My Request to the Air District to Deny any Permit for Open-Air Bomb Tests at Livermore Lab’s Site 300

To: San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD, or Air District)

Email: Nick.Peirce@valleyair.org

Postal mail: Arnaud Marjollet, Director of Permits and Nick Peirce, Manager, SJVAPCD, 4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto, CA 95356

Dear Air District:

I write today to oppose the proposal by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Livermore Field Office (LFO) to conduct large, outdoor bomb tests at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory’s Site 300, located near Tracy, CA.

The permit application submitted to your office would enable a daily increase in the size and yield of high explosives from 100 pounds to 1,000 pounds (10x). Further, it includes an annual increase from 1,000 pounds to 7,500 pounds (7.5x).

According to the permit application, these outdoor tests would include upwards of 120 hazardous constituents, including beryllium, vinyl chloride, phosphine, hydrogen cyanide, dioxin and others. These pollutants are known to damage organs, cause cancer and other diseases, and may lead to premature death.

I applaud the Air District for directing NNSA to provide additional environmental impact data before your office makes any permit decision. I understand you have requested that NNSA provide “further review and reconsideration” of the project.

I have asked NNSA to cancel the project. If, however, NNSA returns to the Air District and presses for issuance of a permit for this project in whole or in part, I ask you to deny that request.

Please keep me informed of any action by the Air District.

Sincerely,

NAME:  
ADDRESS:  
EMAIL: