

**B-61 nuclear warheads** 



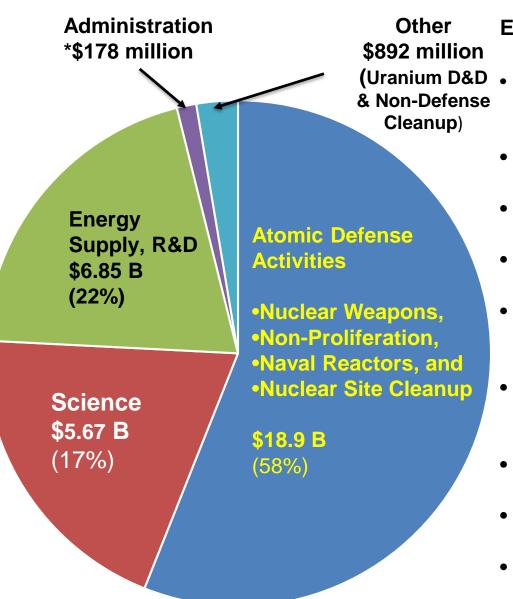
Radioactive waste container

The U.S.
Department of
Energy's
Atomic Defense
Budget
for
FY 2017

Robert Alvarez Senior Scholar

Institute for Policy Studies
March 2016

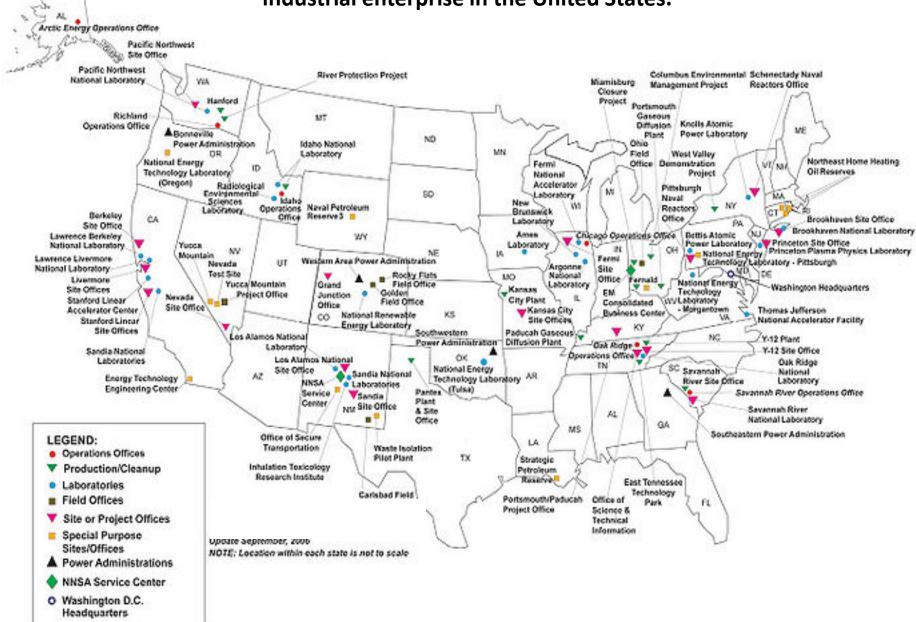
## U.S. Department of Energy FY 2017 Budget \$32.49 Billion



**Energy Activities Include:** 

- Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy: \$2.9 Billion
- Fossil Energy: \$638 Million
- Nuclear Energy (fission):\$994 Million
- Electric Transmission: \$263 Million
- Energy Information Administration: \$132 Million
- Power Marketing Administrations: \$84 Million
- Energy Loan Guarantees: \$5 Million
- 21st Century Transportation: 1.34 Billion
- Office of Indian Energy \$22.9 Million

The U.S. Energy Department has the largest government-owned research and industrial enterprise in the United States.

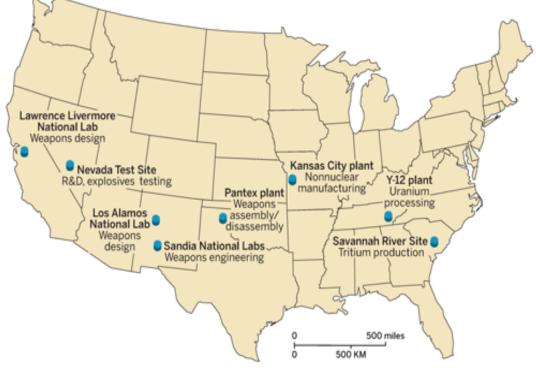


## **Funding by Appropriation**

National Nuclear Security Administration						
Weapons Activities	8,180,359	8,180,609	8,846,948	9,243,147	+396,199	+4.5%
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation	1,615,248	1,612,651	1,940,302	1,807,916	-132,386	-6.8%
Naval Reactors	1,233,840	1,233,840	1,375,496	1,420,120	+44,624	+3.2%
Office of the Administrator	-413	-413	0	0	0	N/A
Federal Salaries and Expenses	370,000	370,000	363,766	412,817	+49,051	+13.5%
Total, National Nuclear Security Administration	11,399,034	11,396,687	12,526,512	12,884,000	+357,488	+2.9%
Environmental and Other Defense Activities						
Defense Environmental Cleanup	4,990,017	4,989,555	5,289,742	5,226,950	-62,792	-1.2%
Other Defense Activities	753,449	753,449	776,425	791,552	+15,127	+1.9%
Total, Environmental and Other Defense Activities	5,743,466	5,743,004	6,066,167	6,018,502	-47,665	-0.8%
Total, Atomic Energy Defense Activities	17,142,500	17,139,691	18,592,679	18,902,502	+309,823	+1.7%

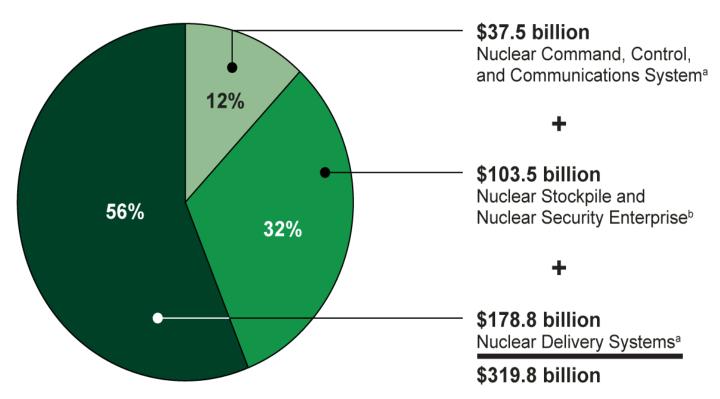
#### **U.S. NUCLEAR WEAPONS COMPLEX**





SOURCE: National Nuclear Security Administration

# Estimated cost for U.S. nuclear weapons from FY 2015 to FY 2025

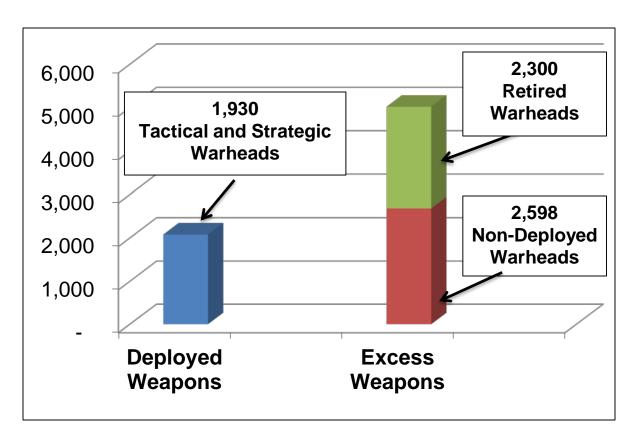


Source: GAO analysis of Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of Energy (DOE) data. | GAO-16-23

Over 30 years the cost for U.S. nuclear weapons modernization is estimated to cost up to \$1 trillion.

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/12/science/as-us-modernizes-nuclear-weapons-smaller-leaves-some-uneasy.html

### The U.S. Nuclear Arsenal in 2016



Bulletin of Atomic Scientists. http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/00963402.2016.1145 901 The U.S. nuclear stockpile has 400 times the destructive power of explosives used by all combatants in World War II.

About 70 percent of the U.S. nuclear arsenal is not deployed.

About one third has been discarded and is awaiting dismantlement.

The primary targets are mostly those selected during the Cold War, which ended 20 years ago.



Russia has also embarked on a nuclear modernization program, the costs of which are not well known – but are believed to be limited due to declining oil revenues.

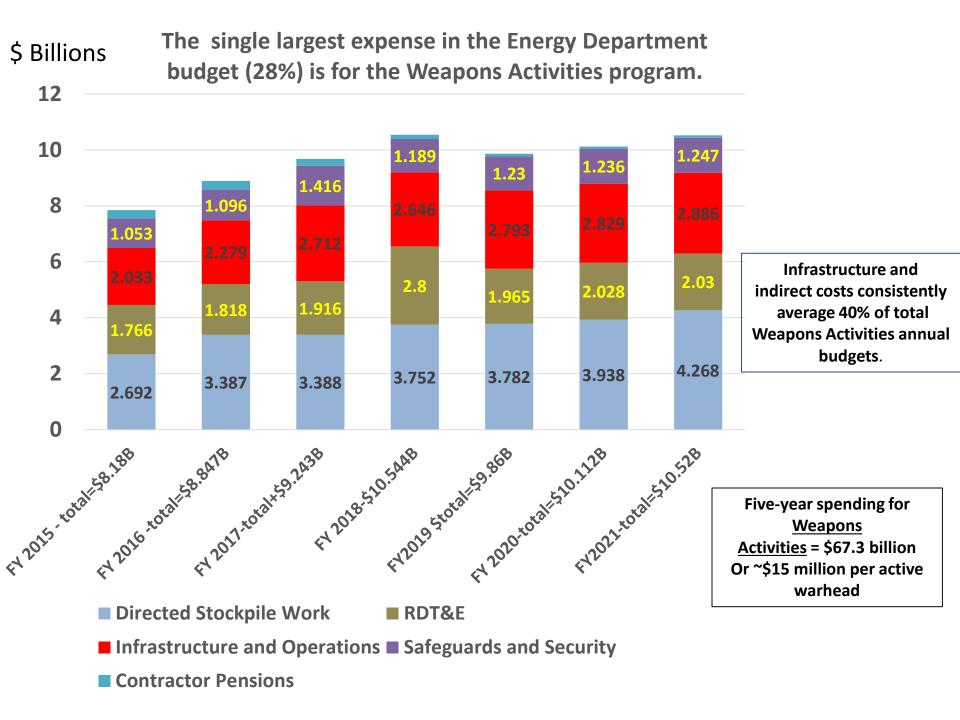
70 percent of Russia's Strategic warheads are deployed.

Russia maintains a large number of stand-by" tactical nuclear weapons to compensate for less conventional capabilities possessed by the U.S.

Russia's warheads have shorter life-spans and are Replaced more frequently than in the U.S.

#### Source:

http://thebulletin.org/2015/may/russian-nuclear-forces-20158299



### Current nuclear weapons and associated delivery systems

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		Warheads—Strategic Ballistic Mi	ssile Platforms			
Type <sup>a</sup>	Description	Carrier	Laboratories	Mission	Military	
W78	Reentry vehicle warhead	Minuteman III Intercontinental	LANL/SNL	Surface to	Air Force	
		Ballistic Missile		surface		
W87	Reentry vehicle warhead	Minuteman III Intercontinental	LLNL/SNL	Surface to	Air Force	
	]	Ballistic Missile		surface		
W76-0/1	Reentry body warhead	Trident II D5 Strategic Weapon	LANL/SNL	Underwater to	Navy	
		System (Submarine Launched		surface		
		Ballistic Missile)				
W88	Reentry body warhead	Trident II D5 Strategic Weapon	LANL/SNL	Underwater to	Navy	
		System (Submarine Launched		surface		
		Ballistic Missile)				
		Bombs—Aircraft Platforn	15			
Type <sup>a</sup>	Description	Carrier	Laboratories	Mission	Military	
B61-3/4/10	Non-strategic bomb	F-15, F-16, certified NATO	LANL/SNL	Air to surface	Air Force/ Select	
		aircraft			NATO forces	
B61-7	Strategic bomb	B-52 and B-2 bombers	LANL/SNL	Air to surface	Air Force	
B61-11	Strategic bomb	B-2 bomber	LANL/SNL	Air to surface	Air Force	
B83-1	Strategic bomb	B-52 and B-2 bombers	LLNL/SNL	Air to surface	Air Force	
Warheads—Cruise Missile Platforms						
Type *	Description	Carrier	Laboratories	Mission	Military	
W80-1	Air-launched cruise	B-52 bomber	LLNL/SNL	Air to surface	Air Force	
	missile strategic weapons					

LANL = Los Alamos National Laboratory

LLNL = Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

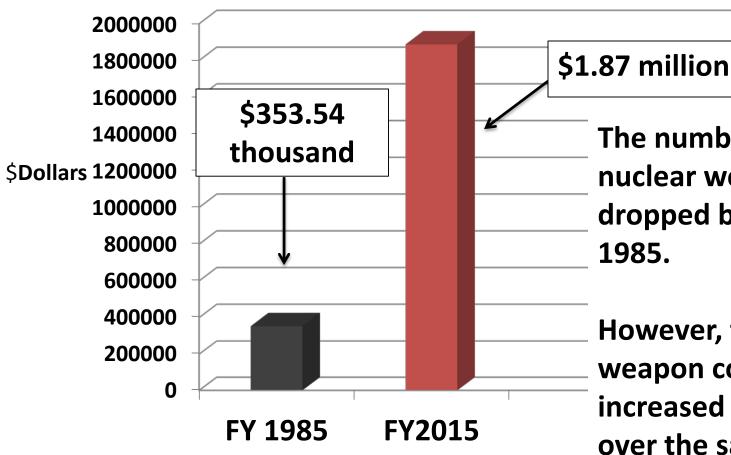
NATO = North Atlantic Treaty Organization

SNL = Sandia National Laboratories

The suffix associated with each warhead or bomb type (e.g., "-0/1" for the W76) represents the modification associated with the respective weapon.

Source: DOE FY 2017 Budget Request, Vol. I, P. 87

# The Average Annual Cost for a Single Nuclear Weapon (FY 1985 & FY 2015)\*



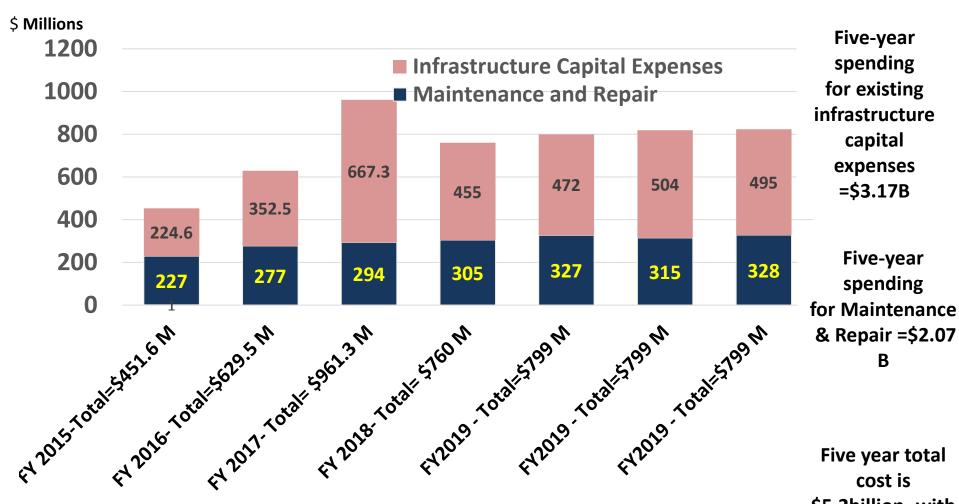
Sources:, DOE FY 1985 and FY 2016 Budget Justifications, BAS <a href="http://bos.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/08/26/0096340214547619">http://bos.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/08/26/0096340214547619</a> Nuclear Watch, <a href="http://www.nukewatch.org/watchblog/?p=1709">http://www.nukewatch.org/watchblog/?p=1709</a>, BAS, <a href="http://m.bos.sagepub.com/content/69/5/75.full.pdf">http://m.bos.sagepub.com/content/69/5/75.full.pdf</a>

The number of U.S. nuclear weapons dropped by 75% since 1985.

However, the perweapon cost has increased by 500% over the same time period.

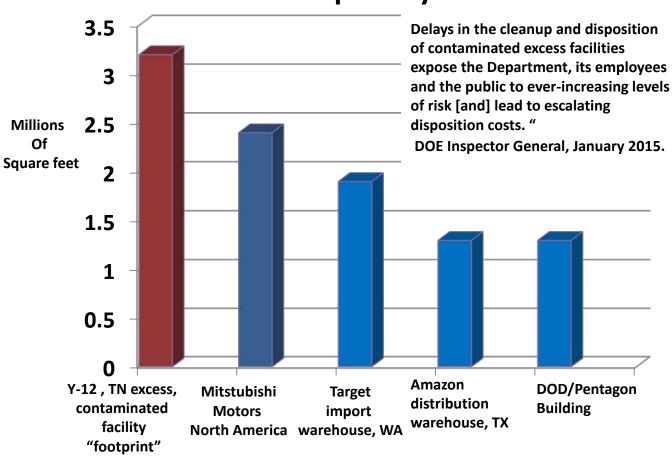
<sup>\* 2014</sup> adjusted dollars.

### The costs for keeping an aging, oversized nuclear weapons complex



cost is \$5.2billion -with an average of \$1.04 billon/yr.

# Downsizing the U.S. nuclear weapons complex is not a priority.

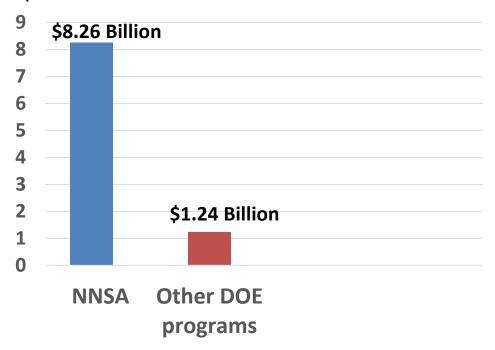


# Excess Facilities Requiring Decontamination and Decommissioning



# Estimated Unfunded D&D Liabilities as of 2011

### \$ Billions

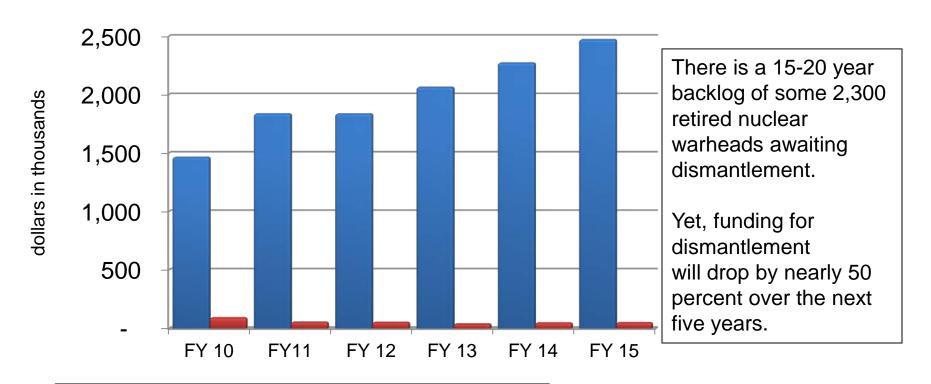


Source: DOE: Facility Deactivation and Decommissioning 2011 Edition.

http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/em/DDMaps.11FINAL.pdf

■ NNSA ■ Other DOE Programs

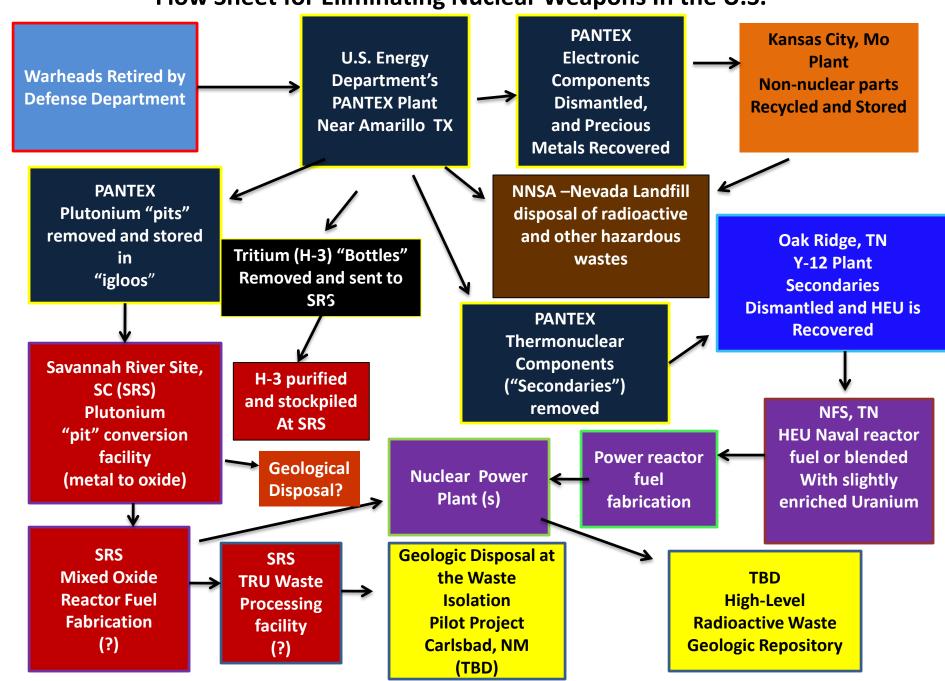
# Elimination of Nuclear Weapons has a Low Priority



- Weapons stockpile service and life extension
- Dismantlement

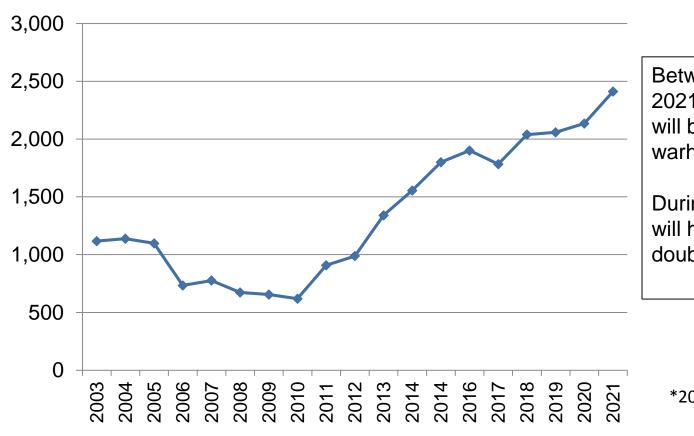
The Obama Administration plans to refrain from dismantling weapons cut under the New Start Treaty until a new production Infrastructure is restored sometime In the 2030s.

### Flow Sheet for Eliminating Nuclear Weapons In the U.S.



# Costs for Nuclear Warhead Life Extension\*

(thousands of dollars)



Between FY 2003 and 2021, about \$25.7 billion will be spent on nuclear warhead life extension.

During this period costs will have more than doubled.

\*2015 adjusted dollars

Sources: DOE Congressional Budget RequestsFY2003-2017

## Lifetimes of Nuclear Warheads Could be Extended for Decades



Because of the 20-year voluntary moratorium on nuclear weapons testing by the United States, the design labs have claimed that long-term stockpile reliability cannot be guaranteed without new-design nuclear weapons.

This claim has been repudiated by the Jason group, a highly regarded group of special experts with a long history of credible advice to the U.S. nuclear weapons program. The Jason Group concluded:

- Lifetimes of today's nuclear warheads could be extended for decades, with no anticipated loss in confidence, by using approaches similar to those employed in life extension programs (LEPs) to date.
- •This was no evidence that accumulation of changes incurred from aging and LEPs have increased risk to certification of today's deployed nuclear warheads.

### **High Risk Projects**

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) identified the DOE nuclear weapons program to be one of the government's top "high-risk" programs vulnerable to waste, fraud, and abuse. For instance:

- •The Chemical and Metallurgy Research and Replacement (CMMR) facility at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. The main purpose of the CMMR is ramp up manufacturing capability of plutonium pits to as many as 80 per year by 2022. Its estimated costs increased from \$600 million in 2004 to \$5.8 billion in 2010.
- •The Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) at the Y-12 weapons plant in Oak Ridge, TN. This facility is expected to replace an aged plant built in the 1950's. The estimated cost for this project has increased from \$600 million to \$19 billion.
- •The NNSA's Life Extension Program costs for nuclear warhead types have increased by 400 percent.

## The Mixed Oxide Program (MOX)



Source: MOX Project.com

\$270 million (15%) of DOE's non-proliferation spending for FY 2017 is going to build facilities to mix plutonium from weapons with uranium for use in nuclear power plants (MOX) at DOE's Savannah River Site in South Carolina.

The MOX project was originally the centerpiece of a 2000 agreement with Russia for each nation to mutually rid 34 metric tons of weapons plutonium.

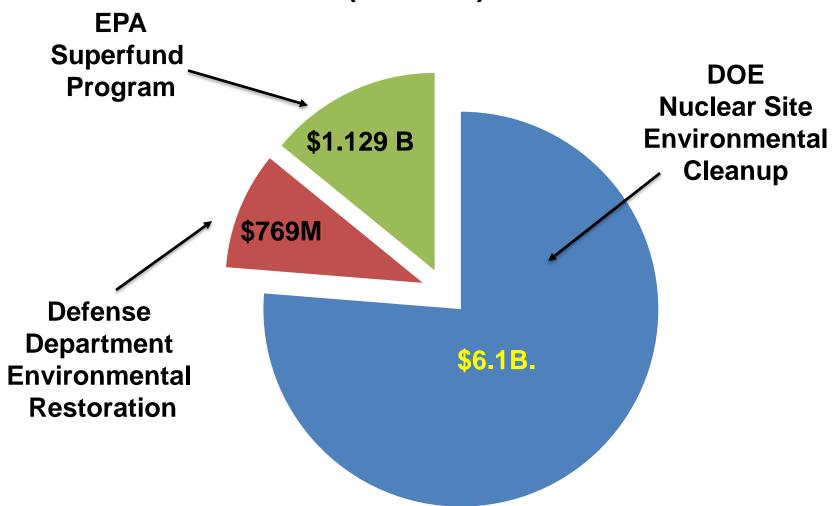
However, the agreement lost its original goal because Russia will not pay for its MOX program. Instead Russia is proceeding to use weapons plutonium to ultimately generate more plutonium in "fast" reactors.

This \$30 billion project is more than 10 years behind schedule and the original designated. nuclear utility has balked at using MOX fuel.

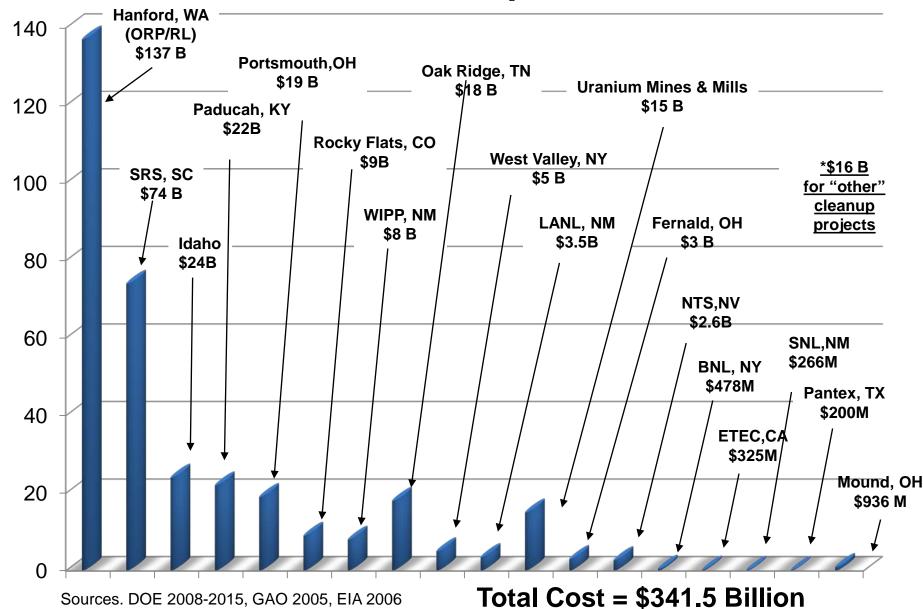
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Nuclear weapons production resulted in the most complex and expensive environmental cleanup effort in the United States.

(FY 2017)



## **DOE Site Cleanup Costs\***



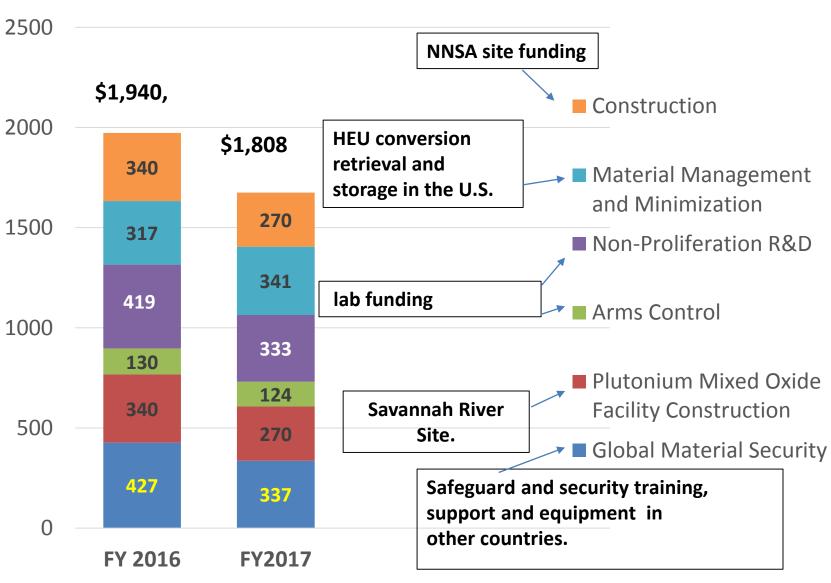
2015 dollars

Does not include NNSA projects

# U.S. Energy Department Sites no longer undergoing cleanup that require long-term institutional controls







### **Naval Reactors**

#### Naval Reactors Funding by Congressional Control<sup>a</sup>

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY 2015	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2017 vs
	Enacted	Current	Enacted	Request	FY 2016
Naval Reactors					
Naval Reactors Operations and Infrastructure	390,000	390,000	445,196	449,682	+4,486
Naval Reactors Development	411,180	411,180	446,896	437,338	-9,558
Ohio Replacement Reactor Systems Development	156,100	156,100	186,800	213,700	+26,900
S8G Prototype Refueling	126,400	126,400	133,000	124,000	-9,000
Program Direction	41,500	41,500	42,504	47,100	+4,596
Construction	113,320	113,320	121,100	148,300	+27,200
Subtotal, Naval Reactors	1,238,500	1,238,500	1,375,496	1,420,120	+44,624
Rescission of Prior Year Balances	-4,660	-4,660	0	0	0
Total, Naval Reactors	1,233,840	1,233,840	1,375,496	1,420,120	+44,624

#### **Outyears for Naval Reactors Funding**

(Dollars in Thousands)

	,			
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
	Request	Request	Request	Request
Naval Reactors				
Naval Reactors Operations and Infrastructure	468,551	530,093	551,917	599,173
Naval Reactors Development	462,912	505,300	521,800	594,275
Ohio Replacement Reactor Systems Development	156,700	138,000	75,500	64,700
S8G Prototype Refueling	190,000	250,000	215,000	50,000
Program Direction	48,200	49,300	50,500	51,700
Construction	141,388	305,694	363,600	311,100
Subtotal, Naval Reactors	1,467,751	1,778,387	1,778,317	1,670,948
Use of Prior Year Balances	0	0	0	0
Rescission of Prior Year Balances	0	0	0	0
Total, Naval Reactors	1,467,751	1,778,387	1,778,317	1,670,948

The annual total includes an allocation to NNSA from the Department of Defense's five-year budget plan. The amount included for Naval Reactors is \$393,000,000 in FY 2018, \$402,000,000 in FY 2019, \$410,760,000 in FY 2020 and \$418,975,000 in FY 2021.

### Summary



The DOE's is not structured to usher in the country's energy future.

For most of its existence, the majority of the DOE's annual spending has gone to maintaining the U.S. nuclear weapons complex and cleaning up its environmental legacy.

Now, a large funding increase is being sought as a down payment for nuclear weapons research and production modernization – estimated to cost about \$103.5 billion over the next 10 years.

Actual energy functions continue to take a back seat with only 22 percent of the budget.

Meanwhile, the quest to modernize the U.S. nuclear arsenal is proving to be more and more costly.