEW 760, and I'm an employee with B&W.

5 I'd like to start out first with saying if I was
6 going to come here and quote the Bible this evening, I'd
7 start off with John 3:16, because if I was going to spend
8 my time on the Bible, I would want it to be something
9 relevant.

10 But that's not what we're here to talk about
11 tonight. We're here to talk about why we want this
12 facility here Y-12.

13 And growing up here at Y-12, I grew up in a
14 community, living in the homes that were built during the
15 Manhattan Project. I grew up going to the schools that
16 were built and living most of my life -- actually all of
17 my life in Oak Ridge.

18 Over the past 60 plus years Y-12 has delivered
19 to our nation the completion of many missions, and Y-12
20 has always taken pride in their work and their
21 craftsmanship in delivering these missions.

22 No where else do you find the willingness of
23 workers to achieve a goal that there was during the
24 Manhattan Project.

25 Times are different now and other nations are

1 our friends. And without the use of these nuclear weapons
2 you cannot maintain peace. These values and goals of that
3 Manhattan Project have been passed down through the years
4 to other people here at Y-12, and we still have those same
5 values and goals to complete the missions that are put
6 before us.

7 Here at Y-12 we have the most highly trained and
8 knowledgable personnel. With the knowledge they've
9 acquired over the years and their goal-oriented mindset
10 here at the Y-12 complex it only goes to show that with
11 all that Y-12 has to offer, not only with the support of
12 the workers that we have here at this complex but with the
13 growing support of our community -- And this community
14 exists because of Y-12. People came to live at this
15 community because of Y-12. Y-12 developed this community.
16 People came here to work and people come here to live.
17 They know what Y-12 is, and they choose to live in Oak
18 Ridge. Our community supports Y-12. All of our
19 surrounding communities support Y-12. All the Mayors
20 support Y-12 and its future.

21 All of these factors in place is why I feel that
22 Y-12 is your best choice for any future endeavors and the
23 best choice for any projects to be built.

24 Thank you for your time.

25 MR. BARRY LAWSON

1 Thank you, sir.

2 Okay. The next speaker is Tom Trew, then Gail
3 Mattson and Sandy Dunlap.

4 MR. TOM TREW

5 First off, I'd like to thank you for the
6 opportunity to be able to come before you today and give
7 my little comment.

8 My name is Tom Trew. I'm an Executive Board
9 Member of IBEW, Local 270, here in Oak Ridge. I'm a
10 two-time Iraq war veteran. I've served my country, and I
11 would do it again.

12 I'd like to say I know the value of having a
13 strong nuclear program, what it means for this country and
14 what it means for the national security of this country.

15 And I'm here to show support for bringing the
16 CNPC, CNC, to Y-12. I believe it's vital for this
17 community and for the economic growth of this community.

18 And I appreciate your time. Thank you.

19 MR. BARRY LAWSON

20 Thank you. The next speaker would be Gail
21 Mattson and then Sandy Dunlap and Chuck Hope.

22 MS. GAIL MATTSON

23 Good evening. My name is Gail Mattson. I'm
24 Vice President of Engineering at Navarro Research &
25 Engineering located here in Oak Ridge, and we perform work

1 all over the DOE Complex, including here at Y-12. I'm
2 here this evening to express my support for the continued
3 modernization of Y-12 and to tell you why.

4 Approximately 18 months ago Navarro was awarded
5 the contract here to provide solid waste management
6 services for the facility. I believe this gives me a
7 unique perspective on attitudes and activities here at the
8 site.

9 With the D&D activities, which began around
10 2002, and the construction of new production facilities as
11 well, the construction of the new administration facility,
12 the one we're in, there has been a shift in the attitude
13 in the workforce. The facilities are cleaner, better
14 maintained with an attitude of finding new, more efficient
15 ways to perform the mission.

16 Often, the biggest obstacles to effectively
17 performing a mission are the large and often underutilized
18 facilities that remain from the cold war era. The very
19 large high security area makes work inefficient.

20 The current plan to modernize Y-12 and put
21 virtually all special nuclear materials activities into
22 two highly protected facilities will have a significant
23 benefit to solid waste management activities. It will
24 greatly reduce the cost associated with the movement of
25 waste by reducing the amount that has to pass through the

1 most secure areas. By reducing the high security area,
2 the D&D or the remaining facilities now outside the high
3 security area will be significantly cheaper to perform.

4 In short, I believe that Y-12 is on exactly the
5 right path. The costs and scheduled benefits that will
6 come to the solid waste management program will likely
7 apply to other activities now performed in this high
8 security area.

9 Also from a waste management perspective I would
10 suggest that the Alpha and Beta buildings be removed as
11 soon as they are no longer required. While I'm sure their
12 D&D will be expensive, leaving them in place is even more
13 expensive, because, one, they will continue to decay and
14 generate new safety concerns, like they are experiencing
15 now over at K-25; second, they will continue to consume
16 high operating budgets with surveillances, maintenance and
17 the hidden costs of recordkeeping, fire protection, et
18 cetera; and, third, waste management costs will only
19 increase in the future. Any plan for complex
20 modernization should include the removal of unneeded
21 facilities.

22 Thank you for the opportunity to express my
23 views.

24 MR. BARRY LAWSON

25 Thank you for your time.

1 Okay. Sandy Dunlap. Following Miss Dunlap is
2 Chuck Hope and Darin Scarbrough.

3 MS. SANDY DUNLAP

4 My name is Sandy Dunlap. I work here at Y-12.
5 I'm from Blount County. I've lived in this area my entire
6 life.

7 MR. BARRY LAWSON

8 Excuse me one moment.

9 Can we turn the microphone up just a little bit,
10 please.

11 Okay. Sorry to interrupt.

12 MS. SANDY DUNLAP

13 Do you want me to start over?

14 MR. BARRY LAWSON

15 Please, if you would.

16 MS. SANDY DUNLAP

17 Okay. My name is Sandy Dunlap. I'm an
18 electrician. I work at Y-12. I'm from Blount County, but
19 I've lived in this area my entire life. I'm really proud
20 of Y-12 and the work it does.

21 I work well with B&W, the union. I'm proud of
22 the union. I'm proud of the company.

23 The people at Y-12 have always risen to the task
24 of helping to defend our country. We will continue to
25 help by making the vision put forth here tonight a reality

1 if we're given the chance. Say "yes" to Y-12, and we'll
2 do a really good job.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. BARRY LAWSON

5 Thank you.

6 Our next speaker is Chuck Hope and then Darin
7 Scarbrough and John Clark.

8 MR. CHUCK HOPE

9 Hello. My name is Chuck Hope, and I live here
10 in Oak Ridge. And I also own and operate Chuck's Car Care
11 Center here in Oak Ridge.

12 I strongly support the continued modernization
13 of the Y-12 Security Complex. The facility has a long
14 history of doing a very complex and dangerous job with the
15 utmost responsibility of its highly trained and
16 professional employees

17 As long as there is a need for the services of
18 this facility, it should be allowed to continue to provide
19 them. They have the experience and the know-how to do the
20 job effectively and as efficiently as possible.

21 DOE and its subcontractors have had a long
22 presence here in Oak Ridge that has had a very significant
23 economic impact on Oak Ridge and the surrounding counties.
24 To move that work that is done at Y-12 to another part of
25 the country would have a long-term effect on the local

1 economy. Any attempt to move the work that goes on the
2 Y-12 would have a direct effect not only on my business
3 but all businesses in the surrounding area.

4 Besides the obvious economic reasons why I
5 support the continued work at Y-12, if the Federal
6 Government decides to move the work, I believe it would
7 cost more money to bring another facility up to the level
8 that Oak Ridge Y-12 operates at, nor would you be able to
9 get the same level of experience you have here in Oak
10 Ridge.

11 Let's continue to modernize this facility so
12 that we can do the job that needs to be done now and find
13 ways to improve the way we do the job tomorrow and into
14 the future.

15 MR. BARRY LAWSON

16 Okay. Thank you, sir.

17 Our next speaker Darin Scarbrough to be followed
18 by John Clark and Terrence Brewster.

19 MR. DARIN SCARBROUGH

20 Yes, my name is Darin Scarbrough. I'm a
21 resident of Clinton. I would like to present for the
22 record a Petition of over 1500 names of citizens from this
23 community who supports the NNSA's preferred plan for Y-12
24 to continue as the Uranium Center of Excellence.

25 Thank you for your time.

1 MR. BARRY LAWSON

2 Thank you, sir.

3 My next speaker would be John Clark, and
4 Mr. Clark will be followed by Terrence Brewster and Steven
5 Mead.

6 Mr. Clark.

7 MR. JOHN CLARK

8 I'm John Clark, and I'm unemployed at age 84.

9 I want to say a few words on this because I feel
10 that I have some -- or had some knowledge of the inner
11 workings of Y-12.

12 I volunteered to wear the uniform of the United
13 States Army in 1942, and I came to Oak Ridge after I was
14 discharged. I came to Oak Ridge, and I feel that I served
15 a second term in the service of my county in Oak Ridge.

16 I was hired in the Y-12 plant in 1944 from the
17 Tennessee Eastman at the age of 21. As a supervisor in
18 Chemical Recovery in the next room off the room where the
19 Tagatron (phonetic) was making the enriched uranium.

20 I was supposed to supervise 15 females. To tell
21 you the truth, they supervised me. But I learned an early
22 lesson in those days. Now, 21 year olds, then and now,
23 they know everything. You can't tell them anything. They
24 already know it. And I was one of them. And I think
25 that's why they hired me at age 21. So I learned an early

1 lesson from those 15 girls -- females, that you didn't
2 cross them. So I learned that lesson in the early days.
3 So I feel I have some knowledge or had some knowledge of
4 the inner workings of Y-12 at that time.

5 So I like the PEIS report, and I like the
6 alternative. And I'm part of that because I think that
7 Y-12 should be here, should stay, and it should be
8 modernized.

9 And the 25th chapter of Matthew, verses 31
10 through 46, says we should help others. And I feel that
11 Y-12 is helping others all over the world.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. BARRY LAWSON

14 Our next speaker would be Terrence Brewster. Is
15 Terrence Brewster here? If you're not here, please say
16 so.

17 (Laughter)

18 Steven Mead, and following Mr. Mead would be
19 Bill Myers and Bill Nickle.

20 MR. STEVEN MEAD

21 Good evening. My name is Steven Mead. I am a
22 member of many organizations in this area. I'm a member
23 of the Oak Ridge (inaudible) Advisory Board. I'm the
24 Chairman of the Anderson County Republican Party. I serve
25 as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Tennessee State Guard. I

1 also work at the Y-12 plant.

2 A lot of people have talked about the economic
3 advantages of having a large plant here. I'm not here to
4 discuss that. I'm not here to discuss the implications of
5 potential nuclear war. But I am going to state a position
6 of weakness has never prevented war by any nation. It's
7 only been a position of strength that has avoided the
8 horrible consequences of war.

9 I feel I'm well-qualified to speak on this for a
10 couple of reasons. I spent 21 years in the nuclear
11 submarine force on active duty, serving on nuclear
12 submarines with both nuclear weapons and nuclear reactors.

13 I have 20 years' working experience here, living
14 in Oak Ridge, including working as a Transportation
15 Manager for research reactors, working in emergency
16 management and doing safety evaluations on facilities at
17 the Oak Ridge National Laboratory at Y-12 and at the K-25
18 site.

19 I've extensive formal education, including
20 nuclear materials, nuclear reactors, nuclear weaponry,
21 transportation of hazardous materials and nuclear facility
22 design and safety.

23 I raised my children here in Oak Ridge. All
24 four of my daughters graduated from Oak Ridge High School.
25 I have grandchildren living here in town. Three of my

1 daughters live in the immediate area, and my fourth and
2 oldest daughter, whose husband is in the Air Force, plans
3 to return to Oak Ridge after his time in the Air Force.

4 About six years ago nine thousand plus citizens
5 of this area voted for me to be their state
6 representative. However, I missed by three-tenths of one
7 percent, and you now have Jim Hackworth. And I'm not
8 going to go into that either.

9 Apparently, I agree with Zack Wamp, and I agree
10 with Governor Bredesen, and I agree with the Oak Ridge
11 City Council; no action would be totally unacceptable.
12 The Distribution Centers of Excellence is the thing I'm
13 here to support.

14 I believe the NNSA's preferred alternative,
15 particularly keeping the uranium processing facilities and
16 storage facilities here at Oak Ridge, is absolutely the
17 way to go.

18 I want you to know that I understand the
19 complications and the safety things involved in this. I
20 understand the political consequences. I'm here to tell
21 you that I have absolute confidence in the safety of these
22 facilities.

23 I have absolute confidence that they have the
24 absolute minimum impact on the health and safety of the
25 community. Compared to other kind of plants, like

1 petroleum processing plants and a lot of things you would
2 see everyday, these are extremely safe, and it's
3 well-documented they have been that way.

4 I support the preferred alternative plan, and I
5 thank you for your time.

6 MR. BARRY LAWSON

7 Okay. Very good. Thank you, Mr. Mead.

8 The next speaker will be Bill Nickle and Tom
9 Collier.

10 And it is my plan -- It is now about 8:35. I
11 would like to take about a five-minute break at nine
12 o'clock just to give us a little breather.

13 Mr. Myers, please.

14 MR. BILL MYERS

15 Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

16 I'm Bill Myers. I am a private citizen,
17 resident of Knoxville and the country of Viet Nam War
18 veteran.

19 The words of several of my remarks are from the
20 articles that have appeared in the Wall Street Journal in
21 January 2007 and were reiterated in 2008 on the subject of
22 nuclear weapons. The thoughts are entirely my own,
23 however, on this topic.

24 The articles to which I refer were written by
25 former Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sam Nunn,

1 former Secretary of Defense, William Perry, and former
2 Secretaries of State George Shultz and Henry Kissinger.
3 They were endorsed by several outstanding officials,
4 including General John Abisaid, General Colin Powell, and
5 administration officials, Republicans and Democrats, from
6 every administration from John F. Kennedy to George W.
7 Bush.

8 While he was President, Ronald Regan called for
9 the abolishment of all nuclear weapons, which he
10 considered to be totally irrational, totally inhumane,
11 good for nothing but killing, possibly destructive of life
12 on earth and civilization.

13 Reliance on nuclear weapons for the purpose of
14 deterrence is becoming increasingly hazardous and
15 decreasingly effective. The world is now on the precipice
16 of a new and dangerous nuclear era. Most alarmingly, the
17 likelihood that non-state terrorists will get their hands
18 on nuclear weaponry is increasing.

19 In today's world waged on -- In today's war
20 waged on world order by terrorists nuclear weapons are the
21 ultimate means of mass devastation and non-state suicidal
22 terrorists group with nuclear weapons are conceptually
23 outside the bounds of the deterrent strategy and present
24 difficult new security challenges, radically different
25 from those of a cold war.

1 Apart from the terrorist threat, unless urgent
2 new actions are taken, the proposed Complex Transformation
3 is another sign that the U.S. is entering a new nuclear
4 era that will be more precarious, psychologically
5 disorienting, morally degrading and economically even more
6 costly than cold war deterrence.

7 It is far from certain that we can successfully
8 replicate the old Soviet-American, mutually assured
9 destruction without dramatically increasing the risk that
10 nuclear weapons will be used.

11 MR. BARRY LAWSON

12 Thirty seconds, please.

13 MR. BILL MYERS

14 Thank you.

15 DOE's plan to build more bombs sends a terrible
16 message to the rest of the world. It undermines any
17 efforts we make to halt nuclear proliferation elsewhere
18 because it says we're going to have nuclear weapons.

19 The lesson of history on this question is that
20 the U.S. has always led the way in handling nuclear
21 weapons. To use a common metaphor, we are the first
22 domino. We will have to lead the way in eliminating these
23 weapons. No one else has the capacity or the prestige to
24 do it.

25 Mr. Chairman, we want no more bombs.

1 MR. BARRY LAWSON

2 Thank you.

3 Our next speaker is Bill Nickle, and then we'll
4 have Tom Collier, John Kernodle.

5 MR. BILL NICKLE

6 Mr. Wyka, my name is Bill Nickle. I had an
7 opportunity to be with you two years ago I believe.

8 And I read through this document and also
9 perused the big fat volumes, and I come back again to page
10 7 in this document which talks about the majority of the
11 comments expressed opposed to the Nuclear Weapons Program
12 and the U.S. National Security Policies.

13 And I don't see anywhere in here that we come
14 back to this particular point, that we are really trying
15 to get with the NPT. Everything that we are talking about
16 in this whole document is about how we are continuing to
17 make weapons. Maybe we're cutting back on the total
18 numbers of weapons, but we're still making weapons.

19 We said a couple of years ago that the pits -- I
20 believe it is as we define that term -- are only going to
21 last maybe 25 years or so, and new information then said
22 they might last a hundred years. In this document I think
23 they say they last 85 years.

24 We're really at war for another 85 years as long
25 as we keep having these weapons. I don't see how these

1 weapons kept Osama Bin Laden and anybody else from hitting
2 the Twin Towers. I don't see how these weapons are
3 catching him today.

4 It's like our previous speaker just said, this
5 is a different kind of world in which we live.

6 Forty-eight hours ago in North Korea, that other
7 country of -- that evil axis country, the New York
8 Philharmonic Orchestra played, and as they played -- To
9 begin with I understand that they played the North Korean
10 anthem -- National anthem -- fifteen hundred people stood
11 up, and they applauded. And then that New York symphony
12 also played the Stars and Stripes Forever, our national
13 anthem, and again 1500 people stood up and applauded.

14 We must build bridges, not bombs. There are no
15 longer evil axes. There comrades. Thank you.

16 MR. BARRY LAWSON

17 Thank you, sir.

18 Okay. Our next speaker is Tom Collier. Then we
19 have John Kernodle and Reverend Marcia Free.

20 MR. TOM COLLIER

21 I support this project because I've been here 28
22 years at Y-12, and I know the pride that we take in what
23 we do. We try to get our shipments out on time. We work
24 hard to make the best product we can. And we all have
25 done this for years. Take a look at our record. Take a

1 look at how we accomplish our goals and our deadlines.

2 And we have the spirit to do it.

3 We just got through building a warehouse to
4 store these weapons, so that will help us if -- if you do
5 give us the project, because we have a place to store it.
6 We also have the great pleasure of having great security
7 here.

8 If you don't believe me, try to get in Y-12.
9 The first thing you see is security to make sure you have
10 a proper badge. So our security has been the best in the
11 nation at protecting what we do. We will protect it. We
12 have protected it. And that is important, because it
13 shows us that we're serious about security and protecting
14 what we do.

15 Another thing about security is you got a bunch
16 of fanatics over in Iran and Iraq who use their fanaticism
17 to want to destroy the United States. They use religion
18 on top of it to say that it's their way or the highway.

19 If it weren't for the United States, we would be
20 in chaos. We are the only nation on the earth that can
21 protect the world from nuclear weapons because we have the
22 means, we have the knowledge, we have the facilities, and
23 we are the only superpower in the world that will protect
24 from fanaticism -- that will keep us out of war and out of
25 danger from people using it.

1 I believe that after the Twin Towers was
2 attacked it was because of our strength that nobody has
3 attacked us yet. We are the strongest nation on earth.
4 We will be the strongest nation on earth.

5 Give Oak Ridge a chance to prove it again like
6 we have since 1943. And we have proven since 1943 that we
7 are committed to excellence. Thank you.

8 MR. BARRY LAWSON

9 Thank you.

10 John Kernodle.

11 Reverend Marcia Free. Thank you.

12 Glenn Bell. Is Glenn Bell here? Speak up. No?

13 Stephen Clements and then Judy Sullivan.

14 Is Judy Sullivan here? Okay. Good.

15 Marcia Free, Stephen Clements and Judy Sullivan,
16 please.

17 REVEREND MARCIA FREE

18 I'm Reverend Marcia Free. I'm ordained in the
19 United Church of Christ, and I come as a private citizen
20 with my favorite title, "Grandma".

21 The environmental impact on our children and our
22 grandchildren unto the seventh generation from building
23 bombs, naturally provoking nuclear proliferation -- That
24 is to say inviting other nations to build bombs -- is to
25 the environmental detriment of all our world's children.

1 Alternatively, I urge you to think of the
2 positive environmental impact and positive international
3 cooperation and relationships of mutual respect that could
4 be built with the 40 billion dollars currently being spent
5 each year if it were spent in diplomacy, education and
6 health care in the United States and around the world.

7 The environmental footprints of no nuclear
8 weapons facilities and no nuclear weapons is self-evident.
9 Consolidating and building new bombs and bomb research
10 centers by their very nature cannot reduce the
11 environmental impact, nor decrease the tax moneys used.

12 All four proposals you envision continue
13 production of nuclear weapons and the maintenance of an
14 enduring stockpile. This one idea, that is to say bomb
15 building for the security of our county, is the severe
16 limiting of creative transformation for our war-torn
17 world, numbing our people to the escalating violence
18 hidden in the rhetoric presented.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. BARRY LAWSON

21 Thank you very much.

22 Our next speaker is Stephen Clements, then Judy
23 Sullivan and Beth Brockman.

24 Is Beth Brockman here? Okay. Thank you.

25 Mr. Clements.

1 MR. STEPHEN CLEMENTS

2 My name is Stephen Clements. I'm a farmer from
3 Jefferson County, Tennessee.

4 I'd like to congratulate the IBEW and others
5 that have come out -- so many employees, past and present,
6 from Y-12 to speak in favor of the plan.

7 And I understand and appreciate when a person's
8 livelihood and self-respect -- self-reputation depends on
9 what they do for a living, how hard it is to take a step
10 back and fully appreciate what they actually are doing for
11 a living on a day-to-day basis.

12 And unfortunately what that is is producing
13 nuclear weapons. And nuclear weapons are terrible
14 devices. When they explode, they burn people -- humans,
15 animals, buildings indiscriminately, civilians, women,
16 children. Non military people are burned and killed just
17 like everybody else. It's virtually impossible for a
18 nuclear weapon to discriminately kill.

19 And so I personally am calling for an end to
20 nuclear weapons. We have more than enough nuclear weapons
21 than we need right now to offer as a deterrent to any
22 formal nation that would use nuclear weapons.

23 I don't think any of the rogue states that we
24 currently fear obtain nuclear weapons really care whether
25 the United States has got any nuclear weapons to

1 counteract what they are doing or not. I think that's
2 totally irrelevant.

3 So I do have one further comment. If we do go
4 down this road and continue the production of nuclear
5 weapons, I would like to point out that probably the
6 weakest link in this process is the transportation of
7 nuclear materials from one site to the other.

8 It's not going to be too clever for a terrorist
9 to realize that a properly planned attack could yield more
10 horrendous results in one of our major cities where these
11 weapons components that are actually semi-finished nuclear
12 weapons are being transported.

13 As I've said in the past, if we make nuclear
14 weapons and never use them, why did we make them in the
15 first place? If we make nuclear weapons and do use them,
16 we will regret making them in the first place.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. BARRY LAWSON

19 Thank you.

20 I would like to on call Judy Sullivan, then Beth
21 Brockman.

22 And is Edward Sullivan here? Okay. Thank you.

23 Miss Sullivan.

24 MS. JUDY SULLIVAN

25 Good evening. My name is Judy Sullivan. I live

1 here in Oak Ridge. I don't want to see my friends and
2 neighbors lose their jobs, but I can't stand silent while
3 this discussion happens.

4 God calls us through Christ to love our
5 neighbors, to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to
6 take care of the sick, to visit the widow and to love our
7 enemies. We cannot love our enemies if we continue to
8 build bombs.

9 This preferred alternative is only going to
10 bring more destruction. It's only going to bring more
11 hurt. It's only going to take money away from good
12 causes, like education and health care and the environment
13 and alternative fuels.

14 And there are so many bright people who live in
15 this area. Let them use their genius, let them use their
16 brains, for something positive instead of something so
17 negative.

18 I think there's another alternative that we need
19 to discuss. Instead of increasing the plant, instead of
20 relocating the plant, instead of looking for new ways to
21 store these weapons or new ways to improve these weapons,
22 we need to find a way to downsize. We need to find a way
23 to get rid of these weapons. We need to find a way to
24 make this world safer, not more dangerous.

25 That's all I have to say. May God bless you and

1 keep you and guide you in your decision making.

2 MR. BARRY LAWSON

3 Thank you.

4 Before Beth Brockman speaks, is Glenn Bell here?

5 Sir, I'm sorry that I passed over you. I didn't
6 think that you were here. Would you like to speak first?

7 MR. GLENN BELL

8 As one of the gentlemen earlier spoke, I'm also
9 unemployed. I recently retired from Y-12. I'm the former
10 Chairman of the Y-12 Chronic Beryllium Support group. My
11 comments are a little bit different from what has been
12 presented so far.

13 I think Y-12 will no doubt be around for quite
14 sometime in some form. We've done a lot of important
15 work. Part of that will probably continue well into the
16 future. We've got knowledge and skills that probably
17 could not be duplicated anywhere else in the country,
18 maybe even in the world.

19 However, we also know that there's hundreds of
20 workers at Y-12 who have been made ill from their work. I
21 checked on the Department of Labor website this week and
22 over 6,000 claims from Y-12 workers or their families have
23 been approved to date under the Department of Energy
24 Compensation Program, not all from the Manhattan Project,
25 from the early years. I know a lot of them. I am one of

1 them.

2 So I would ask that whatever is done please do
3 it for the protection and the health of the workers
4 because we haven't done that well so far.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. BARRY LAWSON

7 Thank you.

8 Okay. Now, Beth Brockman. She'll be followed
9 by Edward Sullivan, and then we'll take our short break.

10 Please.

11 MS. BETH BROCKMAN

12 I'm Beth Brockman. Thank you for the
13 opportunity to make comments here today.

14 And I just want to say that what I'm about to
15 say was actually inspired by a young person in this room
16 tonight. I won't embarrass her, but her name is Sarah
17 Margaret.

18 I was here at Y-12 last year on August the
19 4th to commemorate the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki
20 and to show my personal remorse for the country I reside
21 in for these weapons of mass destruction which resulted in
22 the deaths of tens of thousands of innocent Japanese
23 civilians.

24 As a person of faith and a disciple of Jesus,
25 the Prince of Peace, I feel it's important to condemn the

1 possession of and threat to use the nuclear weapons that
2 are being refurbished here under the Stockpile Life
3 Extension Program.

4 My daughter Katie and I have enjoyed reading the
5 Harry Potter series, along with millions of other people.
6 We read the seventh book in that series, "Harry Potter and
7 the Deathly Hallows."

8 In the sixth book we find that Voltemort, the
9 antagonist in the books, has divided his soul into seven
10 different parts, placing each part into a separate
11 receptacle. In the Deathly Hallows it's up to Harry and
12 his friends to find and destroy each of the receptacles
13 that Voltemort has used for the parts of his soul.

14 At the very end of the book after six of the
15 seven parts of Voltemort's soul have been destroyed and
16 he's now facing Harry and his likely physical death we
17 learn that if Voltemort can show any remorse for his past
18 actions, killing, torture, evil deeds, any remorse at all,
19 he can redeem himself.

20 One step towards redeeming the very soul of the
21 present society that we live in is to show remorse for the
22 atrocities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and move towards
23 questioning the possession of and threat to use nuclear
24 weapons.

25 This is a move we need to take in order to begin

1 to address the violence that's so prevalent in our
2 society. But that's not all. Rather than spending
3 150 billion dollars for Complex Transformation, a project
4 that proposes to build more nuclear weapons and continue
5 to maintain the U.S.'s current stockpile, the U.S. must
6 begin the dismantling of these weapons.

7 Only by stopping the refurbishing of nuclear
8 weapons and then dismantling them can the U.S. come into
9 compliance with the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, a
10 treaty we entered into in good faith with other nations in
11 1968.

12 According to a recent article written by Frieda
13 Berrigan, Complex Transformation is too costly,
14 unnecessary and provocative. Additionally, giving Complex
15 Transformation the green light is not only foolhardy but
16 premature. As this is an election year, we do not have a
17 clear enough sense of what future nuclear policy will look
18 like.

19 Further, Berrigan points out that the Department
20 of Energy's push to rush forward with the Nuclear Weapons
21 Program is contrary to the opinions of many respected
22 individuals, including Henry Kissinger and George Shultz.

23 Finally, the SPEIS does not provide an
24 alternative other than those that maintain the status quo
25 or increase our nuclear weapons capacity.

1 Like Voltemort, the U.S. has divided its soul,
2 and we have placed our security in the prison system, big
3 corporations, fair trade policies, mass media, consumerism
4 weapons of mass destruction, and the military industrial
5 complex. And like Voltemort, our end will be death and
6 destruction.

7 However, we can begin to take steps to redeem
8 our nation's soul by abandoning all four proposals of
9 complex Transformation and using the project's 150 billion
10 dollars on protecting the environment and enriching human
11 life.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. BARRY LAWSON

14 Thank you.

15 Our last speaker before our break is Edward
16 Sullivan.

17 MR. EDWARD SULLIVAN

18 Good evening. My name is Edward Sullivan. I
19 reside here in Oak Ridge, and I appreciate the opportunity
20 to speak at this hearing.

21 I say yes to Y-12, but I say no to the
22 continuing proliferation of nuclear weapons. Building new
23 bombs will not meet current national security needs. It
24 will only discourage other nations from disarming their
25 nuclear weapons arsenals and encourage others to build

1 their own.

2 The United States must honor its commitment to
3 the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. None of the NNSA
4 proposals are acceptable. I urge the NNSA to adopt a
5 fifth alternative, a non production alternative, which
6 will end the further proliferation of nuclear weapons and
7 disarm our existing stockpile. It is the only moral and
8 sane alternative.

9 With our existing stockpile of thousands of
10 nuclear weapons, a modernized, upgraded, transformed Y-12
11 will have plenty of work to do in the centuries it will
12 take to disarm them all.

13 Thank you for listening.

14 MR. BARRY LAWSON

15 Okay. Thank you very much. Just a couple of
16 notes before we take a recess.

17 Generally, when I take a recess at this point, a
18 few people choose to leave. I would hope that you stay,
19 but if you choose to leave, I want to thank you very much
20 for coming and for your comments tonight. We really
21 appreciate that.

22 Second, we will take a very short break. I
23 would like to keep it to five or six minutes, if possible,
24 so don't go too far afield.

25 And also the first speakers when we come back --

1 The first one will be Maurizio Conti.

2 Is Mr. Conti here? Very good.

3 And then we have a team of Shelly Wascom, Lissa
4 McLeod, Kevin Collins and Cindy Collins -- They will be
5 speaking together -- then Emma McLeod.

6 So we'll take a break for five minutes. It's
7 9:02 and we'll be back at 9:07. Thank you.

8 (RECESS TAKEN)

9 MR. BARRY LAWSON

10 All right. Before we get started I just want to
11 acknowledge Colleen and Brian Tipton, who were our
12 signers. The two people who were using their services had
13 to leave, and so we're going to dismiss them. But I
14 wanted to publicly thank them for their effort.

15 Thank you very much. We appreciate it.

16 Okay. We have been moving along at a pace that
17 would get us fished right on time at ten o'clock, and so
18 let's move right along.

19 Our first speaker will be Maurizio Conti, and
20 Mr. Conti will be followed by the team of Shelly Wascom,
21 Lissa McLeod, Kevin Collins and Cindy Collins.

22 Mr. Conti, please.

23 MAURIZIO CONTI

24 Yes. I read this summary, and there is a good
25 introduction, which we can actually get a feeling of what

1 is the purpose of this transformation. And there are two
2 lines that I think summarize it well. "The transformed
3 complex will demonstrate a capability, would ensure the
4 nation's nuclear deterrent -- that the nation's nuclear
5 deterrent would remain credible and could support
6 additional reduction in the stockpile if directed by the
7 President."

8 In some way keeping this balance is what
9 transformation is about if I understand it. To reach this
10 there are four alternatives. One of them is No Action. A
11 second is the Distributed Centers of Excellence, which is
12 the preferred alternative by NNSA. There is a third
13 alternative, Consolidated Centers of Excellence, and there
14 is a final alternative called Capability-Based
15 Alternative. From my understanding the only -- the only
16 alternative is four. That one really matches a little
17 better this purpose -- is only the third or fourth,
18 including no action. The Capability-Based Alternative
19 that limits the production of what we have now to the
20 capability we had with our improved --

21 While the preferred alternative is actually
22 improvement of our production rates, it doesn't make any
23 sense to me. This preferred alternative is not consistent
24 with the stated purposes and has the worst environmental
25 impact reading this summary. To me it's a wrong choice

1 that NNSA proposing is to go for.

2 And let me add a personal note -- And I am a
3 nuclear physicist as a training, and I converted to
4 medical technology. And I can tell you there is a chance
5 -- It's possible to change if you plan carefully as an
6 individual and as a region -- as an area, as the City of
7 Oak Ridge and even as Y-12.

8 Mayors, Congressmen, Chamber of Commerce
9 representatives, Council members, came here to support
10 Y-12. And I'm telling them you have the responsibility to
11 look ahead, plan the future of this town, and there is no
12 future in nuclear weapons here it's clear to me -- It's
13 clear from the introduction that has been given today.

14 So start working to attract businesses -- new
15 businesses, new technology, computer, biotechnology,
16 material scientists, no new application of nuclear
17 technologies, but start looking ahead because this plant
18 will be closed, not by these activists, but (inaudible)
19 very soon, much before we think. So I encourage the
20 community here to look ahead.

21 MR. BARRY LAWSON

22 Thank you, sir.

23 Okay. Our next presenters are Shelley Wascom,
24 Lissa McLeod, Kevin Collins and Cindy Collins, and they
25 will be followed by Emma McLeod and Evora Kreis.

1 (The Following is a skit performed by
2 Shelley Wascom, Lissa McLeod, Kevin Collins
3 Cindy Collins, one unidentified man and
4 several unidentified children.)

5 (Uncle Sam Scrooge and then Jacob Marley
6 enter stage right.)

7 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

8 (Unintelligible sounds.) And who was I and were
9 you then in my life?

10 MR. JACOB MARLEY

11 I was your partner, Jacob Marley of Jacob Marley
12 and Uncle Samuel Scrooge, Incorporated, contractors for a
13 certain department of the government charged with nuclear
14 proliferation.

15 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

16 (Screaming). Dreadful apparition, why do you
17 terrify me like this?

18 MR. JACOB MARLEY

19 I wear the chains that I forged in life. Link
20 by link, yard by yard I forged them, and I wore them of my
21 own freewill. And now I am made to suffer for the
22 priorities I had in life.

23 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

24 But, Jacob, you were always a good man of
25 business.

1 MR. JACOB MARLEY

2 Business! Humanity should have been my
3 business. The common welfare, charity, mercy, forbearance
4 benevolence -- They all were my business, the dealings of
5 my trade, the running of my corporation, they were but a
6 drop of water in the comprehensive ocean of business.

7 Why did I walk through crowds of people with my
8 eyes turned down, never raising my eyes to see the light
9 of humanity in them?

10 Tonight is part of my penance. I am here to
11 warn you that you still have a chance and a hope of
12 escaping my fate, a chance and a hope that I am making
13 possible for you, Uncle Samuel Scrooge.

14 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

15 Oh, you were always a good friend to me, Jacob.

16 MR. JACOB MARLEY

17 Would you know the weight and length of the
18 strong chain that you yourself bear? Why, it was this big
19 seven years ago, and you have continued to labor on it.
20 It is a ponderous chain.

21 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

22 Oh, help me. Give me some comfort.

23 MR. JACOB MARLEY

24 I will give you what comfort I can. You will be
25 haunted by three spirits.

1 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

2 Is that the best you can do?

3 MR. JACOB MARLEY

4 Without their visits you cannot hope to shun the
5 path that I am on. You can expect them when the bell
6 tolls.

7 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

8 I'm not sure I'm ready for this now.

9 MR. JACOB MARLEY

10 It matters not. Look to me no more and look
11 that for your own sake you remember what has passed
12 between us. (Screaming.)

13 (Jacob Marley exits stage left, bell tolls
14 and spirit number one in black enters stage
15 right.)

16 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

17 Are you one of the spirits coming to see me?

18 SPIRIT ONE

19 I am.

20 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

21 Who, and what are you, and what do you want with
22 me?

23 SPIRIT ONE

24 I am the ghost of the past, and I have come to
25 visit you. I am actually the ghost of your past, Sam

1 Scrooge, and tonight is your chance for redemption. I'm
2 here to show you.

3 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE.

4 What shall I do then?

5 SPIRIT ONE

6 Follow me.

7 (Woman enters stage left carrying various
8 items which she lays on the stage.)

9 WOMAN

10 Oh, Sam, dear. I have everything we need for
11 this evening. I have a bag to fill with food to feed the
12 hungry and the homeless tonight. I have all the medical
13 supplies we need for going to the children's ward at the
14 hospital and taking all these wonderful medical supplies.

15 Oh, and then we're going to the School
16 Improvement Association meetings. Oh, I've got books and
17 rulers and pencils. Oh, it's going to be wonderful.

18 Oh, but not to forget the most important thing,
19 Scrooge -- Sam, we are going to the Nuclear
20 Nonproliferation Renewal.

21 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

22 Well, go on and be done with it. I got my hands
23 full.

24 WOMAN

25 What?

1 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

2 You heard me. Get on.

3 WOMAN

4 What are you doing, Sam? Oh, I see. Oh, my. I
5 have been displaced by an idol. Oh, what an idea. I hope
6 you can find some comfort in this.

7 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

8 And which idol may I ask has displaced you?

9 WOMAN

10 This golden idol that you're building here.

11 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

12 Ah, Dear Heart, we have to have money to survive
13 now, and to have money we have to have bombs to protect
14 ourselves from everybody else that has bombs that wants
15 our money, that wants to terrorize us, take over the
16 world. I am only taking care of what is mine.

17 WOMAN

18 Oh, what about life, liberty and the pursuit of
19 happiness? Oh, what about, "Give me your tired, your
20 poor?"

21 Sam Scrooge, you are afraid of the world. You
22 are creating a world of terror here and giving every
23 would-be, could-be terrorist all of the recognition and
24 power they ever sought in this warmongering arsenal
25 buildup. Your hope for the world is built on the myth of

1 power. Your vision of the future is built on --

2 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

3 So? I've not changed towards you, my dear.

4 WOMAN

5 Well, yes, you have. You have. And you value
6 people, like me, too little and gold and power too much.

7 Oh, Sam Scrooge, I hope you have a bit of
8 conscious left to be pricked when you realize what the
9 consequences are of your action.

10 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

11 Enough. Enough. Take me away. No more. No
12 more.

13 SPIRIT ONE

14 Ah, there is one more shadow to see.

15 (Six people in black hoods entered stage
16 right, holding up black and white pictures.)

17 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

18 Remove me. I cannot bear it. Leave me. Take
19 me back. Take me back.

20 (Sam has his back turned and a bell tolls.)

21 (A woman in green enters stage left.)

22 SPIRIT TWO

23 Look upon me, good man, for I am the ghost of
24 the present, a sight like you've never seen.

25 (She spills fruit out of a straw basket

1 onto the stage and puts the straw basket
2 on her head.)

3 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

4 (Inaudible). I have never seen anything like
5 you before.

6 Spirit, take me where you will. Last night I
7 went only by force, and I saw such things as I never want
8 to see again. If I must go again, then let's go.

9 SPIRIT TWO

10 Then touch the hem of my garment and come with
11 me. I am the ghost of your present. You may think we're
12 coming to see the results of your life's work, the bomb
13 plants, the (unintelligible) center, the machinery; but,
14 no, we're coming to see some other results of your work.
15 We're going to see the Krachett family. Come with me and
16 let's go to the Krachett family's home.

17 (Three people enter stage left, holding
18 up signs.)

19 SPIRIT TWO

20 Why, there they are in the distance. Look,
21 there's Education Krachett, almost a ghost itself like me
22 for lack of funding. And, look, Housing Krachett. You
23 could have built 28,000 Habitat homes with only one
24 million that you spent on the bomb plant.

25 And there, Tiny Children Krachett. Yes, their

1 lack of access to health care has caused them to fade away
2 to almost nothing. They are a fine family even with what
3 they have had to endure.

4 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

5 Spirit, tell me. Will they live, especially
6 that Tiny Children Krachett?

7 SPIRIT TWO

8 I see an empty chair by the hearth and a tiny
9 crutch by itself on the floor. If things do not change,
10 they will no longer be here next year. They will not
11 live.

12 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

13 No, kind spirit, say that it won't be so.

14 SPIRIT TWO

15 What do you care? In your own words, "If
16 they're going to die, let them die and get on with it,
17 make room for the living."

18 How those words pain you, Mr. Scrooge. Well,
19 they should pain you. Who are you to decide who should
20 live and who should die? After all in heaven's sight
21 maybe your life is not as worthy as the lives of millions
22 of poor children. So don't say those words again.

23 But, wait, my time is short. We must go on.

24 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

25 Oh, Spirit, what is that beneath your robe? Is

1 it a foot or a claw?

2 SPIRIT TWO

3 It might be a claw. There's still some flesh
4 upon it.

5 (Two children enter stage left.)

6 SPIRIT TWO

7 Whoa, look at this.

8 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

9 Spirit, are they yours?

10 SPIRIT TWO

11 No, they're not mine. These are humanity's
12 children or maybe I should say they're your children,
13 because actually you created them with your misplaced
14 priorities.

15 The girl is "Want", and the boy is "Ignorance".
16 Beware them, and all of their kind, but especially beware
17 the boy for he has "due" written on his forehead, and if
18 it doesn't fade away, it will be with us forever.

19 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

20 Have they no refuge, no resource? Have they no
21 place to go?

22 SPIRIT TWO

23 Why in your own words, Mr. Scrooge, are there
24 jails? Aren't there orphanages? Are there shelters?

25 Come away then.

1 (Bell tolls five times, the Ghost of the
2 Present and the two children exit stage left.
3 Uncle Sam Scrooge hobbles around the stage and
4 a woman in a black hood enters stage right.)

5 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

6 Am I in the presence of the ghost of the
7 future?

8 SPIRIT THREE

9 (Nods head.)

10 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

11 You will show me shadows of the things that have
12 not happened, but they will happen in the time before us.
13 Is that so, Spirit?

14 SPIRIT THREE

15 (Nods head.)

16 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

17 Ghost of the Future, I fear you most of all, but
18 I know you will do me good. I hope to be a new creature.
19 I am prepared for your company. And with a thankful
20 heart, even though I still fear you, will you speak to me
21 then?

22 SPIRIT THREE

23 (Nods head.)

24 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

25 Oh, lead on then, Spirit.

1 (Black robed figure leads the Uncle Sam
2 Scrooge around the stage.)

3 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

4 Where is this place? Where have you taken me?
5 It is so deserted. As far as I can see, there is nothing.
6 It is lifeless. It is still as death.

7 Can you hear that? I hear nothing, nothing at
8 all. Where are the trees? Where are the animals?

9 (A cardboard cockroach enters stage right,
10 moves across the stage and exits stage left.)

11 UNCLE SAM SCROOGE

12 Alas, only a cockroach has survived our nuclear
13 days. No, Spirit. No. No. Hear me. Let it not be so.
14 I am not the man I used to be. I will not be the man I
15 have been. Why show me this if I am past all hope?

16 Oh, why, Good Spirit? I will not shut out the
17 lessons you have taught. Oh, let me live. Let me live
18 and honor the past and honor the present and honor the
19 future.

20 It needs more bombs. It needs more bomb plants.
21 It needs to renew the ones we got. Who benefits? The
22 self-perpetuating corporations, government bureaucracies.
23 (unintelligible) their ill-gotten gains, that's actually
24 who benefits. Who suffers? We do; we, the people.

25 (Applause)

1 MR. BARRY LAWSON

2 Now, I have a good answer to the question when
3 people ask me, "Why do you do this?"

4 Thank you very much.

5 Our next speaker is Emma McLeod, followed by
6 Evora Kreis and Annette --

7 Is Emma McLeod here? Oh, there she is. Okay.

8 MS. EMMA McLEOD

9 My name is Emma, and I know we don't need to
10 pollute the earth and air. And why do we need bombs?
11 They just use money and time. They also kill people, and
12 I don't know why our President thinks that killing is what
13 is best to do.

14 The thought of bombs will take over your minds.
15 We don't need bombs at all. If everyone's greed overcame
16 them, then everyone would be fighting. I have nightmares
17 about my home being bombed. And innocent children all
18 over the world have those nightmares come to life.

19 And another time in a dream my cat was shot off
20 of my stomach, and then I was shot. I woke up. And was I
21 crying or sweating? I don't know.

22 But I know I am terrified of violence. It must
23 be stopped. If a new bomb plant is built, it will affect
24 the generation of children. I, as a child, say that we
25 don't want this. And I, as a child, say that we want it

1 stopped.

2 MR. BARRY LAWSON

3 Thank you.

4 Our next speaker is Evora Kreis, then Annette
5 Mendola and Doug Messerli.

6 MS. EVORA KREIS

7 Why are we making these bombs? Is it to
8 threaten other innocent countries? If we drop these
9 bombs, then lots of people, including children, will be
10 lost, not just from the explosion but also from awful
11 chemicals that cause cancer. Why do we need bombs anyway?
12 They just kill innocent people and animals. What did they
13 ever do to you?

14 These awful nuclear bombs cost a lot of money
15 and that could go to helping people as opposed to killing
16 them.

17 Also the bombs create a substantial amount of
18 toxic waste. That is extremely bad for the environment
19 and living beings. If we build this bomb plant, then we
20 will be risking the lives of others.

21 MR. BARRY LAWSON

22 Thank you.

23 All right. Our next speaker is Annette Mendola
24 and then Doug Messerli and Libby Johnson.

25 MS. ANNETTE MENDOLA

1 Can I just say I have the least enviable slot in
2 the order of speakers.

3 My name is Dr. Annette Mendola, and I teach
4 Ethics at the University of Tennessee. Of course, I am
5 not representing the University of Tennessee or the
6 Department of Philosophy. My remarks here are my own.
7 And I'd like to make the remarks on both the notion of
8 just war and also the issue of employment.

9 Just war theory is sort of based on the idea
10 that there is such a thing as fighting fair. If we are
11 committed to justice, we're committed to justice at all
12 times, including in times of war.

13 The three basic principles of just war are the
14 principle of discrimination, which is to say noncombatants
15 must not be targeted. In addition to noncombatants
16 suffering from the explosions themselves, noncombatants
17 are victims of the radiation that follows detonation of
18 nuclear weapons.

19 The second principle of just war has to do with
20 the principle of proportionality. Violence must be
21 proportional to the legitimate goals of fighting. I don't
22 know what could possibly be proportional to a nuclear
23 bomb.

24 The third is that no inherently evil means of
25 war are permitted. The long-lasting effects of radiation

1 that follow the detonation of nuclear weapons including --
2 in addition to the sheer scale of nuclear weapons are
3 inherently evil.

4 As world leaders we have be to very careful
5 about the direction in which we lead the world, and
6 nuclear weapons lead this world down a darkening path.

7 The second issue has to do with jobs, because
8 the good people who work for the Y-12 plant are part of
9 the moral picture and their jobs and their welfare need to
10 be part of any discussion having to do with nuclear
11 weapons.

12 But, come on, guys, any country with the money
13 and the ingenuity to build nuclear weapons can use these
14 resources for better goals. And we must, because what is
15 history going to say about us if we knowingly endanger the
16 lives of millions in order to maintain employment for
17 hundreds? We've got to think outside the bomb. We're
18 better than this. You're better than this. It's time for
19 a change.

20 MR. BARRY LAWSON

21 Thank you.

22 Next speaker is Doug Messerli and then Libby
23 Johnson and John Gertsen.

24 MR. DOUG MESSERLI

25 My name is Doug Messerli, and as a taxpayer

1 modernization makes sense. I am also a worker at Y-12.
2 The skilled and highly dedicated people at Y-12 need the
3 plant. And they've got the facilities. They've got the
4 equipment, but they need to modernize because it is an
5 aged plant, and it needs replacement.

6 And as the world is today I do see a continued
7 need for the missions that we have here, and they do
8 include the nuclear bomb.

9 Y-12 has always been at the forefront of the
10 nuclear missions. And as a worker I continue to support
11 the Uranium Center of Excellence and any modernization
12 that we can achieve here at Y-12.

13 MR. BARRY LAWSON

14 Thank you, sir.

15 And we'll now hear from Libby Johnson and then
16 John Gertsen and John Lane.

17 MS. LIBBY JOHNSON

18 I'm Libby Johnson from Maryville, Tennessee.
19 I'm a mother, grandmother, wife and also a nurse
20 practitioner from two decades of work with the Good
21 Samaritan Clinic in Maryville, but I speak for myself
22 tonight.

23 Tonight I want to speak both from my head and
24 from my heart on an issue that I think is of great concern
25 to all of us here, not just in Oak Ridge, not only in East

1 Tennessee, not only in the southeast region of the United
2 States, not only in the United States, but also globally.
3 It's building new nuclear weapons and also stockpiling
4 these weapons for years to come.

5 And I'm glad that DOE is required to hold public
6 hearings, that democracy requires it and that citizens
7 such as I can have a voice in the future of our community,
8 our country and the world.

9 Now, in my head I know it will take billions --
10 billions of dollars to construct and operate the new
11 complex transformation, which means making as many as 150
12 new nuclear weapons a year. That will also be a
13 continuance upgrading of the current arsenal through the
14 Stockpile Life Extension Program.

15 And in my head I know that there have been
16 former prestigious national leaders that promoted the
17 making of nuclear weapons for deterrence during the cold
18 war but recently -- I mean in January -- have spoken out
19 that no longer can we pursue this, that internationally we
20 must pursue nuclear disarmament. And this is Kissinger,
21 Shultz, Perry and Nunn.

22 And I know in my head that we have not upheld
23 the obligations of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty
24 which calls all nations to disarm. And I know in my head
25 that we at the present moment have an opportunity to

1 demonstrate global leadership toward nuclear disarmament.

2 I know that the budget of the Department of
3 Defense and the Department of Energy far exceeds the
4 budgets for human services, including health care,
5 education, jobs with living wages, equality for blacks and
6 women and (unintelligible) in the workplace, also
7 affordable housing.

8 And I know in my head that one out of six
9 Tennesseans don't have health care and another small
10 percentage are underinsured.

11 I know as a health care provider for almost two
12 decades that the making and the stockpiling of nuclear
13 weapons is a very life threatening happening and not only
14 to humans but to all life, living and nonliving.

15 And I know in my head that there is enough
16 cleanup of nuclear weapons and disarming of these nuclear
17 weapons to keep Oak Ridge workers employed for years to
18 come.

19 I know now at this moment in my heart that I
20 would like the citizens of this community and Tennessee
21 and in our country and in our world to take this issue of
22 building more nuclear weapons more seriously and to look
23 at the economic commitments that we will have to make for
24 centuries to come if we allow complex transformation to
25 move forward.

1 MR. BARRY LAWSON

2 Thirty seconds, please.

3 MS. LIBBY JOHNSON

4 Okay. And depleting resources in much needed
5 domestic areas and maintaining and building new nuclear
6 weapons is a complete dichotomy to any of our world
7 religious values, including Christianity because it is
8 wrong to put your trust in idols and weapons that destroy
9 and kill life.

10 I ask that God have mercy on this generation for
11 its complete defiance toward international cooperation and
12 consensus in setting priorities for a more safe and secure
13 world for our children and for the children to come.

14 MR. BARRY LAWSON

15 Thank you very much.

16 John Gertsen will be the next speaker, to be
17 followed by John Lane and Joyce Doughty.

18 MR. JOHN GERTSEN

19 Thank you. My name is John Gertsen. I'm an
20 employee of Y-12 and have been member of this community
21 for over 24 years. I've raised my family here.

22 Although I didn't originally intend to mention
23 this, after listening to some of the comments tonight I
24 must say as member of this community I think the consensus
25 of my community, and for that matter my state and my

1 nation, supports a strong national defense, including the
2 use of nuclear weapons. And I'll leave it at that.

3 My main comments here as I've reviewed the
4 SPEIS, I believe the preferred alternative is the best
5 choice for modernization of the Nuclear Weapons Complex.

6 Within that preferred alternative I also would
7 reinforce that Y-12 is the best choice to be the Uranium
8 Center of Excellence for a number of reasons. First and
9 foremost, we are already building the facilities that that
10 plan envisions. These will be the safest and most secure
11 nuclear production facilities ever built in the world.
12 And we're proud of them.

13 Y-12 has an outstanding past history and
14 experience in the mission. We are investing currently in
15 the plant infrastructure overall. Probably most
16 importantly, we have in place a trained and experienced
17 workforce of skilled craftsman and engineers ready to
18 perform the mission and performing that mission today.

19 The community has supported Y-12 for 65 years
20 since Oak Ridge itself was transformed by the Federal
21 Government 65 years ago into the community that it is
22 today. And I think some consideration should also be in
23 place for that community, which the Federal Government
24 created.

25 For the reasons above, modernizing the uranium

1 capability at Y-12 is the lowest cost, the most expedient
2 and the lowest environmental impact alternative.

3 Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

4 MR. BARRY LAWSON

5 Thank you, sir.

6 All right. Our next speaker is John Lane. Is
7 John Lane here? If not, is Joyce Doughty here?

8 All right. Jase Short. And following Mr. Short
9 would be Eric Fields and Kayce Collins.

10 Okay. Please.

11 MR. JASE SHORT

12 All right. I'm Jase Short of Middle Tennessee
13 Students for a Democratic Society, and I'm going to face
14 this way because I don't really think you guys are
15 listening much.

16 Our community produces weapons of mass
17 destruction. We have been presented with false choices.
18 Jobs and investments for new nuclear weapons or the status
19 quo of current production. This is irresponsible.

20 Maybe this facility means jobs and investments
21 here, but for human beings in Iran, Pakistan and China,
22 among other nations, it means the most aggressive power is
23 starting a new arms race. Thus, rather than make us
24 safer, this makes us targets.

25 We are now engaged in a new massive arms race,

1 which our government has unleashed. While others call for
2 disarmament we are building more weapons of mass
3 destruction. Can we not find more meaningful work?

4 Billions are spent for one purpose, to build
5 devices designed to commit genocide. Nuclear weapons are
6 necessarily genocidal. They are built for no other
7 purpose.

8 This facility, rather than allowing for rational
9 democratic debate instead gives us the pretense of
10 democracy and allows no democratic alternatives.
11 Genocidal weapons are antithetical to democracy. You
12 can't have democracy without people.

13 There is only one alternative that is
14 democratic, the disarmament of weapons of mass
15 destruction.

16 Let us not forget what one of the inventors of
17 the nuclear bomb said upon seeing the fruits of his labor,
18 "I am become death, the destroyer of worlds."

19 The democratic alternative is to celebrate life,
20 not to extinguish it on a mass scale. After all, what are
21 nuclear weapons but larger versions of the incinerators of
22 Auschwitz.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. BARRY LAWSON

25 Thank you.

1 Eric Fields.

2 I believe that both Kayce Collins and Will
3 Collins are not going to be speaking. And the next
4 speaker after that will be Douglas Horning.

5 MR. ERIC FIELDS

6 I'm Eric Fields from Middle Tennessee Students
7 for a Democratic Society.

8 On September 11th, 2001, the United States
9 suffered a horrible tragedy when members of Al Qaeda flew
10 planes into the World Trade Center.

11 I'm sure we all condemn their motives, but I
12 think we also want to condemn their tactics. Even if we
13 agree with all the things they were trying to achieve,
14 wouldn't we still say that the way they did it was wrong,
15 that killing thousands of innocent people just trying to
16 go to work should not be the way to achieve goals?

17 In 1945 the United States dropped two nuclear
18 bottoms on Japan. These were not on military targets.
19 They were on cities filled with civilians. The goal may
20 have been admirable, to end a war that was killing
21 thousands and stop Japan's attempts to build an Asian
22 empire, but is that a justifiable means for achieving our
23 goals? Isn't this the same tactic that Al Queda used on
24 September 11th at just a greater magnitude?

25 And yet this is really the only legitimate use

1 of nuclear weapons. There are no military targets that
2 require a bomb with so much power. And even if there were
3 military targets the size of cities, could we really
4 justify the nuclear fallout on surrounding civilians and
5 countries? No. The only action for which nuclear weapons
6 are required are actions against civilians. In other
7 words, terrorism.

8 Taking these ideas into consideration, and
9 hoping for a world free of nuclear weapons, most the
10 countries of the world, all but four, came together to
11 sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty of 1970.

12 In the treaty all countries without nuclear
13 weapons agreed not to build or acquire them. The five
14 countries who had them agreed to move toward disarmament.
15 If the countries who have them disarm and countries who
16 don't have them don't build them, we will have a world
17 free of nuclear weapons. That was the goal.

18 The vast majority of signatories have complied
19 with the treaty; that is, most of them agreed not to
20 obtain nuclear weapons, and most have not done so. Those
21 who have tried, even countries who have not actually
22 signed the treaty, have faced harsh responses from the
23 international community, and the U.S. in particular, even
24 invasion. And yet the U.S. has not complied with our own
25 promise. We have made no attempts to move toward

1 disarmament. In fact, just the opposite. We are here
2 today talking about plans to build more weapons.

3 The United States is the most powerful country
4 in the world. We see ourselves as world leaders, and we
5 are. One of the best ways to lead is by example. While
6 we tell the rest of the world they can't have nuclear
7 weapons, we are here talking about building more.

8 What is the justification for this division in
9 the world between countries who can and cannot have
10 nuclear weapons? What standing do we have to enforce the
11 Nonproliferation Treaty when we make no attempts to hold
12 up our own end?

13 Now, some who support this plan have talked
14 about economic interests. I don't want to dismiss those.
15 I care very much about working people, and I think that's
16 important, but there are things that are more important.

17 We're talking about weapons that kill millions
18 of people. We're talking about a war that would destroy
19 the world. If we really want a world without nuclear
20 weapons, and if you truly consider the idea of a nuclear
21 war, I don't see how you could want this, it will require
22 a world in which the United States does not have nuclear
23 weapons.

24 It is time for us to stand up as the most
25 powerful country in the world and be a leader in nuclear

1 disarmament. It's time for us to stop maintaining an
2 arsenal of tools whose only true use is terrorist actions
3 while we claim to be fighting a war on terror. It's time
4 for us to fulfill the promise we made to the rest of the
5 world and to make a promise to our children and
6 grandchildren to provide them with a world free of nuclear
7 weapons. It's time for us to begin disarmament, not ten,
8 fifty, one hundred years from now, right now.

9 The Nuclear Security Administration says that it
10 will take our comments into consideration. Well, they
11 have already received over 30,000 comments, and most of
12 these have said that we should comply with the Nuclear
13 Nonproliferation Treaty and disarm. And yet that's not an
14 option. All the options maintain nuclear weapons or build
15 more. Is this democracy?

16 I hope all of you will think about this and take
17 it as your own responsibility to work toward democracy, a
18 democracy where your voice matters.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. BARRY LAWSON

21 Thank you.

22 The last person I have on my list is Douglas
23 Horning.

24 MR. RICHARD HENNIGAN

25 I signed up and didn't get called.

1 MR. BARRY LAWSON

2 You will be called.

3 MR. DOUGLAS HORNING

4 I thank you for the opportunity to speak this
5 evening.

6 I'm a Y-12 employee. I've always been proud of
7 the work we do here in Oak Ridge. We've tried to use the
8 utmost in safety, and I can speak -- I've worked -- Since
9 January 1st -- or January 17th, 1977, I've been employed.
10 I've work a number of different jobs, and they've always
11 put safety and security in the front.

12 And I know that the people that work here --
13 they care a great deal about our country, and they care
14 about the safety of the people in the surrounding area.

15 I hadn't planned to go in this direction, but
16 there's been a number of things brought up tonight about
17 nuclear proliferation. And when you talk about nuclear
18 proliferation -- I have to go back myself and look at the
19 things that we've done in the current war. We've shown
20 incredible restraint to these other countries, and they
21 have not shown any restraint towards us.

22 People that know of the marines that were hanged
23 from a bridge and their bodies burned -- that didn't make
24 the news as much as if one of those marines went to defend
25 hisself and had killed an Iraqi (sic).

1 War is a terrible thing, but if we look at the
2 real world -- And people are have to realize this. Gun
3 control will be an excellent example of this. People
4 threaten the United States. Many of them look straight at
5 it, and they say, well, we'd just be better off not to
6 have guns. And the statistics prove this is not true.

7 We look at Washington, DC, no guns are allowed
8 there, but the highest crime rate in the country is there.
9 Now, if you look at the number of people -- I'm an NRA
10 member -- that have been saved because they have had a
11 firearm to defend themselves, many times not even having
12 to shoot someone but just hold them till the police is
13 there. There's a lot of stories. There's a lot of other
14 things to consider.

15 But if I trust one country in this world, it's
16 the United States of America. And I'm still proud of it.
17 I am proud of the United States, and I will trust the
18 United States above all of these other countries to have
19 nuclear weapons.

20 I believe we have proven that we are the most
21 responsible in the world when it comes to this. There's
22 been many times it would have been easy just to wipe out
23 an entire area, but, no, instead our soldiers have died to
24 protect freedom.

25 If our country was so bad -- And you hear many

1 Americans today talk about how bad and how evil our
2 country is -- then why does everybody else want to be like
3 us? Because we have freedom. You have the right to come
4 here and have a different opinion. And that's your right.

5 You have the right to come here and have a
6 religion of your choice. And I believe in God. I've
7 heard people talk about God. I believe in God. I believe
8 in rightly dividing the word of God. And I believe that
9 mankind has their plans, but God has his plan and that
10 will ultimately succeed.

11 I appreciate the opportunity, and I ask that you
12 that at this plant that we might have that facility, not
13 only for the jobs, but for the things I've spoken of.

14 If I felt that we could disarm and trust all of
15 these other nations, then I would be for that, but I think
16 that would be the most disastrous thing that could ever
17 happen in this world because there would be no United
18 States. There would be no health care systems, none of
19 this.

20 Because if you look at the very people that are
21 the enemies of this country, they have no respect for
22 life. They have surreal (sic) law. No women have the
23 right to go around unless they have a full covering. Is
24 that what we want for our country? Do we want surreal
25 law?

1 losing our freedom and risking the entire nation to be
2 obliterated.

3 And there are people out there -- and I'm saying
4 these people are evil. They are evil because to them and
5 their beliefs they believe they are the only ones that
6 have a right to believe the way they do, and they will not
7 tolerate other people believing differently. And I do not
8 think that's what we want for America. I hope we never go
9 there.

10 And I just appreciate your time. And, sir, I
11 thank for being here, and I thank everybody that's come
12 out. And this is America, and you have the right to
13 express yourself, express your opinion. That's what we're
14 about. And so I just appreciate everyone that has spoke
15 on either side, and I thank you for being here tonight.

16 All right. Thank you.

17 MR. BARRY LAWSON

18 Okay. Thank you, sir.

19 Yes, sir. And I apologize if I didn't call your
20 name.

21 MR. RICHARD HENNIGAN

22 My name is Richard Hennigan --

23 Maybe I signed on the wrong sheet. There were
24 long sheets out there.

25 MR. BARRY LAWSON

1 You're home safe. Go ahead.

2 MR. RICHARD HENNIGAN

3 Thank you. My name is Richard Hennigan. I'm a
4 30-year resident of Tennessee. And it strikes me that I
5 can't really imagine a -- This is a discussion of an
6 Environmental Impact Statement ultimately, and I really
7 can't imagine anything as absurd as thinking about and
8 commenting about in such a formal way whether nuclear
9 weapons can have a benign environmental impact. It's a
10 contradiction in terms.

11 And it shows me that we are not thinking clearly
12 about these problems that we have. We have been blinded.
13 We have been misled. Our minds have been confused. And
14 we need to think outside of the box or as someone said
15 earlier think outside of the bomb.

16 And I appreciate very much the people from Y-12
17 and the folks around this community who have spoken in
18 favor of their livelihoods and in favor of the quality of
19 their work and their hopes for the future. But our
20 security as a nation is much broader than issues of
21 nuclear weapons. And there are untold ways in which these
22 skills and hopes can be used to ensure our security,
23 dealing with issues of global warming, dealing with
24 globalization, dealing with new technologies.

25 We just have to think more broadly than we've

1 been able to think of in the terms that we're offered here
2 tonight. We cannot just say, well, are we going to choose
3 one of these four choices because we're just following the
4 President's orders? We can't do that anymore.

5 So I also would speak for another alternative --
6 And I'm not naive. I don't expect our country to just
7 lock the bombs up and say, well, nobody is going to attack
8 us. This is something we have to work towards and achieve
9 over time. But we can do that, and we need to give a sign
10 to the world that we're ready to do that, not give a sign
11 to the world that we're just entrenching our nuclear
12 weapons and wanting to make them stronger.

13 Thank you.

14 CLOSING COMMENTS

15 BY MR. BARRY LAWSON

16 Thank you, sir.

17 Well, very good, and thank you all. I really
18 appreciate your comments.

19 As I say, I have introduced everybody that was
20 on my list. Given that and the fact that we have hit ten
21 o'clock right on the nose, I congratulate you.

22 I would like to remind you that you may continue
23 to submit comments on the SPEIS until the comment period
24 closes on April 10.

25 And I'd like to thank you -- Before we leave I'd

1 like to thank our court reporter for many hours of
2 excellent work. I really appreciate it.

3 Once again, thank you all. I don't know what
4 the conditions are out tonight, but I know it was cold.
5 Please, drive carefully.

6 And this then concludes this hearing on the
7 Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
8 for the Complex Transformation Program.

9 This hearing is now adjourned.

10 (PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED AT 10:00 P.M.)

11

12 LIST OF SPEAKERS ATTACHED
13 WITH NAME AND PAGE NUMBER
14 LOCATION IN DOCUMENT

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

LIST OF SPEAKERS

SPEIS - Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Evening Session - February 26, 2008

1

2

3

4 MS. GINA BROOME.....11

5 MR. GARY HUMAN.....13

6 MR. CHARLIE HENSLEY.....16

7 MR. WAYMAN McLAUGHLIN.....18

8 MS. CAROL GREEN.....18

9 REV. HOWARD BOX.....20

10 MR. REX JONES.....22

11 MS. ELIZABETH HENAULT.....24

12 MR. CHARLES SAMUELS.....26

13 MR. BILL WILCOX.....27

14 MS. JUDY QUINN.....30

15 MS. JASON COKER.....31

16 MR. TOM TREW.....33

17 MR. GAIL MATTSON.....33

18 MS. SANDY DUNLAP.....36

19 MR. CHUCK HOPE.....37

20 MR. DARIN SCARBROUGH.....38

21 MR. JOHN CLARK.....39

22 MR. STEVEN MEAD.....40

23 MR. BILL MYERS.....43

24 MR. BILL NICKLE.....46

25 MR. TOM COLLIER.....47

1 REV. MARCIA FREE.....49

2 MR. GLENN BELL.....54

3 MR. STEPHEN CLEMENTS.....51

4 MS. JUDY SULLIVAN.....52

5 MS. BETH BROCKMAN.....55

6 MR. EDWARD SULLIVAN.....58

7 MR. MAURIZIO CONTI.....60

8 MS. SHELLEY WASCOM63

9 MS. LISSA MCLEOD.....63

10 MS. KEVIN COLLINS.....63

11 MS. CINDY COLLINS.....63

12 MS. EMMA MCLEOD.....74

13 MS. EVORA KREIS.....75

14 MS. ANNETTE MENDOLA.....75

15 MR. DOUG MESSERLI.....77

16 MS. LIBBY JOHNSON.....81

17 MR. JOHN GERTSEN.....81

18 MR. JASE SHORT.....83

19 MR. ERIC FIELDS.....85

20 MR. DOUGLAS HORNING.....89

21 MR. RICHARD HENNIGAN.....93

22

23

24

25

C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
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11
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STATE OF TENNESSEE)

COUNTY OF ANDERSON)

I, LYNDA L. CLARK, RMR, CCR(TN), Court Reporter and Notary Public, do hereby certify that the public hearing held for the United States Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration, Draft Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Statement (SPEIS) at the New Hope Center, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Evening Session, was reported stenographically by me on February 26, 2008, and that the transcript provided herein is a true and accurate transcript of that public hearing to the best of my knowledge, skills, and ability.

This 10th day of March, 2008.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 8/24/11