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Concerned Citizens of Wisconsin Hold Public Hearing on U.S. Nuclear Weapons Policy and Future of Nuclear Arsenal

Madison, Wisconsin (February 16, 2008)--On Saturday, February 16th from 10:00am-12:00pm, at the State Capitol building in Madison, Wisconsin, a coalition of nuclear experts, representatives of state and federal government, and citizen groups will hold a hearing on U.S. nuclear weapons policy and the Department of Energy's (DOE) proposed nuclear weapons complex transformation.

Before going forward with the dangerous \$150 billion plan to revamp the industrial infrastructure tasked with building and maintaining U.S. nuclear weapons, DOE is required to comply with the National Environmental Protection Act by holding hearings around the country in the communities near nuclear weapons facilities.

Madison is not one of those chosen communities, but the decision to build new nuclear weapons threatens all Americans. This hearing is a chance for Wisconsin to have a voice on the future of US nuclear weapons. The event is open to the general public. The hearing will first feature a presentation on US nuclear weapons policy and an explanation of the DOE proposal. Following that, attendees will be invited to submit comments. Comments given will be recorded in the federal record.

Presiding over the event will be Wisconsin State Senator Mark Miller, Chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. Speakers will include:

Brett Watson, reading statement from Representative Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis);

Katie Crowley, reading a statement from Senator Russell Feingold (D-Wis);

Paul S. Boyer, Ph.D., Merle Curti Professor of History Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Madison, author, *By the Bomb's Early Light*;

Seymour Abrahamson, Ph.D., retired Professor, Genetics, University of Wisconsin-Madison;

Dr. Jeff Patterson, D.O., Board Member, Physicians for Social Responsibility;

Nick Roth, Washington, DC Director, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation;

Al Gedicks, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, University of Wisconsin in LaCrosse.

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