



JOIN THE TELL THE TAXPAYER CAMPAIGN

Four simple steps 1, 2, 3, 4— and 3 is optional (but highly recommended!)

1. WRITE YOUR LETTER—pick and choose from among the talking points here.

- It doesn't have to be long or fancy.
- Straightforward and personal is best.
- Deliver the key message—Tell the Taxpayer!

We have a right to know, and Lamar has a duty to disclose.

2. SEND YOUR LETTER TO SENATOR ALEXANDER.

Fastest is email, via his web site: www.alexander.senate.gov

got to the contact page, fill out the form, cut and paste your letter in

Regular mail:

Sen. Lamar Alexander
455 Dirksen Office Bldg
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510.

Let us know: go to Tell the Taxpayer on facebook and share your letter.

Not on facebook? email a copy to OREPA at orepa@earthlink.net

Not on line? Mail a copy to OREPA P O Box 5743, Oak Ridge, TN 37831

3. SUPPORT THE TELL THE TAXPAYER CAMPAIGN.

We want to grow the campaign to stop the UPF bomb plant from being built. We need your support to reach more people. Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to OREPA at P O Box 5743, Oak Ridge, TN 37831. Or donate on-line at www.orepa.org.

4. SPREAD THE CAMPAIGN.

Please recruit others to write—this campaign depends completely on the political power we can muster, and letters are the only way we have to show Lamar this power. We want to get 10 letters a day for 30 days—November 9 – December 8—to launch the campaign. If your group has a meeting in November, we'll provide printed fact sheets if you let us know and you can get people to write. If you are close enough, we'll come to the meeting if we can come back with 10 letters! We're starting in Tennessee, but going national soon!



Senator Alexander, you have a duty to disclose.

Tennessee's Senator Lamar Alexander is Mr. Moneybags for the UPF bomb plant, and he is going to extraordinary lengths to fill Bechtel's corporate pockets with our tax dollars.

It's not just that the project is in his state. Alexander is the chair of the Senate Appropriations Energy and Water Subcommittee. In other words, he holds the pursestrings. If he says, "No UPF," there will be no UPF. If he says, "Tell the public or you don't get the money," the NNSA will provide the information we are asking for.

We are not asking for Senator Alexander to do anything special for us.

We are just asking him to do his job. He is a public official; he has a duty to disclose.

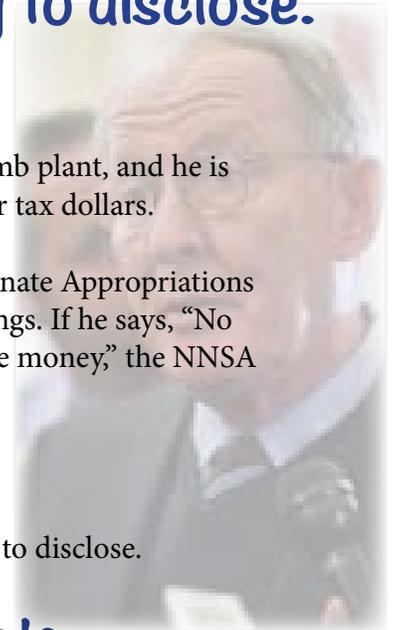
Sen. Alexander, stop keeping secrets.

The National Nuclear Security Administration has spent two years and a billion and a half dollars implementing the latest plan for the Uranium Processing Facility Bomb Plant—but they are keeping the plan secret. It has never been formally approved and has not been released to the public. NNSA says they will build the UPF for \$6.5 billion. There is no design yet, so this number is a magic number pulled out of thin air. It is also a lowball estimate. OREPA estimates (conservatively based on design costs so far) the UPF will cost more than \$10 billion if it is ever built.

The Department of Energy and NNSA have a history of major projects running billions of dollars over estimates and never getting finished.

FACILITY	ORIGINAL COST EST.	COST SO FAR
National Ignition Facility <i>Livermore, CA</i>	\$1 billion	more than \$8 billion
Mixed Oxide Facility <i>Savannah River, SC</i>	\$1.6 billion	more than \$4 billion
Uranium Processing Facility <i>Oak Ridge, TN</i>	\$1.5 billion	more than \$2 billion

The UPF Design Team wasted \$500 million on its first UPF design which was scrapped due to the "space/fit" issue. They were 85% finished with the design and noticed the building was too small for the equipment. **No Congressional hearings or independent investigations** were held. There has been no accountability for this fiasco; the same design team remains in place.





Senator Alexander, give it to us straight! How much are you really spending on bombs?

The latest UPF plan hides the true cost of modernizing operations at Y12 by breaking the bill into pieces and assigning various pieces to different line items in the budget. The cost of the UPF itself is one cost. The cost of equipment to go in the UPF is another cost. The cost of retrofitting older buildings is another cost. The cost of non-UPF new construction is another cost.

Consolidating operations was to allow for a reduction of the high security zone at Y12 which would permit cleanup of mercury and other wastes in places that were contaminated in the 1940s, 50s, 60s and 70s. The latest plan will not permit that cleanup; the cost of granting security clearances to cleanup workers will be prohibitive.

Senator Alexander, why isn't safety a priority?

The latest UPF plan calls for one building to be fully seismically qualified and others to be built to lesser standards. This will increase risks to workers, the public, and, in the event of an earthquake, the environment.

The original UPF design was to modernize almost all of the Y12 Nuclear Weapons Complex by consolidating uranium operations in one new facility. The latest plan calls for many operations to be retained in deteriorating facilities that will need significant retrofitting (as much as a billion dollars worth) and will still not be able to meet current seismic standards.

Senator Alexander, here's what we need!

The current "official" cost estimate for the UPF is \$6.5 billion. Based on the cost of design so far, we estimate the actual cost will exceed \$10 billion if the UPF bomb plant is built. This does not count the additional cost of retrofitting old buildings. NNSA says it will not release a new cost estimate until the design is 90% complete. But for the sake of argument, let's use their number: \$6.5 billion. Here are some things \$6.5 billion would buy in Tennessee:



- 80 teachers for 10 years in every county in Tennessee
- 118,000 Habitat for Humanity homes
- 2.1 billion school lunches
- Health insurance for 1,000,000 uninsured TN families
- 1,800 years of Head Start in Anderson County/Oak Ridge
- 5 new, state-of-the-art schools in every county in Tennessee



Senator Alexander, we have a right to know!



In a democracy, the public's right to know what the government is doing is a bedrock principle. John Adams described the public's right to know as "indisputable, inalienable, and infeasible." Aristotle said the affairs of the state are public for all to know and discuss. Pericles said an informed public debate is what separates democratic Athens from other states.

The original plan for the UPF bomb plant was detailed in 2011 in a Record of Decision derived from the Y12 Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement. That plan is no longer operative; the latest version is completely different (multiple buildings instead of one; continuing to use some older buildings instead of retiring them and cleaning them up...). The new plan has not been publicly released, nor has it been formally approved by the Department of Energy—but designers have spent \$1.5 billion drawing the blueprints (it will be more than \$2 billion before they have a complete design).

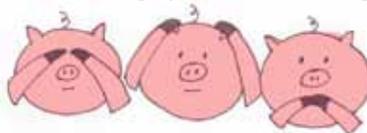
Rather than provide information to the public, Tennessee Senator Lamar Alexander has been holding secret meetings with the NNSA "every 4 to 6 months to make sure the project is continuing on time and on budget." No actual budget estimate or project schedule for the current UPF plan has been made public, so it is impossible really to know what Senator Alexander means.

On September 15, Alexander wrote to OREPA that "I met with the contractors last week, and they repeated assurance they have made to me..." This is what passes for public accountability for Senator Alexander—secret meetings, then broad assurances that everything is okay. In other words, "Trust me, because I trust them." But "they" are on the Government Accountability Office's "high risk" list and have an unblemished track record of complete failure to meet cost and schedule estimates on major construction projects.

The other side of the public's right to know is the government's duty to disclose. In a democracy, it is not the public's responsibility to dig out or beg (or sue) for information—information is our right. It is the government's responsibility—the NNSA and Senator Alexander's responsibility—to provide the information.

TELL THE TAXPAYER is a campaign of the
OAK RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL PEACE ALLIANCE
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 Tell the Taxpayer • www.orepa.org





THE QUICK VERSION



This is a carefully targeted campaign to do one thing: force the NNSA and Lamar Alexander to tell us what their plan is for the new bomb plant in Oak Ridge. You can help by simply writing a letter. Doesn't have to be fancy—direct and insistent is best.

1. **WRITE YOUR LETTER.** Choose from these talking points.
Be creative—mix 'n match!
 - We have a right to know what our tax dollars are being spent on.
 - Secret meetings with contractors is not how a democracy works.
 - The UPF bomb plant is the wrong plant for Oak Ridge—we need to invest in Dismantlement capacity.
 - Show us the plan! More than \$1.5 billion has been spent designing the UPF but NNSA has yet to release any approved plan for the facility.
 - The UPF is only one piece of the “modernization” of Y12—how many of our tax dollars will be spent to modernize the Y12 Nuclear Weapons Complex in the next 10 years?
 - Tennessee needs schools and teachers, not a new bomb plant
2. **SEND THE LETTER TO LAMAR** and a copy to OREPA (orep@earthlink.net)
3. **SUPPORT THE TELL THE TAXPAYER CAMPAIGN** with a donation to OREPA, tax-deductible. On-line at www.orepa.org or by check: OREPA, P O Box 5743 Oak Ridge, TN 37831
4. **GET ANOTHER PERSON (OR 6) TO WRITE.**

This campaign only works if we all do our part. We need you!

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