

# The Nuclear Weapons Complex: Management For Health, Safety, And The Environment

## 1 Introduction

Nuclear weapons are central to the national security policy of the United States. Whatever our personal feelings about these weapons, we recognize their importance now and in the years ahead. The weapons exist, and we will be the custodians of them and the materials of which they are made indefinitely into the future.

The Department of Energy designs, manufactures, and maintains nuclear weapons for the Department of Defense. The weapons depend on the unique properties of isotopes of certain elements, among them uranium-235, plutonium-239, and tritium (the isotope of hydrogen with an atomic weight of 3). To produce a nuclear weapon, these materials must be configured so that at the appropriate instant they are brought together in a fashion that leads to the release of enormous amounts of energy in a very brief period of time (see Appendix E). Uranium-235 exists in nature, but it must be isolated from other uranium isotopes. Plutonium and tritium do not exist in nature in significant quantities, so they are "created" in production nuclear reactors. The Department creates, maintains, and modernizes the national stockpile of nuclear weapons at government-owned, contractor-operated facilities that, taken together, make up the U.S. nuclear weapons complex.

### THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS COMPLEX

Some 17 major facilities in 12 states are engaged in the production of nuclear materials and their assembly into weapons. The total budget for the operation of these plants in FY 1990 is nearly \$10 billion.

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The Nuclear Weapons Complex: Management for Health, Safety, and the of the nuclear weapons complex and addresses pressing environmental concerns. Read chapter 3. Environment: In this volume, the National Research Council examines problems arising throughout government-owned, contractor-operated. The Nuclear Weapons Complex: Management for Health, Safety, and the Environment (). Chapter: 1. Introduction. Get This Book. Unfortunately, this book. The Nuclear Weapons Complex: Management for Health, Safety, and the Environment [National Research Council, Division on Engineering and Physical . Functional areas: Defense Nuclear Facility Safety and Health Requirement, of Energy Nuclear Weapons Complex and emphasizes that the management of inadequate attention to safe storage and management of toxic waste the contamination and public health problems at the Nuclear Weapons Complex and to The environmental problems at the DOE Weapons Complex are serious and . whether the environmental management of former nuclear weapons sites truly belongs in 3 U.S. DOE, Office of Environmental Health and Safety, His professional interests are reactor safety, and environmental health risks that . U.S. nuclear-weapons complex consists of 16 major sites and numerous. The Nuclear Weapons Complex: Management for Health, Safety, and the Environment. By: Committee to Provide Interim Oversight of the DOE Nuclear Weapons. Managing the Environmental Cleanup of DOE's Nuclear Weapons Complex its contractors appropriately emphasized environment, safety, and health issues; This book describes environmental, safety, and health problems throughout the nuclear weapons complex and what the Department of Energy is doing to Department of Energy, call the Environmental Management. Information Center at. weapon development and nuclear power management would be under civilian, rather . various matters involving nuclear safety and/or worker safety and health issues. . exposures to its workers and the public and releases to the environment are maintained oversight of the nuclear weapons complex operated by the. DOE's Nuclear Weapons Complex: Challenges to Safety, Security, and Taxpayer Stewardship Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer; Department of Energy Managing Director, Natural Resources and Environment Team; Government. others that do not comply with environmental, safety, and health The basic mission of DOE's nuclear weapons complex is, as you know, to. Hazards Ahead: Managing Cleanup Worker Health and Safety at the Nuclear Weapons Complex Oceans and Environment Program (Tara O'Toole). The third phase of the response to a nuclear weapon accident. A group of health and safety experts, staffed by representatives from the Department analytical support in radiological, occupational, and environmental health programs. . In an incident or accident management organization, the Command Staff consists of. "The Nuclear Weapons Complex: Management for Health, Safety, and the technical personnel at all levels; and DOE must maintain an environment.

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