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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
DRAFT SITE-WIDE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR THE OAK RIDGE Y-12 PLANT  
ANDERSON COUNTY  
MORNING SESSION, NOVEMBER 18, 2009



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## 1 INTRODUCTION

2 MODERATOR: Good morning and welcome to this  
3 meeting. Before we get started, I want to announce  
4 that they found in the lobby a University of Tennessee  
5 Knoxville College of Arts and Sciences, sort of golden  
6 badge like this. So, anyway, we have it up here if  
7 this belongs to anybody. Here it is.

8 Again, thank you for taking the time to  
9 participate in this important public hearing on the  
10 National Nuclear Security Administration's Draft  
11 Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement, or Site-Wide  
12 EIS, for the Y-12 National Security Complex, or Y-12.

13 I hope you had an opportunity to browse the  
14 displays and talk with the staff during the just  
15 completed open house.

16 My name is Holmes Brown, and I'm the moderator  
17 for this hearing. My roles this morning are to ensure  
18 opportunities for those attending the hearing to  
19 obtain information about the proposed program and to  
20 provide comments.

21 Secondly, that we observe the basic ground  
22 rules to allow a fair and respectful participation by  
23 all.

24 There are two parts to this hearing. The  
25 informal segment began with the open house and

1 continues following my remarks with a brief welcome by  
2 the Y-12 Staff Office and a 15-minute presentation of  
3 the Site-Wide EIS Document Manager who will discuss  
4 the contents of the Site-Wide EIS.

5 The formal segment will begin following the  
6 Site Office presentation. During the formal segment,  
7 members of the public will be called to make oral  
8 comments on the Site-Wide EIS. The Court Reporter  
9 will then begin making a verbatim record of your  
10 comments.

11 There will no exchange of questions and  
12 answers. NNSA officials will be here to listen to  
13 your comments, but will not be engaging in dialogue.

14 If you wish to make an oral comment during the  
15 formal comment segment, please sign up at the  
16 registration table out front, if you haven't already  
17 done so.

18 I will be calling on speakers as their names  
19 appear on the registration list. The "Ground Rules"  
20 for speakers provide additional information on making  
21 comments.

22 In the formal session, members of the public  
23 will be allotted up to three minutes to make comments,  
24 given the number of folks who have sign up already to  
25 speak. Please make your comments concise and related

1 to the content of the Site-Wide EIS.

2 If you have a longer written statement, please  
3 summarize those comments orally and submit the written  
4 document in its entirety.

5 That's a summary of the hearing format. We  
6 look forward to your participation and a productive  
7 and respectful hearing.

8 I would like now to introduce Mr. Kevin Smith,  
9 the Deputy Manager for the NNSA's Y-12 Site Office.

10 As Deputy Manager, Mr. Smith serves as the  
11 Chief Operating Officer for the Y-12 Site Office.

12 (Opening by Mr. Smith)

13 (Presentation by Ms. Gorman)

14 (A short break is taken.)

15 PURPOSE AND FORMAT

16 MODERATOR: If folks will take their seats,  
17 we'll get started with the formal comment period.

18 The Court Reporter will begin transcribing all  
19 further comments.

20 I will now read into the record for verbatim  
21 transcription my introductory remarks for the public  
22 comment hearing.

23 This portion of our hearing is officially  
24 designated as the Oak Ridge Public Hearing for the  
25 Draft Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for

1 Y-12.

2 This hearing is being held on November 18th at  
3 the New Hope Center. It is being held to receive  
4 comments on the content of this Draft Site-Wide EIS.

5 We are commencing the public comment portion  
6 of the hearing at 11:13 p.m. -- sorry, a.m., and are  
7 scheduled to adjourn once all participants have had a  
8 chance to make their comments.

9 Each speaker will have, I am going to say,  
10 three minutes. But we have 53 folks signed up. And  
11 we ran about two and a half hours last night. I'm  
12 hopeful that folks can actually abbreviate their  
13 comments beyond that, and try and make them two.

14 We will hold up a sign at the two-minute mark  
15 indicating that you have one minute remaining. But  
16 once again, in order to allow everybody to speak, with  
17 so many speakers, I would appreciate it if people  
18 could even beat the three-minute deadline.

19 This hearing was preceded by a presentation by  
20 Y-12's Site-Wide EIS Document Manager, Ms. Pam Gorman.  
21 Ms. Gorman will represent the NNSA in listening to and  
22 accepting your comments.

23 For the record, my name is Holmes Brown. I  
24 have been asked by the NNSA to conduct this comment  
25 period as an independent and neutral moderator. I

1 will ensure that the ground rules we reviewed earlier  
2 in the morning are followed.

3 The Court Reporter is Dana Holloway. The  
4 Court Reporter's task is to create a complete and  
5 accurate transcription of this hearing.

6 A verbatim transcript of oral comments  
7 received today will be included in the NNSA's record  
8 of these proceedings. NNSA will place copies of the  
9 transcript from the public hearing on the Y-12  
10 Site-wide EIS on their web page as soon as is  
11 practicable.

12 If you wish to make a comment today, please  
13 sign up at the registration table if you haven't  
14 already done so. I will recognize speakers in the  
15 order in which they registered allowing elected,  
16 federal, and state officials, if any, to go first.

17 Please remain in room if you're scheduled to  
18 speak. Again, I'll be calling three speakers at a  
19 time; the current speaker, and the two to follow, so  
20 that you will have some warning when you are to speak.

21 When it's your turn to speak, please come  
22 forward to that podium. Please also state your name  
23 and affiliation, if appropriate. This will help the  
24 Court Reporter make an accurate record of your  
25 comments.

1 Remember the time limit and the fact that this  
2 hearing is on the Draft Y-12 Site-Wide EIS. Again, if  
3 you're approaching the time limit, I will hold up a  
4 one minute sign. Please summarize your remaining  
5 comments as quickly as possible.

6 Also if you have a written copy of your  
7 comments, or if you have a written document that you  
8 would like to submit for the record, please hand them  
9 to the Court Reporter when you've completed your  
10 comments.

11 Written materials will be formally accepted  
12 into the record as exhibits to this hearing in  
13 addition to oral comments. Each will be weighed  
14 equally by NNSA.

15 Again, you may submit comments as were  
16 described in the last slide, other than oral comments.

17 So with that, by way of introduction, let me  
18 introduce the first speaker, David Leaverton from  
19 Senator Bob Corker's Office.

20 David will be followed by Tom Beehan and Jane  
21 Miller.

22 FORMAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

23 DAVID LEAVERTON: I'm here representing  
24 Senator Bob Corker. As many of you in this room know,  
25 Senator Corker has been, and will continue to be, a

1 strong supporter of Y-12 in their continued operation  
2 and modernization in its vital role in supporting our  
3 nation's security. Senator Corker will be submitting  
4 comments into the record.

5 MODERATOR: Thank you, very much.

6 Tom Beehan, Jane Miller, and Sam Easterling  
7 will follow.

8 TOM BEEHAN: My name is Tom Beehan. I'm the  
9 Mayor of the City of Oak Ridge. And I'm here to speak  
10 on behalf of the City of Oak Ridge.

11 At the Monday night City Counsel meeting, the  
12 City Counsel unanimously passed a resolution  
13 supporting the preferred alternative. And that has  
14 been submitted. I have the full...

15 I've got good news for you. I submitted the  
16 whereas's last night. So all I'm going to do is say  
17 we continue to support that.

18 I will say that we are very proud to have Y-12  
19 as a resident of our community.

20 What they're doing here is modernization of a  
21 facility that is old, and it will make it more  
22 efficient.

23 The other comment I would make that is that as  
24 of last night I know there were many people that spoke  
25 to the issue nuclear proliferation. This really is

1 not about that. This is about modernization and  
2 shrinking of the nuclear stockpile.

3 I also have a letter that I would like to read  
4 into the record from the County Mayor of Roane County,  
5 Mike Farmer. If you will allow me, please. It says:

6 "Dear Ms. Gorman:

7 "I'm writing you as County Executive of Roane  
8 County in support of the proposed Uranium Processing  
9 Facility (UPF) at the Y-12 National Security Complex  
10 in Oak Ridge. This facility will be another anchor to  
11 the modernization initially currently underway at  
12 Y-12. The Draft Site-Wide Environmental Impact  
13 Statement (EIS) presents this as a preferred option  
14 from several alternatives considered.

15 "Prior to being elected County Executive of  
16 Roane County, I worked inside the Y-12 plant and have  
17 a unique working knowledge of its operation. Also,  
18 portions of the Oak Ridge DOE Complex, as well as the  
19 City of Oak Ridge, are in Roane County.

20 "Our county and region have always been strong  
21 supporters of the uranium processing and nuclear  
22 related missions of the Oak Ridge complex. Our region  
23 has invested in the development of a highly skilled  
24 workforce that has always been responsive to the safe  
25 conduct of the operations associated with these

1 missions for more than 60 years. We are prepared to  
2 continually fully support such missions and continue  
3 to invest in the regional workforce development that  
4 is required for these operations.

5 "We do believe that Y-12's continued role in  
6 manufacturing and assembling (sic.) nuclear warhead  
7 components should be conducted in modernized  
8 facilities with cost effective and safety focused  
9 processes. We think this preferred option of a new  
10 UPF achieves that.

11 "Thank you for your consideration of these  
12 comments. Please include them in the official record  
13 of the EIS.

14 "Sincerely, Mike Farmer, Roane County  
15 Executive." (As read.)

16 Thank you, very much.

17 MODERATOR: Thanks, very much.

18 Jane Miller will be followed by Sam Easterling  
19 and Shirley Cox.

20 JANE MILLER: Good morning. I'm Jane Miller,  
21 and I serve as Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Oak Ridge.

22 I serve -- as a member of City Counsel, I'm in  
23 an organization, Energies Communities Alliance. And  
24 it's an organization of elected officials who have DOE  
25 facilities in their community.

1           But Oak Ridge is one of the only -- it is the  
2           only community that has a facility right in their  
3           backyard as close as we do.

4           But we like that arrangement. From the city  
5           point of view, we like that arrangement.

6           Y-12 is a great corporate citizen. Not just  
7           with their financial contributions, but also their  
8           managers and their 6,500 employees. They step up  
9           every time there is a need to volunteer, to whatever  
10          it is that we ask them for in the community. And not  
11          just Oak Ridge, but across the region, and even  
12          beyond.

13          I want to make a couple of things real clear  
14          that I heard last night that were not clear. But Y-12  
15          is not making bombs or weapons. They are dismantling  
16          bombs and weapons. And also, Y-12 has accepted, which  
17          I think is really outstanding, they've accepted  
18          nuclear materials from other countries to keep them  
19          out of the hands of terrorists, which could end all  
20          the freedoms that we know. In fact, the freedom that  
21          we have even to stand here today.

22          And I support the preferred alternative.  
23          Thank you.

24          MODERATOR: Sam Easterling will be followed by  
25          Shirley Cox and Erick Evered.

1                   SAM EASTERLING: Good morning. I'm Sam  
2 Easterling, a citizen of Blount County, the State of  
3 Tennessee, and the United States of America.

4                   I'm a proud son of a World War II veteran.  
5 And I'm speaking in support of the preferred  
6 alternative for a new uranium processing facility to  
7 be located at Y-12 National Security Complex.

8                   As we plan for the future, we must remember  
9 our past. And I would like to offer a remembrance in  
10 a song called:

11                  "Fly Old Glory Fly, Over the Y-12 Site."

12                  "A heritage of sacrifice and certain urgency,  
13 A vision in the General's eye determined to succeed-  
14 Farmers gave their fertile land, in Bear Creek Valley,  
15 For all America and Y-12's destiny.

16                  Fly Old Glory fly, over the Y-12 Site

17                  workin' in defense of Liberty,

18                  With a patriotic pride and work ethic inside-

19                  All to fulfill the guarantee,

20                  With Safety and Security,

21                  Fly Old Glory fly, in the East Tennessee sky

22                  Keeping America Free.

23                  Skills came in every hand, that badged in through the  
24 gate

25                  Few, knew the secret plan, though they knew what was

1 at stake-

2 Concrete, Bricks, and stone laid the foundation,

3 While World War II raged on, threatening free nations.

4 Science found the factory floor, in a project called

5 Manhattan

6 Scientists opened the door and craftsmen made it

7 happen-

8 Innovations never stopped, throughout Y-12 history,

9 From machinists in the shops to the girls of Beta 3.

10 More than fifty thousand faces, in the span of sixty

11 years

12 Did their jobs and ran their races, and brought

13 Y-12 to here-

14 I only need to watch the news and look into my

15 daughter's eyes,

16 To understand the choice we choose, there is no

17 compromise.

18 Fly Old Glory fly, over the Y-12 Site workin' in

19 defense of Liberty,

20 With a patriotic pride and work ethic inside-

21 All to fulfill the guarantee,

22 With Safety and Security,

23 Fly Old Glory fly, in the East Tennessee sky

24 Keeping America Free."

25 Our best tribute to the past is a secure and

1 safe future. And that's best achieved by following  
2 our preferred alternative. Thank you.

3 MODERATOR: Thank you. Shirley Cox, followed  
4 by Erich Evered and Michael Sandstrom.

5 SHIRLEY COX: Hi. I'm Shirley Cox, and I'm a  
6 resident of Anderson County, and have grown up in Oak  
7 Ridge, and spent a career at Y-12. And I came to say  
8 the preferred alternative is the only alternative that  
9 makes the right decision to protect our national  
10 security, our freedom.

11 And as Jane Miller said, it allows us the  
12 freedom to come and say what we think, whether we're  
13 for or against these things.

14 It also is important to me for people to  
15 realize that more than 63 million lives were lost in  
16 the wars in the past through the World War II, when  
17 nuclear weapons stopped that. And I think that's  
18 extremely important for us to remember.

19 And I think it's also extremely important for  
20 us to remember and recognize that without Y-12 we  
21 don't have any United States capability for new  
22 enriched uranium -- highly enriched uranium. We need  
23 that. We need nuclear energy independence. Whether  
24 it's nuclear or oil, do we want to be dependant on  
25 foreign resources for our weapon supply, our national

1 security, as we are for oil today? Let's change that.

2 Let's get our heads out. And let's think  
3 about what we really need for national security. What  
4 we need for our freedoms.

5 I guess that about wraps it up, I'm passionate  
6 about it. And I hope you will learn to understand how  
7 important it is. Thank you.

8 MODERATOR: Thank you. After Erich, Michael  
9 Sandstrom and Connie Martin.

10 ERICH EVERED: Good morning. My name is Erich  
11 Evered. I am an Oak Ridge resident. I am here on  
12 behalf of the Energy Technology and Environmental  
13 Business Association, ETEBA, a nonprofit trade  
14 association which has been active in Oak Ridge for  
15 more than 20 years.

16 ETEBA is comprised of more than 200 businesses  
17 that provide services to the Department of Energy and  
18 the National Nuclear Security Administration, the  
19 NNSA.

20 According to a 2007 economic impact study  
21 conducted by Dr. Matt Murray, ETEBA companies  
22 generated over 16,000 jobs in Tennessee, including the  
23 effective multipliers, and a total income of \$1.3  
24 billion.

25 Over the years, ETEBA has participated in

1 numerous NEPA proceedings and community workshops  
2 involving Oak Ridge's federal facilities. As many  
3 ETEBA companies currently work, or have done work, at  
4 Y-12, our organization is well positioned to provide  
5 comments on the proposed Draft Site-Wide EIS currently  
6 before us today.

7 This document is an important document in the  
8 Y-12 decision-making framework. It constitutes the  
9 most recent and comprehensive summary of the purpose  
10 and need for future missions at Y-12 and related  
11 environment and regulatory considerations associated  
12 with the proposed actions.

13 For the record, ETEBA would like to state its  
14 support of the Capability-Sized UPF Alternative, which  
15 is the NNSA's preferred alternative. ETEBA and its  
16 member companies stand ready, however, to implement  
17 whichever alternative is decided upon in the final EIS  
18 document and record of decision.

19 We intend to submit detailed written comments,  
20 but would like to take this opportunity to make the  
21 following brief points in this setting:

22 The continued operation of Y-12 is critical to  
23 the national security of the United States.

24 The continued operation of Y-12 is critical to  
25 DOE NNSA's Stockpile Stewardship Program, and to

1 preventing the spread and use of nuclear weapons  
2 worldwide.

3 Y-12 is key to the national interest in  
4 maintaining a safe, secure, and reliable stockpile of  
5 weapons in the most effective and efficient manner.

6 Specifically, the construction of the UPF is  
7 the integral component to modernization of the Y-12  
8 complex. UPF, as described in the preferred  
9 Capability-Sized Alternative, would achieve a number  
10 of important advantages, which are detailed in the  
11 document.

12 Construction of the UPF would replace  
13 decrepit, old facilities that are environmental and  
14 worker safety risks. It would also supported NNSA's  
15 Supplemental Programatic EIS, which designated Y-12 as  
16 the Uranium Center of Excellence.

17 The HEUMF, which has been constructed and is  
18 almost operational, will support UPF operations.

19 UPF at Y-12 would also ensure Quality  
20 Assurance needed to continually assess our stockpile  
21 through surveillance measures. It will also provide  
22 uranium feedstock to Naval Reactors, for which Y-12 is  
23 the only source.

24 Moreover, it will preserve the nation's  
25 capability to produce nuclear weapons again, if

1 needed.

2 MODERATOR: You're fighting the three-minute  
3 mark.

4 ERICH EVERED: Thank you, Holmes. I'll wrap  
5 up.

6 MODERATOR: All right.

7 ERICH EVERED: Finally, the capability-sized  
8 supports continued dismantlement of components, which  
9 is essential to complying with our arms-control  
10 agreements. Several retired weapon systems are  
11 planned for dismantlement during the next five years.

12 The other two key points are that Y-12 must be  
13 modernized to ensure a safe, secure, and reliable  
14 stockpile of nuclear weapons.

15 And finally, a key point that ETEBA wants to  
16 make is that the Integrated Facilities Disposition  
17 Project is key to Y-12 modernization efforts and must  
18 be fully incorporated into the record of decision.

19 We'll provide detail on that further point for  
20 the record. Thank you.

21 MODERATOR: Okay. Michael Sandstrom. Connie  
22 Martin will follow, and Garrett Wagley.

23 MICHAEL SANDSTROM: Hello, everybody. My name  
24 is Michael Sandstrom. I'm presently honored to work  
25 for B&W here at the plant. But I've worked in several

1 different locations and have experienced work in  
2 several different environments, modern and not so  
3 modern.

4 And as you can see, I kind of hobbled down  
5 here. And she announced that a lot of these buildings  
6 are 1945 era. I'm hitting to 59, so I'm hobbling  
7 because I partied a little bit too much and danced a  
8 little bit too much and feeling the age.

9 That's one of the striking comparisons here,  
10 is there are a lot of old buildings here. So I want  
11 you to be clear that I'm definitely not for  
12 Alternative 1.

13 We have a system of laws and rules that we  
14 follow. And a lot of things get, what we call  
15 grandfathered. And in that manner, they're okay. But  
16 really, if you have to start anew, you've got new  
17 rules. You've got new guidelines that you follow to  
18 make things safer and more efficient. So I definitely  
19 want to see a change.

20 Now, I differ a little bit. I prefer  
21 Alternative 2. This is an opportunity to put in a new  
22 state of the art equipment. They've got new processes

1                   they've come up with. Safer ways of doing business.

1

I think the push now is to try to reduce even

1 expand. And the reasoning for that is just working at  
2 all these different locations.

3 And even you, when you go out to buy a home,  
4 you say, I need this size home. And you get there and  
5 you decide, well, now I want to turn the carport into  
6 a garage. I'm going to take the basement and expand  
7 it into another room.

8 And I've seen this in a lot of locations that  
9 what you anticipate your needs are at the time, when  
10 you actually get your facility then you start to  
11 realize there are additional items and processes that  
12 come direct from state and government and just from  
13 your own experience that you're going to have to  
14 expand.

15 And you can see from the footprints that they  
16 had, we're severely reducing the size. So we're doing  
17 these buildings and I don't want to be in a situation  
18 where we're working with a building and then all of a  
19 sudden things change and we need to expand. And now  
20 we've already narrowed this footprint down to the size  
21 that it is now.

22 So I would like to go ahead and anticipate.  
23 And even though we've got these high hopes of reducing  
24 nuclear weapons, I want us to have the capability.  
25 And that's the biggest issue here. But this is

1 definitely for Alternative 2, but not Alternative 1.  
2 The others are okay because they move us forward.

3 And I appreciate the time. Thank you.

4 MODERATOR: Thank you. Connie Martin, Garrett  
5 Wagley, and Brian Andrews will be next.

6 CONNIE MARTIN: Thank you. I'm Connie Martin.  
7 And I'm here from both a personal and professional  
8 basis. I'm the Vice President of Support Services at  
9 Methodist Medical Center.

10 And we have a bit of a unique history at  
11 Methodist in that had the complex not come into  
12 existence back in the forties, our hospital would not  
13 have come into existence. Because obviously there was  
14 a need for health care during that development and  
15 operation. And that need has grown as our population  
16 has changed and increased and as health care needs  
17 have increased.

18 I also have a bit of person history with Oak  
19 Ridge in that as a direct result back in 1970 of some  
20 programs from the National Science Foundation, I was  
21 the benefactor of a summer enrichment program where I  
22 spent my summer between my junior and senior year here  
23 in Oak Ridge in parts of the complex that we were  
24 allowed to visit and attend workshops in. That's 25  
25 actually what made me chose my career in health care.

1           And I am very proud of that history. Not only of  
2 health care here, but of the connection with the  
3 complex.

4           And I would just like to speak out in favor of  
5 the preferred Option 4. There are several reasons why  
6 we believe at Methodist Medical Center that that is  
7 best option. Those include, obviously, the  
8 modernization, which is very definitely needed, the  
9 reduction in the footprint, moreover the safety is  
10 very crucial as well.

11           And we're constantly faced with similar  
12 situations in parts of our facility that are aging.  
13 And as a person who is responsible for some of the  
14 facility management, it is a great deal of a challenge  
15 to try to maintain safety and engineering controls in  
16 those parts of the building that have not been  
17 modernized, like some of our more recent additions.

18           Also one thing that has not been mentioned  
19 that I do think is vital, and we at Methodist Medical  
20 Center believe is vital, is the consolidation of the  
21 emergency preparedness functions. We have the  
22 opportunity to partner with folks expert in that area  
23 from this facility here. And we believe that it's  
24 important to continue to provide that service in a  
25 very professional, very quality way. And by

1 consolidating those functions, that would be more  
2 easily accomplished.

3 Finally, I also work with the volunteers of  
4 Methodist Medical Center. And again, we are the  
5 benefactor of countless, countless hours of volunteer  
6 services that come from the ranks of many of the  
7 retirees from Y-12 and the other associated facilities  
8 here.

9 Not only do they spend hours with us  
10 partnering to deliver care, but they also lend their  
11 expert in key committees and decision-making  
12 situations. And they raise funds that enable us to  
13 continue to provide care to those that can't afford  
14 that care themselves.

15 So I'd just like again to reenforce the fact  
16 that Methodist Medical Center is definitely in favor  
17 the preferred option. Thank you.

18 MODERATOR: Thank you. Okay. Garrett Wagley,  
19 Brian Andrews, and Randy Lawson will follow.

20 GARRETT WAGLEY: I'm Garrett Wagley, here  
21 representing the Knoxville Chamber. On behalf of the  
22 Knoxville's Chamber 2,100 members, we support NNSA's  
23 preferred alternative, and hope that Y-12 will remain  
24 a key component to nuclear security enterprise, and  
25 that the construction of the UPF supports its

1 continued vital role of our nation. We support the  
2 transformation of the Nuclear Security Enterprise to  
3 make it smaller, more responsive, safer, and more  
4 secure. We support NNSA's work to modernize the Y-12  
5 complex through the replacement of an aging enriched  
6 uranium processing facilities with a modern, safe,  
7 secure, and cost effective facility.

8 We appreciate the significant economic impact  
9 of Y-12 on the region, with thousands of highly  
10 skilled employees and subcontractors, and procurements  
11 worth millions of dollars annually.

12 We value the contributions made by management  
13 and employees of Y-12 to our region, our state, and  
14 our nation. And we think the construction of the UPF  
15 is a sound business decision. Thank you.

16 MODERATOR: Thank you. Brian Andrews. And  
17 Randy Lawson and Matthew Whitus will follow.

18 BRIAN ANDREWS: Hello. My name is Brian  
19 Andrews. I work at Y-12 National Security Complex. I  
20 worship God in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. And I'm also a  
21 landlord. I own properties in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

22 If there's a threat, there must also be a  
23 deterrent. And that deterrent is what we offer at  
24 Y-12.

25 The United States must have the ability to

1 maintain the nuclear weapons stockpile. Y-12 has the  
2 capability to provide our vital component to that  
3 stockpile.

4 There can be no questioning our experience,  
5 our capabilities, and our desire for the work of our  
6 workforce.

7 However, our infrastructure is crumbling around  
8 us and falling down making it, as many have pointed  
9 out, an unsafe place in the long term, to work.

10 We must also protect our nation's secret  
11 materials and the nation's stockpile of enriched  
12 uranium.

13 Both of these points make it essential that we  
14 have an UPF, a uranium processing facility, and a new  
15 command complex to protect what we do at Y-12 and to  
16 make our capabilities available in the future.

17 Locally, Y-12 is a great local partner to the  
18 community. I truly believe that Y-12, the company and  
19 the employees that work there, are concerned about the  
20 health and welfare of the local community. And Y-12's  
21 track record clearly supports my belief.

22 I strongly support Option 2 -- Alternative 2,  
23 and Alternative 4.

24 MODERATOR: Thank you. Randy Lawson, followed  
25 by Matthew Whitus. And then Robert Presley.

1                   RANDY LAWSON: Hello. My name is Randy  
2 Lawson. I'm part of Protective Forces at the Y-12  
3 Site.

4                   I'm very blessed and proud to be employed  
5 here. I have been since 1984.

6                   Two main reasons that we support the preferred  
7 option. One basic reason is the knowledge and  
8 know-how of the employees. Everyone here at the Y-12  
9 plant do (sic.) a significant job that no other site  
10 does. We've been here since the Manhattan Project.  
11 And, of course, all of us know the history. A very  
12 well-designed plant that's getting old. Modern  
13 technology is taking over and we've got to keep up  
14 with the times.

15                   The other option is, of course, my second  
16 opinion I'll be a little biased about is the  
17 Protective Forces. Over 60 years we have been  
18 protecting national security. We're not protecting  
19 something at Wal-mart or not a night watchman, by any  
20 means. This is a serious business. A lot of training  
21 and expertise goes into this line of work.

22                   Y-12 and the Oak Ridge Reservation alone, is  
23 probably one of the most secured sites there is. And  
24 I can speak to that by saying that we have never  
25 failed an exercise that's been tasked to us by the DOE

1 with an adversary-type force-on-force. We're very  
2 proud of our site. We are very proud of the work we  
3 do. It's very important to have this type of work at  
4 the site here at Oak Ridge because it will be  
5 protected by the best forces and by the best  
6 employees, that know what they're doing. Thank you.

7 MODERATOR: Thank you. Matthew Whitus.  
8 Robert Presley will follow. And then James Woody.

9 MATTHEW WHITUS: Thank you. My name is  
10 Matthew Whitus. And I would like to thank the  
11 National Security Administration for its time today.  
12 I believe that Y-12 is the only choice for the Uranium  
13 Processing Facility preferred alternative.

14 Y-12 offers unmatched resources that have been  
15 built, not only over the years, but decades. And that  
16 statement was backed up by not only the NNSA, itself,  
17 when it declared Y-12 the Uranium Center of  
18 Excellence, by our President and Secretary of State.

19 In an April 2009 speech in Prague, President  
20 Obama was quoted as saying, "As long as these weapons  
21 exist, the United States will maintain a safe, secure  
22 and effective arsenal to deter any adversary."

23 Also in October 2009, Secretary of State  
24 Clinton was quoted as saying, "But until we reach that  
25 point on the horizon where the last nuclear weapon has

1           been eliminated, we need to reinforce the domestic  
2           consensus that America will maintain the nuclear  
3           infrastructure needed to sustain a safe and effective  
4           deterrent without nuclear testing."

5                     I kind of look at it as if you were starting a  
6           new software company and you had your choice of me or  
7           Bill Gates. Who do you think you would take?

8                     In addition, this would provide the long term  
9           economic stability to not only the City of Oak Ridge,  
10          but East Tennessee as whole.

11                    In these difficult economic conditions, there  
12          have been countless numbers of times when someone has  
13          come up to me and said, "You work at Y-12. Do you  
14          think you could help me get a job out there?"

15                    There's a reason for that. My dad just  
16          retired after 37 years here. I have an uncle and a  
17          grandfather who also have 30-plus years at other DOE  
18          sites here in Oak Ridge. And now, myself, am taking  
19          care of my own family because Y-12. I, along with  
20          many others, hope to be able to say the same thing for  
21          many, many more years down the road. Thank you.

22                    MODERATOR: Thank you. Robert Presley will be  
23          followed by James Woody. And then Michael Thress.

24                    ROBERT PRESLEY: I am Robert Presley. I have  
25          lived here and worked here since December of 1944. I

1 have 44 years work in Y-12 and in the nuclear weapons  
2 and the emergency preparedness fields.

3 I would like to say that I am for UPF and for  
4 the new emergency preparedness building. I have  
5 worked with a lot of technologies over a lot of years.  
6 We have lot of failing infrastructure at Y-12. And I  
7 would have no problems coming to work in these new  
8 facilities, or living close to the facilities.

9 I grew up just right over the hill in Woodland  
10 in 1964. So I would like to speak in support of the  
11 new UPF. Thank you.

12 MODERATOR: Thank you. James Woody, Michael  
13 Thress. And then George Singleton.

14 JAMES WOODY: Good afternoon, everybody. My  
15 name is James Woody, and I live here in Oak Ridge. I  
16 work here at Y-12. I have had the privilege and the  
17 opportunity to work at all three sites here at the Oak  
18 Ridge Reservation.

19 As a laborer doing decon demolition work at  
20 K-25 and the lab. My grandfather worked at K-25. I  
21 have an uncle that still works there at Y-12. I had a  
22 father that worked the construction here at Y-12. I  
23 had an aunt that worked at the lab as a secretary. So  
24 my family depends a lot on the Oak Ridge Reservation,  
25 as well as much of East Tennessee does.

1                   As a young person, I was told a craftsperson  
2                   or worker is only as good as the tools they have and  
3                   the people around them.

4                   In that I would like to say, you know, if  
5                   you're only as good as the tools you have, and we're  
6                   being know as the Uranium Center of Excellence, let's  
7                   close the loop and give that final piece of tool to  
8                   the workers and craftspeople here at Y-12 in support  
9                   of the UPF.

10                  MODERATOR: Our next speaker is Michael  
11                  Thress, George Singleton, and Randy Inklebarger will  
12                  follow.

13                  I'm hearing a little conversation from  
14                  outside. Is it possible to close the doors, I think  
15                  over on that side? Thanks.

16                  MICHAEL THRESS: Thank you. My name is  
17                  Michael Thress. I'm a resident of Knox County in the  
18                  Cedar Bluff area. I have been a 25-year worker here  
19                  at Y-12, and I'm very proud of the years I've put in  
20                  here at the company.

21                  I'm speaking more as a taxpayer and as a  
22                  citizen today. Someone has already mentioned the  
23                  President stated that although we would like to see a  
24                  world free of nuclear weapons, that it's probably not  
25                  going to happen in his lifetime.

1           So given that reality, then what do we do with  
2           our situation where we are?

3           Because of that reality that we have to  
4           maintain the nuclear stockpile in the most efficient,  
5           safe, and cost-effective manner as what's available.

6           I fully support the building of the UPF at  
7           Y-12 with the preferred alternative. As you've heard  
8           several times already, the current facilities and  
9           processes are World War II vintage. They're  
10          inefficient, expensive, and oversized.

11          This is one thing, too, that typically you  
12          don't hear with government projects, is actually being  
13          able to show a return on investment. With the  
14          projected savings that are documented for the Y-12  
15          with the UPF, that this particular facility and those  
16          cost savings, will pay for itself two or three times  
17          over during the 50-year life cycle of the facility.

18          So we have an opportunity to not only actually  
19          do the right thing and protect the nuclear material  
20          that we have here, but we also have a chance to do it  
21          cost effectively and give the taxpayer a return on  
22          investment.

23          So I fully support the preferred alternative  
24          capability size because the capability size provides  
25          the needed capability to perform the various scopes of

1 work that we have here at Y-12.

2 We have the naval reactor and research  
3 reactors, different domestic endpoint that we preside  
4 material for.

5 We provide the dismantlement services for  
6 taking apart the weapons. We need to be able to do  
7 that in a controlled and very cost effective and  
8 efficient manner. We maintain surveillance of the  
9 stockpile to ensure that the weapons that we have in  
10 the stockpile will perform to their intended use. And  
11 also, the ability to perform refurbishment of the  
12 systems that are out there.

13 So in summary I would just like to state that  
14 I fully support the UPF Capability-Sized Alternative.  
15 And I thank you for the opportunity to comment.

16 MODERATOR: All right. Thanks. George  
17 Singleton. Randy Inklebarger will follow him. And  
18 then Patrick McMillan.

19 GEORGE SINGLETON: My name is George  
20 Singleton. I just want to speak today as a citizen,  
21 as a taxpayer, and as a resident of Oak Ridge.

22 I strongly support the preferred alternative  
23 as described here today. In addition to being a  
24 citizen of Oak Ridge, I work at Y-12. And I think  
25 that that gives me a unique insight that perhaps many

1 don't have about the true nature of the facilities we  
2 currently have.

3 We critically, desperately need the  
4 alternatives that are described here with the building  
5 of UPF and the Command Center as described. We can't  
6 continue to live and work in the existing facilities  
7 that we have. It's just unconscionable that any other  
8 alternative would exist.

9 As a resident Oak Ridge, I'm very proud to say  
10 that I live here. I raise a family here. And it's a  
11 great place to live.

12 These facilities will make it a much safer  
13 place to live, and greatly reduce the risk that exists  
14 with the existing Manhattan Project or Cold War  
15 vintage buildings. So we desperately need them. And  
16 I strongly support Alternative 4 as a taxpayer, a  
17 citizen, and an employee of Y-12. Thank you.

18 MODERATOR: Thank you. Randy Inklebarger,  
19 Patrick McMillan. And Doug Messerli will be next.

20 RANDY INKLEBARGER: Good morning. My name is  
21 Randy Inklebarger. I'm here on behalf of my family to  
22 speak for myself and my concerns about the East  
23 Tennessee area.

24 The Inklebarger family has been this East  
25 Tennessee for over 150 years. My grandfather, as a

1 farmer in East Tennessee, cut fence posts and sold  
2 them to the Corp of Engineers for the Manhattan  
3 Project.

4 Y-12 has always been a good neighbor to us. I  
5 currently live in Knox County. I was raised in Union  
6 County. My parents still live in Union County. And I  
7 think it is absolutely necessary that we modernize the  
8 facilities at Y-12 so that Y-12 can continue to be a  
9 good neighbor to my family so that we have a safe  
10 community to live in and that we have a safe nation to  
11 live in. Thank you.

12 MODERATOR: Patrick McMillan, Doug Messerli,  
13 and then Keith Swinney.

14 PATRICK McMILLAN: My name is Patrick  
15 McMillan. I'm a local architect. I'm lucky enough to  
16 live and work here in Oak Ridge. I also sit on the  
17 Oak Ridge Planning Commission and am involved in a lot  
18 of activities here in Oak Ridge.

19 I'm also here just in strong support of the  
20 UPF project and Y-12 in general. So I appreciate it.

21 MODERATOR: Thank you. Okay. Doug Messerli,  
22 then Keith Swinney. And then Ben Adams.

23 DOUG MESSERLI: My name is Doug Messerli.  
24 I've only been here about five or six years. I've  
25 worked all over the country and worked in the nuclear

1 industry in many different places and different  
2 aspects. I've worked for the military. And now I'm  
3 working here in engineering. I speak now from having  
4 experience in these aged buildings.

5 Y-12 is a one-of-a-kind facility with a highly  
6 unique mission for the country. The workforce is very  
7 skilled in their tasks in meeting the requirements of  
8 the various missions that are provided and presented  
9 to us by the country. The mission work is currently  
10 executed in these aging antiquated facilities and  
11 buildings.

12 With the new UPF with -- it's Alternative 2 or  
13 Alternative 4 -- we will continue to support the vital  
14 missions here at Y-12 for the country in a more safer  
15 and a more modern and efficient manner.

16 That is a benefit to the taxpayers overall. I  
17 mean, normally the government doesn't save money. But  
18 this proposed new UPF facility will reduce the  
19 footprint and the overall scope of where they're at,  
20 at a reduced cost.

21 The alternatives have been well thought out.  
22 They are being well planned. It's being well  
23 designed. And it will be built and operate in  
24 compliance with all the regulatory and environmental  
25 requirements. The alternative will protect and

1 continue to ensure the safety and freedom of this  
2 great nation. And it will do it at a reduced cost for  
3 the taxpayer.

4 I strongly support modernizing either through  
5 Alternative 2 or 4. But whichever way, we need this  
6 new facility. The capabilities in support of our  
7 weapons complex.

8 And until the rest of the world eliminates all  
9 their nuclear weapons, we must be strong and keep that  
10 deterrent available to us. Thank you.

11 MODERATOR: Keith Swinney, Ben Adams, and Alan  
12 Massengill.

13 KEITH SWINNEY: Thank you. My name is Keith  
14 Swinney. And I also work here at Y-12. I've been  
15 here about twelve and a half years. I've been in the  
16 industry for 30 years. I've been in Idaho. I've been  
17 in Colorado and here. And I can tell you that the  
18 buildings are old. They're safe for the condition  
19 they're in. But we really need to reduce the  
20 footprint, maintain the ability to maintain the  
21 stockpile.

22 I think every one us of us would want no  
23 nuclear weapons whatsoever, whether you work here or  
24 whether you're environmentalists. It doesn't matter.  
25 We want no weapons.

1                   But the reality is they exist. And we can all  
2 say, yes, they do. So we need to maintain the  
3 stockpile. Whether it's a stockpile of 1000, 500,  
4 250, whatever. The administration says they have to  
5 be maintained. And that needs to be done here.

6                   And so by going to preferred Alternative 4, we  
7 do reduce the footprint, reduce the security measures  
8 needed, the amount of the protective force. We'll  
9 increase efficiency. It will be safe, cost effective.

10                  I mean, like one of the gentlemen said, you  
11 look at the return on your benefit -- on your costs.  
12 To me, that's amazing in itself. But we do really  
13 need to maintain the abilities here at Y-12.

14                  By building this facility, my kids will be  
15 safe. Your kids, my grand kids will be safe. Because  
16 if we didn't have nuclear weapons and we had not had  
17 the weapon back in Nagasaki and Hiroshima, that flag  
18 right behind me may be a different flag. A lot more  
19 lives would have died and been lost.

20                  I have two sons in the military, one in  
21 Afghanistan, the other one getting ready to get ship  
22 to Afghanistan. I would love to have them here and  
23 not there.

24                  So our freedom to be here today, in my  
25 opinion, is directly due to the weapons that we

1 maintain here. We do not make bombs. We maintain the  
2 stockpile. Let's get it straight. We do not build  
3 bombs. We maintain the weapons, and that's it. Thank  
4 you.

5 MODERATOR: Ben Adams, Alan Massengill will  
6 follow him. And then David O'Kain.

7 BEN ADAMS: Good morning. I'm Ben Adams. I  
8 came here in 1960 from Nashville. My family said I  
9 wouldn't like it. It was too far over the hill, and  
10 it was in East Tennessee. I love it. It's great.

11 I started doing some work here in Y-12 in  
12 1963. And I've been cleared ever since. And I have  
13 had the opportunity to serve a six-year term on the  
14 Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board, which made a  
15 great difference in my life.

16 I got to travel. I travelled out west. I saw  
17 the different facilities out there -- Yucca Mountain.  
18 I saw different regimes. And everything I saw out  
19 there made me proud to be an Oak Ridger. I am proud  
20 to be supporting this project. This project is  
21 greatly needed.

22 I'm just proud to be an Oak Ridger. And proud  
23 to stand here and tell you that we need this, and we  
24 need it soon. Thank you.

25 MODERATOR: Thank you. Alan Massengill is our

1 next speaker. Then David O'Kain. And then Dean  
2 Waters.

3 ALAN MASSENGILL: Good morning. I'm Alan  
4 Massengill, and the Deputy Chief of Police of Oak  
5 Ridge. And I'm here on behalf of our City Manager,  
6 Jim O'Connor.

7 We are in support of the preferred alternative  
8 and believe that it provides the most desirable  
9 benefits and opportunities for the Y-12 facility and  
10 the City of Oak Ridge.

11 We also believe that these improvements -- the  
12 needed improvements that are provided by that  
13 alternative will help Y-12 in its most important role  
14 in our national security, and that the City of Oak  
15 Ridge supports fully. Thank you very much.

16 MODERATOR: Thank you. David O'Kain. Then  
17 Dean Waters. And then Anthony Manzo.

18 DAVID O'KAIN: I'm David O'Kain. I'm with the  
19 United States Enrichment Corporation, USEC. USEC has  
20 their technology facilities here in Oak Ridge. They  
21 have a manufacturing center here in Oak Ridge. We're  
22 using the gas centrifuge technology that was developed  
23 here in Oak Ridge -- using that to build a gas  
24 centrifuge enrichment plant.

25 We're supportive of the preferred alternative.

1 We recognize Y-12 as a Center of Excellence in  
2 handling of uranium and the work that's done there.

3 We think that the modern UPF facility is  
4 critical to Oak Ridge and critical to the nation. So  
5 we're strongly supportive of that.

6 We're proud of the entire area, and the high  
7 technology that's represented here. Oak Ridge  
8 National Laboratory, the research work there, the  
9 neutron science work, the computing capability, Y-12  
10 manufacturing capability, and material handling, USEC  
11 and the uranium enrichment technology.

12 And as a longtime Oak Ridge resident, since  
13 1946, I'm very pleased to see the Department of Energy  
14 plan for upgraded facilities and to continue the  
15 mission at Y-12. Thank you.

16 MODERATOR: Thank you. Dean Waters. And  
17 following will be Anthony Manzo and Duane Bias.

18 DEAN WATERS: My name is Dean Waters. I'm  
19 also a member of the United States Enrichment  
20 Corporation. David O'Kain is a tough act to always  
21 follow. I would have preferred to go first.

22 Very simply, we support -- USEC strongly  
23 supports Option 4. As a taxpayer, I personally  
24 support Option 4. Any time that we can build new  
25 facilities that are badly needed, it's good for

1 country and it's good for us.

2 The interesting thing about USEC is that we  
3 came here because of the capabilities existing in Oak  
4 Ridge. The capabilities were developed for the gas  
5 centrifugation developed back in the 1960's throughout  
6 mid 1980's.

7 However the Y-12 plant, and people still at  
8 the Y-12 plant, were very supportive of that  
9 technology as well as the Oak Ridge National  
10 Laboratory.

11 Not surprising, we have many people working  
12 now for USEC that came out of both of those  
13 facilities.

14 This is important to the United States for the  
15 defense of the United States. And the obvious --it is  
16 obvious to anybody that has ever walked through the  
17 Y-12 plant that it was clearly a 1940's facility. And  
18 it does need upgrading and downsizing to the right  
19 size for the future. Thank you.

20 MODERATOR: Thank you. Anthony Manzo. And  
21 then Duane Bias. And then Janice Ramsey.

22 ANTHONY MANZO: My name is Anthony Manzo. I  
23 am a Y-12 employee, and have been in the nuclear  
24 industry for the past 35 years. I thank you for  
25 allowing me to speak on this widely important issue.

1                   We've heard a range of alternatives,  
2                   especially last night, including some which would  
3                   ultimately lead to long-term elimination of nuclear  
4                   weapons.

5                   While eliminating nuclear weapons seems to be  
6                   the desirable goal, the reality of it is we are never  
7                   going to get there as long as mankind maintains, and  
8                   even advances, its current level of technology.

9                   Without getting into details, there are groups  
10                  of evil people in various places in the world,  
11                  including whole countries, which would like nothing  
12                  better than to take this technology and develop  
13                  nuclear weapons.

14                  With the relatively recent advent of the  
15                  internet, technology can be shared such that the  
16                  actual instructions to make a nuclear weapon can be  
17                  quite easily obtained by any person or group of  
18                  people.

19                  There is, in fact, less confidence that groups  
20                  of people bent on developing nuclear weapons can  
21                  forever be prevented from doing so by traditional  
22                  safeguards. In particular, it appears less possible  
23                  to block the development of the essential materials  
24                  for nuclear weapons, including plutonium and highly  
25                  enriched uranium.

1                   One thing is certain. With the advancing  
2                   technology and knowledge base we have of the continued  
3                   spread of terrorism, this capability would be advanced  
4                   to the point where if it is not reality now, it will  
5                   soon be.

6                   It is conceivable that we will be in a  
7                   situation in the not too distant future where we will  
8                   be faced with the reality that a group of evil people,  
9                   or an adversarial country, will have nuclear weapons.  
10                  And the only thing preventing its use may be the  
11                  nuclear capability of the free world.

12                  Other scenarios are also possible. History  
13                  tells us that countries can turn on a dime in their  
14                  relationships and political persuasions.

15                  A friendly country with nuclear capabilities  
16                  may turn against the free world and decide to use  
17                  nuclear weapons, or as a minimum, threaten its use.  
18                  Are we willing to face these situations for ourselves  
19                  and for our children? Do we really want the United  
20                  States and the entire free world to be vulnerable to  
21                  this reality, which I believe would take place with  
22                  some of the ideas that have been presented.

23                  For this reason, I believe we need to maintain  
24                  our nuclear options. Many folks a lot smarter than me  
25                  have come up with a proposal which will maintain our

1 nuclear options and provide a balance which we will do  
2 in a safe manner.

3 I will recommend that we adopt the  
4 government's proposal, Alternative 4, to provide the  
5 required security for ourselves and for our  
6 generation -- our future generations.

7 Thank you for letting me speak on this vitally  
8 important issue.

9 MODERATOR: Duane Bias. And he will be  
10 followed by Janice Ramsey and Rosie Huddleston.

11 DUANE BIAS: Good afternoon. Before I make  
12 any comments, I want to say that I am an employee of  
13 Y-12, so I do have a vested interest in the future of  
14 the plant.

15 With that, one thing I think I've noticed in  
16 the writings and comments made by some folks in our  
17 community is that there's a belief that the decision  
18 to approve or disapprove this current environmental  
19 impact statement is tantamount to deciding whether or  
20 not the work at Y-12 is going to continue. And I  
21 think that's categorically false.

22 The work at Y-12 is going to continue. The  
23 question is, is it going to happen in updated  
24 facilities at a minimum cost to the taxpayers, or is  
25 it going to continue in the type of facilities we have

1 now that are expensive, worn out, outdated, et cetera?  
2 Or the third option, is it going somewhere else?

3 Y-12 is a billion-dollar-a-year industry.  
4 That's direct funding. From that, about eight to ten  
5 dollars for each dollar received in the community.  
6 Plus, you're looking at the construction costs posed  
7 here. This is a huge economic impact to our  
8 community.

9 And if we were to lose Y-12, it went with  
10 Option 3 somewhere else, how would we replace those  
11 jobs? How could we fund our community? Where would  
12 we work?

13 Now, I do hope the day comes where some of the  
14 work that occurs at Y-12 is no longer needed. But  
15 when that day comes, we are ready to transition to  
16 other work and keep Y-12 open in some capacity.  
17 That's all my comments.

18 MODERATOR: Thank you. Janice Ramsey. And  
19 she will be followed by Rosie Huddleston and then Ken  
20 Collier.

21 JANICE RAMSEY: My name is -- did I do  
22 something wrong?

23 MODERATOR: These are the most sensitive, and  
24 actually the best microphones I've ever worked with.  
25 But what it means is, you don't really need to lean

1 into them.

2 JANICE RAMSEY: Okay.

3 MODERATOR: You can stand normal and just talk  
4 normal voice and they will pick up.

5 JANICE RAMSEY: Okay. My name is Janice  
6 Ramsey. And my husband and I were both born in Oak  
7 Ridge. We have raised our family there. We have had  
8 family members that worked on a lot of the Cold War  
9 facilities -- worked in the Cold War facilities,  
10 worked on the Manhattan Project, some of the reactors.

11 We are proud to be a resident of Oak Ridge.  
12 I'm proud to be a career person with the complex. I  
13 have been there 35 years and still going at this  
14 point.

15 I totally support a new UPF facility.  
16 Actually, the UPF facility will be located as my  
17 neighbor. It's about three to four miles south of my  
18 front yard. And I totally support it being there.  
19 And I wonder how can anyone not want a safer, more  
20 secure, and more efficient facility to be built.  
21 Thank you.

22 MODERATOR: Thank you. Okay. Rosie  
23 Huddleston. Ken Collier and Gina Davis.

24 ROSIE HUDDLESTON: Hello. My name is Rosie  
25 Huddleston. And I thank you for the opportunity to

1 give my comments. I have lived and worked in the area  
2 surrounding Oak Ridge all of my life. And as a  
3 resident and a worker in the area, I am excited and in  
4 support of Alternative 2 to build the UPF project, or  
5 at least, the alternative for the preferred method.

6 The improvements related to building UPF, it  
7 will bring safety, more better security, and  
8 efficiencies to the -- the processing areas.

9 I support the production (sic.) of the old  
10 facilities. They are very old and falling apart. And  
11 it would be a lot more costly to improve them than it  
12 is to build the UPF facility. It also will improve  
13 the safety and environmental activities of both Y-as  
14 and in the area.

15 Also do keep in mind that UPF is more than  
16 just making weapons components. There are other areas  
17 there involved.

18 We will all benefit in the long run from these  
19 changes. And again, I do support Alternative 2, or at  
20 least Alternative 4. And thank you.

21 MODERATOR: All right. Ken Collier. Then  
22 Gina Davis. And then Justin Davis.

23 KEN COLLIER: Good afternoon. I appreciate  
24 this opportunity to speak. As I said, I am Ken  
25 Collier. I am a resident of Oak Ridge and -- born in

1 Oak Ridge. My grandfather came here right after the  
2 war as part of the K-25 Project, and helped start K-25  
3 up. That's really what brought my family here. I was  
4 born in Oak Ridge, raised in Oak Ridge, educated in  
5 Oak Ridge.

6 I chose to live here. I do live in the city  
7 within five miles of this current facility. I'm a  
8 taxpayer of Anderson County and a taxpayer of the City  
9 of Oak Ridge.

10 Y-12 is a career choice for me, too. I had  
11 options to do lots of things. I chose to come to  
12 Y-12. I've spent -- this is my 30th year here at  
13 Y-12. And definitely have been involved in activities  
14 here at Y-12, and firmly believe that our  
15 facilities...

16 As I have aged here at Y-12, so have the  
17 facilities. They have grown older. They have grown  
18 older from neglect. They have grown older just from  
19 use. We really, really need a new facility, a new  
20 facility with modern equipment, with worker safety,  
21 with upgrades, with modern technology. Something for  
22 the future and for us to build our country's future  
23 on.

24 I firmly support the mission here as most of  
25 my fellow Oak Ridgers do, and I know most of my fellow

1 Y-12ers do. UPF is the only option for this country.  
2 It's the only option for the free world. I just  
3 wanted to go on record to say that. Thank you.

4 MODERATOR: Thank you. Gina Davis. And then  
5 Justin Davis and Jessica Davis.

6 GINA DAVIS: Hi. I'm Gina Davis. I am an  
7 employee from Y-12, and I'm a U.S. veteran. But I'm  
8 here today as a mother.

9 I'm here to support the preferred alternative,  
10 which supports the current administration's position.  
11 As stated in President Obama's April 2009 speech:  
12 "That as long as these weapons exist, the United  
13 States will maintain a safe, secure, and effective  
14 arsenal to deter any adversary, and guarantee that  
15 defense to our allies, including the Czech Republic,  
16 but will begin the work of reducing our arsenal."

17 And Secretary of State Clinton's October 2009  
18 speech: "Until we reach that point on the horizon  
19 where the last nuclear weapon has been eliminated, we  
20 need to reinforce the domestic consensus that America  
21 will maintain the nuclear infrastructure needed to  
22 sustain a safe and effective deterrent without nuclear  
23 testing."

24 Again, I'm Gina Davis. And I'm here to  
25 support the preferred alternative.

1                   MODERATOR: Thank you. Now Justin Davis will  
2 be followed by Jessica Davis. And then Rick Chinn.

3                   JUSTIN DAVIS: Hi. I'm Justin Davis. I'm a  
4 student at Knoxville Catholic High School. And I  
5 prefer -- I support the preferred alternative.

6                   MODERATOR: Now Jessica Davis and Rick Chinn.  
7 And then Gordon Fee.

8                   JESSICA DAVIS: Hello. My name is Jessica  
9 Davis. I am here to support the preferred alternative  
10 because it improves operational reliability. Without  
11 the uranium processing facility, existing facilities  
12 would continue to erode because of aging facilities  
13 and equipment.

14                   It improves security for special nuclear  
15 materials, and improves health and safety for workers  
16 and the public.

17                   Alternative 4 supports the current  
18 administration's position... I am also reading from  
19 President Obama's speech. Sorry.

20                   "As long as these weapons exist, the United  
21 States will maintain a safe, secure, and effective  
22 arsenal to deter any adversary, and guarantee that  
23 defense to our allies, including the Czech Republic.  
24 And until we reach that point on the horizon where the  
25 last nuclear weapon has been eliminated, we need to

1 reinforce the domestic consensus that America will  
2 maintain the nuclear infrastructure needed to sustain  
3 a safe and effective deterrent without nuclear  
4 testing."

5 MODERATOR: Thanks very much. Rick Chinn,  
6 followed by Gordon Fee and Steve Kopp.

7 RICK CHINN: Hello. My name is Rick Chinn. I  
8 live in Clinton, Tennessee. And I am a life-long  
9 resident of Anderson County. I am a member of the Oak  
10 Ridge Chamber of Commerce. I am a board member of the  
11 Anderson County Chamber of Commerce, and several other  
12 boards and commissions here in Anderson County.

13 My family business is R&R Properties. We own  
14 and manage over 600,000 square feet of office space  
15 here in Oak Ridge, including almost 200,000 square  
16 feet directly across the street from Y-12 here.

17 I'm extremely proud to have Y-12 and the other  
18 federal facilities here in Oak Ridge. And I'm opposed  
19 Alternative 1. I extremely favorably support the  
20 Alternative 2, and could be convinced that  
21 Alternative 4 is the best alternative.

22 The economic impact of Y-12 and the other DOE  
23 facilities here in Oak Ridge are extremely beneficial  
24 to the City of Oak Ridge, Anderson County, and the  
25 East Tennessee as a region.

1                   Not supporting the continued facility upgrades  
2                   and the missions at hand is not an acceptable  
3                   alternative. And again, I am extremely supportive of  
4                   a preferred alternative and could be convinced that  
5                   Alternative 4 is -- 2 is good as well. Thank you.

6                   MODERATOR: Thank you. Gordon Fee. Is Gordon  
7                   here? Steve Little.

8                   Okay. As Steve comes down, he will be  
9                   followed by Brennan Thompson and Steve Kopp.

10                  STEVEN LITTLE: Hello. My name is Steven  
11                  Little. I am currently the Vice President of  
12                  Facilities and Infrastructure here at Y-12. I  
13                  appreciate the opportunity to voice my opinion on this  
14                  very important issue.

15                  I have only been in East Tennessee for the six  
16                  years, but I have worked across the nuclear security  
17                  enterprise for the past 18 years. Prior to that, I  
18                  served ten years proudly in the United States Navy.  
19                  So, in essence, I have spent my entire adult life  
20                  protecting the liberty and freedom of all Americans.

21                  Last evening I attended these proceedings. As  
22                  I listened to the pros and cons for the construction  
23                  of the new uranium processing facility, I was humbled  
24                  by the fact that we continue to live in a country  
25                  where people can peacefully voice their opinions in a

1 public hearing such as this one.

2 I too would like to live in a world free of  
3 weapons of mass destruction, so I respect the opinions  
4 of those individuals who are against this proposal.  
5 But I also realize that this world is not as peaceful  
6 as we would like it to be.

7 As long as we possess nuclear weapons, we must  
8 ensure that they are safe and reliable, now and in the  
9 future, so they continue to be an effective deterrent.

10 We also need to ensure that we have a safe and  
11 efficient infrastructure to dismantle our weapons  
12 stockpile.

13 I strongly support the construction of the  
14 capability-sized uranium processing facility here at  
15 Y-12 for the good of the country and the safety and  
16 wellbeing of the future generations. Thank you.

17 MODERATOR: Thank you. Brennan Thompson. And  
18 Gordon Fee actually is back in the room. So if he  
19 doesn't mind... Go ahead and then I'll have Gordon  
20 after you. Thanks.

21 So Brennan Thompson is our next speaker.

22 BRENNAN THOMPSON: Hi. My name is Brennan  
23 Thompson. I'm a Y-12 employee, and also a resident of  
24 Knox County.

25 I would just like to say that the new UPF will

1           drastically improve the aging facilities that we have  
2           here at Y-12. It will really improve on, you know,  
3           the modern safety, the modern security, and modern  
4           environmental enhancements over what we currently  
5           have.

6                        This will enable us to operate more  
7           efficiently than the current facility. And that's a  
8           big one, as me being an American taxpayer and not just  
9           a Y-12 employee.

10                      UPF will also give the talented workers here  
11           the infrastructure that they need to keep performing  
12           their jobs at the high standard that we expect and  
13           have to have for the type of work that we do.

14                      I think that Alternatives 1 and 3 are really  
15           not alternatives based on the facilities that we have  
16           here. And Alternatives 2 and 4 are the way to go.  
17           And I understand the reasons for 4 based on the  
18           security and what we are going with -- some of the  
19           strategies that we have -- globally. That's all I  
20           have.

21                      MODERATOR: Thanks very much. The next  
22           speaker will be Gordon Fee. And he will be followed  
23           by Steve Kopp. And then Jeffrey Miller.

24                      GORDON FEE: Thank you. As I said, I'm Gordon  
25           Fee. And I have the distinct pleasure and honor of

1 being the plant manager for Y-12 for nine years in the  
2 1980's era. And so I understand this facility and  
3 appreciate its importance.

4 And over the years, unfortunately, it's become  
5 sort of the icon for bomb building in the country.  
6 And when in reality, I think it ought to be the icon  
7 for dismantlement.

8 This facility that we are talking about today  
9 is a significant and key ingredient in making sure the  
10 country can process and deal with the dismantlement of  
11 nuclear weapons, and can make sure that all of the  
12 materials which have been collected from the  
13 processing of nuclear weapon materials throughout the  
14 years in the uranium field are processed safely and in  
15 a manner which is consistent with all of the  
16 environment needs today.

17 The facility which this one would replace is  
18 old, rundown. But has been the heart of being able to  
19 process materials, not only from Y-12, but in some  
20 cases that have come in here from the laboratories in  
21 other places.

22 It is a facility that is important to make  
23 sure that the safety of nuclear materials in the  
24 United States is maintained whether we ever build a  
25 single nuclear weapon again. It is just that key of a

1 facility that assures us that the Fort Knox for  
2 uranium, which is here in Oak Ridge, can take  
3 materials in a safe and environmentally acceptable  
4 manner. It is not a facility that is needed just to  
5 build new nuclear weapons.

6 And so I think that we ought to make sure that  
7 we keep in mind that this facility plays such a key  
8 role in dismantlement, and is desperately needed to  
9 make sure that the safety of workers and that the  
10 environment is maintained. Thank you.

11 MODERATOR: Thank you. Okay. Steve Kopp.  
12 Steve is here. And Jeffrey Miller will follow. And  
13 then John Gertsen.

14 STEVE KOPP: Hi. I'm Steve Kopp. I'm going  
15 to give you some of your time back with a short  
16 statement.

17 I represent Navarro Research and Engineering.  
18 We are a woman-owned small business here in Oak Ridge.  
19 We've been here about ten years. We have supported  
20 the Y-12 Complex with waste management and nuclear  
21 facility safety support. So we are nuclear facility  
22 safety experts.

23 We have reviewed the Site-Wide EIS, and  
24 including the methodologies and the assumptions that  
25 have been used to analyze and select the preferred

1 alternative.

2 And based on our review, we fully and without  
3 reservation, support the implementation of  
4 Alternative 4.

5 Thank you very much for the opportunity to  
6 provide our input.

7 MODERATOR: Jeffrey Miller. John Gertsen and  
8 Jim Morris will be next.

9 JEFFREY MILLER: Hello. I'm Jeffrey Miller.  
10 I'm making these comments as a citizen of Knox County.  
11 I'm a Public Health Professional. I have 30 years  
12 experience in occupational environmental health and  
13 safety.

14 I reviewed the Department's Site-Wide  
15 Environmental Impact Statement independently. And in  
16 my opinion, the assessment was thorough and accurate.  
17 And based upon that independent assessment, I support  
18 proposed Alternative 4.

19 MODERATOR: John Gertsen.

20 JOHN GERTSEN: My name is John Gertsen. And I  
21 proudly work at Y-12, and have lived in East Tennessee  
22 and Knox County for the last 26 years.

23 I strongly support the preferred alternative,  
24 and frankly any alternative that includes a Uranium  
25 Processing Facility.

1           The Uranium Processing Facility is essential  
2           to improve safety, security, and to minimize the  
3           environmental impact of Y-12.

4           But the point I would really like to make  
5           today is that UPF is needed regardless of the future  
6           size of the nuclear weapons stockpile. Even if that  
7           stockpile size is reduced to zero.

8           Last night I sat here for several hours and  
9           listened to critics of UPF, largely motivated by a  
10          desire to eliminate nuclear weapons. And that's a  
11          good thing. They offered a dismantlement-only option.  
12          I contend that option is already embodied in UPF.

13          And the third option is undersized and ignores  
14          essential processing that is necessary to convert the  
15          uranium to safe forms for other uses, whether that be  
16          long term storage, or disposal, or downwinding, or  
17          whatever it is if we ever get to that point in time.

18          In summary, UPF is needed in any scenario  
19          stockpile size even if the world somehow changes to  
20          eliminate nuclear weapons. Thank you.

21          MODERATOR: Thank you. We've had a couple of  
22          cancellations. So our next speaker is Jim Morris.  
23          And Jim will be followed by Mike Malone. Let's see,  
24          is Jim here? Okay. So I didn't give him much  
25          warning. So he will be followed by Mike Malone. And

1           then Javier Acosta.

2                   MIKE MALONE: Hi. My name is Mike Malone.

3           And I'm here, I guess, as a concerned citizen.

4                   I'm concerned for our national security, which  
5           is really what this is all about. There are a lot of  
6           obvious benefits from UPF economically, and from an  
7           environmental and health and safety perspective. But  
8           the national security aspect, I think, trumps all of  
9           that. If you don't have that, this other stuff  
10          doesn't matter.

11                  I have a wife and two kids. And I want them  
12          to grow up in a country that's safe and secure. So in  
13          light of that, I support UPF. I support the selected  
14          alternative.

15                  And I guess if it were up to me, I wouldn't  
16          put a constraint on the size of UPF at this point. We  
17          don't know what the future holds. We need to be  
18          flexible. And, you know, we need to be able to  
19          respond at a moment's notice. So thank you for your  
20          time.

21                  MODERATOR: Thank you. The next speaker is  
22          Javier Acosta. He will be followed by Abe Matthews.  
23          And then William Thornton, III.

24                  JAVIER ACOSTA: Good afternoon. I appreciate  
25          the opportunity to voice my opinion. I strongly

1 support Option 2. I've been in the engineering field.  
2 I'm here as a citizen representing myself.

3 I've been all over the United States and  
4 Puerto Rico in the design field. And we're always  
5 asked to design a building to fit, you know, ten  
6 pounds in an eight-pound bag. I strongly support the  
7 bigger one.

8 If the world goes to no more nuclear weapons,  
9 we are going to need a big facility to be able to  
10 process and dismantle. If the world continues in its  
11 evil ways and it gets worse, we have to have the  
12 capability to be able to meet those demands. So I  
13 strongly support Option 2. Or worst case scenario,  
14 Option 4. Thank you.

15 MODERATOR: Thank you. Abe Matthews. Then  
16 William Thornton.

17 ABE MATTHEWS: My name is Abe Matthews. I'm  
18 speaking to you today as an employee of Y-12, resident  
19 of Knox County, and as a taxpayer.

20 I want to speak in favor of UPF and the  
21 Complex Command Center, either preferred alternative  
22 or Alternative 2.

23 Y-12 is in need of investment to sustain our  
24 necessary capabilities. UPF and the Complex Command  
25 Center are the key to continued safe execution of the

1 Y-12 mission.

2 America continues to need these capabilities  
3 that Y-12 is uniquely suited to provide. We have a  
4 demonstrated history at Y-12 of safe, secure, and  
5 cost-effective operation.

6 Looking at the alternatives, Alternative 1 and  
7 5 do not provide long-term capability to execute our  
8 necessary mission.

9 Alternative 3 will not solve the underlying  
10 issues with our existing facilities.

11 The preferred alternative and Alternative 2  
12 are the only long-term solutions that provide the  
13 capability and flexibility to meet the environmental,  
14 safety, and security needs, while executing the  
15 required mission in a cost-effective manner.

16 And as a taxpayer, I would like to state that  
17 I believe this is an appropriate investment of  
18 taxpayer funding. Thank you.

19 MODERATOR: All right. Thank you very much.  
20 I have a request from the Court Reporter to take about  
21 a three- to five-minute break. And so we will resume  
22 in about five minutes with the remaining speakers.  
23 Thank you.

24 (A short break is taken.)

25 MODERATOR: William Thornton. Is William

1 Thornton here? Also I believe -- I think I called Jim  
2 Morris' name earlier. I don't believe he responded.  
3 All right. Let me call Mike Cuddy. Is Mike here?

4 Okay. Mike is here. And then Mike will be  
5 followed by Ralph Hutchison and Mack Bailey.

6 MIKE CUDDY: Thank you very much. I'm Mike  
7 Cuddy, representing the Community Relations Counsel  
8 for B&W Y-12. And as a citizen and former employee of  
9 Y-12, I'm delighted to offer comments for the record  
10 today.

11 On behalf of the Community Relations Counsel  
12 at Y-12, we strongly endorse Alternative 4, believing  
13 that Y-12 being a critical part of our nation's  
14 deterrent program in the nuclear era, that this is  
15 necessary as a survival strategy, not only for our  
16 nation. But I can speak from our perspective in this  
17 region, Y-12 being such a valuable partner to this  
18 community, it's important to this region as well.

19 The Community Relations Counsel has worked  
20 with Y-12, advising management on how to interact and  
21 improve interactions at a regional level. I am very,  
22 very pleased to say that Y-12 is a tremendous partner  
23 for this region, and we're better off for their  
24 participation.

25 Not only does Y-12 participate in our nation's

1 defense, but they also share knowledge, talent, and  
2 the technology created here with our regional business  
3 partners.

4 Again, thank for allowing me to enter this  
5 into the record. Thank you.

6 MODERATOR: Thank you very much. Our next  
7 speaker is Ralph Hutchison. And Ralph will be  
8 followed by Mack Bailey. And then Mark Richey.

9 RALPH HUTCHISON: Thank you. My name is Ralph  
10 Hutchison. And even after last night, I still work  
11 for the Oak Ridge Environment Peace Alliance.

12 The record should show that the timing of this  
13 hearing, 12 working days after the Federal Register  
14 Notice of Availability, embarrasses the Department of  
15 Energy's commitment to meaningful public  
16 participation.

17 Without explanation, DOE reneged on its  
18 promise of a 30-day period to allow review of the  
19 document before the public hearing.

20 Given the short notice, last night's turnout  
21 was amazing with people traveling from Michigan, North  
22 Carolina, and across Tennessee to attend the hearing.  
23 With 30 days notice, the auditorium would have been  
24 packed.

25 This morning I want to address briefly four

1 things that are not in this document that should be.

2 The proposals for a UPF, whatever size, fail  
3 to address the growing need for dismantlement  
4 capacity. There is no discussion of the overlap of  
5 dismantlement and production operations. There is no  
6 discussion of the backlog of secondaries awaiting  
7 dismantlement which already present a problem for  
8 Y-12. This critical mission need for the United  
9 States is astonishingly absent in a supposedly  
10 comprehensive document.

11 The Site-Wide EIS should also provide a  
12 comprehensive analysis of environmental situation at  
13 Y-12 so the public can understand the nature of  
14 potential impacts by all proposed activities at the  
15 site.

16 The purpose of updating a Site-Wide EIS is to  
17 provide that exact picture. The Site-Wide EIS is  
18 required every five years by DOE's regulations, not  
19 just when there is a new facility proposed. In fact,  
20 DOE stands now in violation of its own regulations by  
21 four years because it has hijacked the Site-Wide EIS  
22 to provide a brief on a new bomb plant.

23 The Site-Wide EIS does not address  
24 proliferation concerns inherent in the proposal to  
25 build a new weapons production facility. In the past,

1 NEPA analysis has included proliferation concerns.

2 In this case, the proposal for a new UPF pits  
3 the desire to maintain an enduring nuclear arsenal  
4 against the President's commitment to a world without  
5 nuclear weapons.

6 A supplemental study on proliferation impacts  
7 will help DOE answer the question, Can we do both  
8 these things? And if so, how best can we do it?

9 The proliferation supplement must also  
10 reconcile President Obama's statement that it is naive  
11 for us to think we can continue to build bombs while  
12 pressing Iran and North Korea and others to refrain.

13 The document does not consider studies which  
14 have not yet appeared, but will have a profound impact  
15 on the very premise of the Site-Wide EIS. We heard  
16 public suspicion last night that NNSA is pushing this  
17 document through because it realizes reports and  
18 events over the next seven months are likely to  
19 further erode the power of arguments for a new bomb  
20 plant.

21 A case in point is the JASON Report being  
22 released this morning, which will state there is no  
23 evidence that the stockpile is at risk, refuting the  
24 primary arguments being put forward for new production  
25 capacity as part of the modernization discussion.

1           As the proposal for a UPF moves forward, NNSA  
2           must incorporate the JASON Report, the Nuclear Posture  
3           Review -- it's irresponsible to pretend our nuclear  
4           policy is trapped in amber -- the START Treaty renewal  
5           and the actions of the U.S. leading up to and during  
6           the Nonproliferation Treaty review.

7           Because it appears the determination to push  
8           forward the UPF has corrupted the NEPA process.  
9           Because the Site-Wide EIS is being asked to bear a  
10          burden that Side-Wide EIS's are not designed to bear,  
11          it fails to provide the comprehensive analysis a  
12          Site-Wide EIS should present. There is insufficient  
13          depth and breadth in the analysis of activities and  
14          their impacts at Y-12. Thank you.

15          MODERATOR: Thank you. Our next speaker is  
16          Mack Bailey. And Mark Richey and Bill Dials.

17          MACK BAILEY: My name is Mack Bailey. I'm the  
18          Fire Chief for the City of Oak Ridge, and I live at  
19          26 Outer Drive in the City of Oak Ridge.

20          I support the Uranium Processing Facility and  
21          the Complex Command Center, both personally and  
22          professionally.

23          In the 18 years that I've served as the Oak  
24          Ridge Fire Chief, I have found my counterparts at the  
25          Department of Energy sites to be consummate

1 professionals; intelligent, well educated, well  
2 trained, and dedicated to fire service and to their  
3 site.

4 I know that the departments, especially the  
5 Y-12 Fire Department, are well staffed, because many  
6 of their employees formerly worked for the city. The  
7 safety of the UPF will be in good hands.

8 Safety is ingrained in the corporate culture  
9 out here. Not only the Fire Department, but all the  
10 departments, especially the emergency response  
11 departments, prevention is paramount.

12 In planning exercises to initiate off-site  
13 responses, one must have a very vivid imagination to  
14 accept the sequence of events that would drive  
15 materials to leave this site.

16 Checks and balances are so rigid and strict  
17 that numerous procedures and safeguards have kept any  
18 hazardous materials from leaving this site during my  
19 tenure.

20 In short, the emergency response staff of the  
21 City of Oak Ridge has complete confidence in the staff  
22 of Y-12 to manage any responsibility with which they  
23 are entrusted.

24 Personally, in the 18 years that I lived here,  
25 I have known many Y-12 employees outside of work, in

1 the neighborhood and church and various organizations.  
2 Plant management supports their employees' efforts to  
3 better the community at large. And the employees are  
4 quality people; coaching teams, teaching classes, and  
5 generally being the backbone of the community. Thank  
6 you.

7 MODERATOR: Thank you. Mark Richey. And then  
8 Bill Dials and Herb Martin.

9 MARK RICHEY: I'm Mark Richey. I work in Oak  
10 Ridge, and I'm coming as a citizen of Hardin Valley.

11 I would like to thank NNSA for the opportunity  
12 to come and talk this afternoon. I missed out on  
13 yesterday evening's presentation because I had a prior  
14 Girl Scout commitment.

15 And that is part of the reason that I'm here  
16 today, is because of -- the feedback I got back from  
17 the last night's meeting was that the debate was  
18 getting moved off of the real reason for this meeting.

19 And if you look at the handout for this  
20 meeting, this is the subject of the meeting is to  
21 discuss the Draft EIS Environmental Impact Statement.

22 This isn't a political debate about NNSA's  
23 mission. This isn't about Y-12's mission. Those  
24 things -- there's an ongoing process that ends in  
25 November where those things should be debated. I

1 think we really need to concentrate really on what's  
2 in the EIS and what's the right alternative.

3 I think probably to me the best thing that...  
4 I think we've heard a lot of discussion today and  
5 nothing really in terms of...

6 The big question is, do we keep doing what  
7 we're doing? Which is No Action Alternative. Do we  
8 kind of patch that up? Or do we build a new modern  
9 facility?

10 I think there's been a lot of arguments today  
11 that are right on target in terms of we have  
12 antiquated facilities and the answer is not to patch  
13 them up. Let's go ahead and modernize. There's a lot  
14 of benefits in terms of security, health and  
15 environmental.

16 Again, this is an Environment Impact  
17 Statement. So I would like call -- I would like to  
18 enter into the record a reference to Page 1-18.  
19 There's a table called "Operational Differences Among  
20 UPF Alternatives."

21 Again, just on the basis of, we need to  
22 modernize, is enough reason in itself to build a UPF.  
23 If you look the UPF alternatives relative to No  
24 Action.

25 If you look down in terms of the environmental

1 impacts, in terms of electrical usage, in terms of  
2 steam plant usage, and in terms of low-level mixed  
3 waste, hazardous, non-hazardous materials...

4 If you look at the preferred alternative  
5 Capability-Sized UPF, typically the improvements over  
6 the current status quo of continuing the way we're  
7 doing business, is 40 percent.

8 So the question of whether it has negative  
9 impact to the environment. In fact, the UPF  
10 Alternative, and particularly the Capability-Sized UPF  
11 Alternative, is an improvement relative to the  
12 environment.

13 So on that basis, the UPF is the right  
14 decision on an environmental basis, let alone other  
15 national security and productivity basis.

16 And I defer to the people who are entrusted to  
17 make the decision, that is NNSA, to make the right  
18 decision based on their mission need. And I think  
19 that the Capability-Sized Alternative is the best at  
20 this time. Thank you.

21 MODERATOR: Thank you. Bill Dials. Herb  
22 Martin. And then Richard Pearson.

23 BILL DIALS: Hello. I'm Bill Dials. My  
24 family, my wife, my daughter, we live in Oak Ridge,  
25 Tennessee. I'm a sole proprietor.

1           The Site-Wide Environment Impact Statement was  
2 thorough in my estimation as a sole proprietor and  
3 attorney in environmental services for 15 years.

4           Based upon my review and the recommendations  
5 of the experts and the thoroughness of the study, it  
6 seems indicative upon us, as an old Boy Scout motto,  
7 to be prepared.

8           The alternatives that were reviewed, and based  
9 upon that analysis, seems to indicate that the best  
10 way to go forward and be prepared for contingencies  
11 that at this time are unknown but may be perceived, is  
12 the preferred Alternative 4.

13           And therefore, as a taxpayer and resident of  
14 Oak Ridge, I'm here to make a public comment in  
15 support of that. Thank you very much.

16           MODERATOR: Thank you. Herb Martin. And Herb  
17 will be followed by Richard Pearson. And then Andrew  
18 Murphy.

19           HERB MARTIN: Hi. My name is Herb Martin.  
20 I'm here today in support of UPF. I am also here  
21 today as a public citizen. And I am also a current  
22 employee of the very facility that UPF will replace.

23           I've been a resident of that facility for 22  
24 years. And I've always felt safe in that environment.  
25 However, we all know that years of usage takes its

1 toll on about anything.

2 A new UPF facility will enhance safety. It  
3 will greatly improve efficiency. And it will give us  
4 the opportunity to utilize new technology.

5 UPF is needed for the future of this great  
6 country and the workers that support the important  
7 effort. Thanks.

8 MODERATOR: Thank you. Richard Pearson.  
9 Andrew Murphy. Jack Huffaker will be after Andrew.  
10 And then Linda Ewald.

11 ANDREW MURPHY: Good evening. My name is  
12 Andrew Murphy. I've been a Y-12 employee for 33  
13 years. I represent the Boilermakers Union. And I  
14 would like to take a minute to clear up some  
15 misconceptions about Y-12.

16 Y-2 was not created, or established to create  
17 a war. It was established to end a war. And it was  
18 very successful at doing that. Let's see... Where am  
19 I?

20 Y-12 has, for the better part of 60 years,  
21 also been -- had another mission. That mission is,  
22 and has been, to prevent nuclear war by being stronger  
23 than others. And we've been successful at that.

24 We should continue this mission by modernizing  
25 Y-12 to stay strong for another 60 years and longer.

1                   And I would like to thank you for this  
2 opportunity to speak in support of UPF at Y-12.

3                   MODERATOR: Thanks very much. Okay. Jack  
4 will be followed by Linda Ewald, and then David  
5 Bradshaw.

6                   JACK HUFFAKER: Good evening, everybody. I'm  
7 a sheet metal worker by trade. I have been for 42  
8 years. Of those 42 years, probably 15 to 20 of them  
9 I've worked here at Y-12, X-10, or K-25 -- one or the  
10 other. I've always felt safe working here.

11                   We just built a new facility, a uranium  
12 storage facility. Why would you not build a process  
13 facility beside this facility? You've got the best  
14 security here. You've got trained workers. We built  
15 these plants years ago. We can build a new one. We  
16 need you-all's support for this. If you can, support  
17 us.

18                   I feel safe, like I say, working here. I've  
19 never had any problems. I work with security. I work  
20 with the engineers -- scientists. Everybody. I've  
21 always been treated good here. Just help support this  
22 project if you can. Thank you very much.

23                   MODERATOR: Thank you. Okay. Linda Ewald.  
24 David Bradshaw. And David will be followed by Richard  
25 Macon. Oh, I'm sorry. Yeah, Linda, please.

1                   LINDA EWALD: My name is Linda Ewald. I live  
2                   in Knoxville, Tennessee. I'm a member of the Oak  
3                   Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance.

4                   I believe a world without nuclear weapons and  
5                   nuclear weapons production is safer, saner, and more  
6                   than ever is possible. The Draft Y-12 Site-Wide  
7                   Environmental Impact Statement proposes five  
8                   alternatives that maintain status quo, or worst of  
9                   all, spend over \$3 million to build a new state of the  
10                  art facility to maintain and build nuclear weapons.  
11                  It does not focus on dismantlement, which is part of  
12                  Y-12's mission.

13                  In reality, there is no need for a new uranium  
14                  bomb plant. The renewal of the START Treaty with  
15                  Russia will reduce the nuclear warhead stockpile and  
16                  it will continue to go down.

17                  President Obama has expressed commitment to a  
18                  world in which no nations possess nuclear weapons, and  
19                  has declared that the United States will show  
20                  leadership in getting to zero.

21                  The U.S. presented a United Nations resolution  
22                  that called on nuclear weapons states to renew efforts  
23                  to meet Nonproliferation Treaty obligations to pursue,  
24                  "in good faith...disarmament at an early date."

25                  The SWEIS needs Alternative 6 proposed by the

1 Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance, which reflects  
2 current U.S. policy. It includes passive curatorship  
3 of the current stockpile to assure safety and security  
4 performed in consolidated, downsized, and upgraded  
5 existing facilities at Y-12, and construction of a new  
6 dismantlement facility with designed-in safeguards and  
7 transparency to process the current backlog and  
8 accommodate increased retirement of warheads and the  
9 eventual dismantlement of the entire U.S. arsenal.

10 We are at a critical decision point. Building  
11 a new bomb production plant will trigger nuclear  
12 proliferation. The United States is hypocritical when  
13 it attempts to discourage other nations from pursuit  
14 of nuclear capability while expanding our own  
15 capacity.

16 Spending over \$3 billion on a uranium  
17 processing facility that will not be needed by the  
18 time it is completed is totally irresponsible.

19 It also will not provide more jobs.  
20 Construction of the Uranium Processing Facility will  
21 use the current workforce, and operation will require  
22 a much reduced production line workforce due to  
23 automation.

24 The future of Oak Ridge is in dismantling  
25 nuclear weapons. This part of the Y-12 mission has

1           been neglected.

2                   MODERATOR: I'm sorry. You are about at your  
3           limit. If you could make one more point.

4                   LINDA EWALD: Okay. The future is  
5           dismantlement. It's been neglected.

6                   The Alternative 6, as proposed by the Oak  
7           Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance, must be  
8           considered. It makes the most sense economically,  
9           politically, environmentally, and morally.

10                   Y-12 in East Tennessee can lead the United  
11           States and all countries in creating a world finally  
12           free of possible nuclear destruction.

13                   MODERATOR: All right. Thank you. Now David  
14           Bradshaw and Richard Macon.

15                   DAVID BRADSHAW: My name is David Bradshaw.  
16           My family and I are residents here in Oak Ridge. I  
17           work in Oak Ridge as a commercial lender at a regional  
18           bank. And I served as the mayor of Oak Ridge from  
19           2001 through 2007. I'm going to speak here in two  
20           capacities.

21                   First, as Chair of the Political Action Task  
22           Force for the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce. Our Task  
23           Force is part of a 60-year-old association  
24           representing the interest to some 600 businesses,  
25           business-oriented institutions, and individuals.

1           Foremost among our mission is enhancement of  
2           Oak Ridge's economic vitality. Our members employ  
3           literally thousands of Oak Ridgers and East  
4           Tennesseans.

5           Previously, and on numerous occasions, and in  
6           many venues, the Oak Ridge Chamber has gone on record  
7           supporting NNSA measures that would modernize the Y-12  
8           National Security Complex, transforming it into  
9           America's Center for Uranium Excellence through  
10          construction of UPF at Y-12. The 2008 Record of  
11          Decision is consistent with that Chamber policy.

12          I am here today to communicate that our Oak  
13          Ridge Chamber fully supports, and encourages adoption  
14          of an alternative providing for a UPF of at least the  
15          capacity recommended by NNSA, and construction of a  
16          new Complex Command Center.

17          My personal comments are that I have full  
18          confidence in the men and women of Y-12 to continue to  
19          do their part in protecting my family, our community,  
20          and our nation. There's no finer or more skilled  
21          workers.

22          As a nation, the least we must do is support  
23          their mission and commitment by providing them modern  
24          and safe tools to accomplish their work.

25          The UPF, as proposed, will accomplish this.

1 And my family supports it.

2 Thank you for the opportunity to participate  
3 in these discussions.

4 MODERATOR: Thank you. And Richard Macon.

5 RICHARD MACON: Hi. I'm Richard Macon. And I  
6 also represent the Energy Technology and Environmental  
7 Business Association. I also work for GEM  
8 Technologies, a local small business subcontractor to  
9 Y-12. I would like to elaborate on ETEBA's third  
10 point, as Mr. Evered stated earlier.

11 To recap, ETEBA intends to submit detailed  
12 written comments, but would like to take this  
13 opportunity to make sure that the following points  
14 during this public forum.

15 The continued operation of Y-12 is critical to  
16 the national security of the Y-12 and to the United  
17 States. Y-12 must be modernized to ensure a safe,  
18 secure, and reliable stockpile of nuclear weapons.

19 And third, the Integrated Facilities  
20 Disposition Project is key to Y-12 modernization and  
21 must be fully incorporated into the Record of  
22 Decision.

23 I would like to expand on this third point.  
24 The Integrated Facilities Disposition Project, or  
25 IFDP, estimates that over the next 15 to 25 years 3.9

1 million square feet of contaminated floor space will  
2 become excess as a result of NNSA modernization and  
3 the relocation of Nuclear Energy and the Science  
4 Facility activities to ORNL.

5 Under the IFDP, the demolition and disposition  
6 of approximately 188 facilities at ORNL, 112  
7 facilities at Y-12, and remediation of soil and  
8 groundwater contamination would occur over the next --  
9 that would occur over the next 30 to 40 years.

10 According to the Site-Wide EIS, benefits of  
11 the IFDP include reduced risk to workers and the  
12 public from potential exposure hazards and radioactive  
13 materials, and the reduction of surveillance and  
14 maintenance costs for obsolete, inactive facilities.

15 In June 2007, a Critical Decision-0 was  
16 approved. Approval of the CD-1 package was received  
17 in November of 2008.

18 D&D, as envisioned by the IFDP, is a vital  
19 piece to the Y-12 modernization effort because it  
20 eliminates excess surveillance and maintenance costs  
21 and environmental safety and health liabilities and  
22 risks to the workforce.

23 It improves effectiveness and efficiency of  
24 site, soil, and groundwater remediation. It improves  
25 the plant security buffer. And it eliminates the

1 legacy mercury source as in Alpha 4 and Alpha 5.

2 ETEBA believes that IFDP should be fully --  
3 should be more fully integrated into the final  
4 Site-Wide EIS and the subsequent Record of Decision.

5 In conclusion, ETEBA supports the  
6 Capability-Sized UPF Alternative and believes that the  
7 continued operation of Y-12 is critical to the  
8 national security of the United States. It must be  
9 modernized to ensure a safe, secure, and reliable  
10 stockpile of nuclear weapons. And the IFDP Project is  
11 key to Y-12 modernization and must be fully  
12 incorporated into the Record of Decision.

13 CLOSING COMMENTS

14 MODERATOR: That was our final speaker. I  
15 would like to thank everybody for their participation.  
16 And particularly for people making very precise  
17 statements. Considering the number of speakers, we  
18 have run overtime by actually, a very short period.

19 So thanks once again for your participation  
20 and comments. Please note that you may continue to  
21 submit comments on the Site-Wide EIS until the comment  
22 period closes January 29, 2010.

23 This then concludes this hearing on the Draft  
24 Y-12 Site-Wide EIS. This hearing is adjourned at  
25 1:05 p.m. Thank you.

(PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF TENNESSEE )

COUNTY OF BLOUNT )

I, DANA HOLLOWAY, CCR(TN), Court Reporter and Notary Public, do hereby certify that the public hearing held for the United States Department of Energy Draft Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for the Oak Ridge Y-12 Plant, Anderson County, Morning Session, was reported stenographically by me on November 18, 2009, 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 4th day of December, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public

My Commission Expires May 30, 2010