



CAMPAIGN FOR A
nuclear weapons free world

Complex Transformation Talking Points

Complex Transformation is the term used by the Department of Energy (DOE) for its plan to spend at least \$150 billion of taxpayer money to revamp the nuclear weapons complex in order to build new nuclear warheads. Investing in a project of this magnitude and scope incorrectly assumes that the United States should maintain a large nuclear arsenal and rely upon nuclear weapons as an integral part of its security strategy for decades to come.

- **Complex Transformation reflects outdated thinking.** Momentum is building behind a broad, bipartisan consensus that it is in the security interests of the United States to pursue a nuclear weapons-free world. A 2007 World Opinion poll indicated that 73% of Americans support this goal. The U.S. must get back on the path toward a nuclear weapons-free world by adopting a comprehensive and balanced nuclear nonproliferation strategy.
- **Complex Transformation puts the cart before the horse.** The Department of Energy is proceeding with this proposal in the absence of a plan for the future role of nuclear weapons or the future size of the stockpile. It is unreasonable and premature to invest in a major overhaul of the nuclear weapons complex without a re-examination of the role of nuclear weapons in U.S. security strategy. The next President should and, by law, will undertake that review.
- **Nuclear weapons serve no useful purpose in dealing with current international security dangers faced by the United States.** Nevertheless, U.S. military strategy calls for maintaining more than 2,000 deployed strategic nuclear bombs two decades after the end of the Cold War, with thousands more in reserve. The U.S. should work to achieve dramatically deeper reductions in U.S. and Russian nuclear and missile stockpiles and engage other countries in negotiations to reach zero nuclear weapons.
- **The DOE's Complex Transformation proposal is inconsistent with the U.S. national and international security goals,** which depend upon improving the global system to stop nuclear weapons proliferation and moving towards nuclear disarmament. Through the 1968 nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), the United States has committed to implement deeper, verifiable, and irreversible nuclear weapons reductions and to support the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Failure to fulfill these obligations and renounce new warhead production erodes confidence that the nuclear-weapon states intend to fulfill their NPT commitments and complicates efforts to repair the beleaguered nonproliferation system.
- **There are practical steps leading to a world without nuclear weapons.** The United States can lead the world in reducing the nuclear threat and earn the world's respect and good will as a result. The U.S. can lead by example, renounce the development of new nuclear weapons and ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

Please e-mail your comments by April 10, 2008 to ComplexTransformation@nnsa.doe.gov