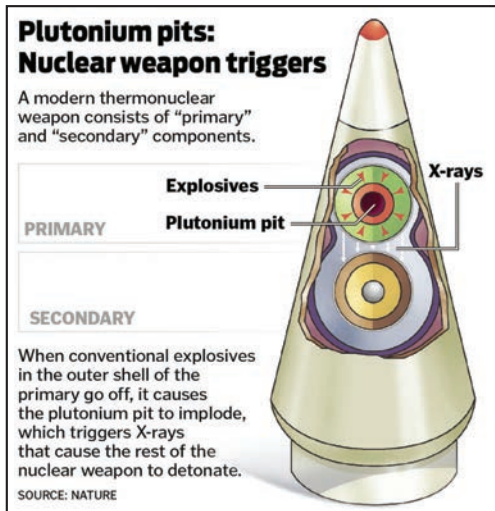


PLUTONIUM PITS

Every nuclear weapon contains a plutonium pit as its explosive core. Plutonium pit production is plagued by fires, explosions, and lethal radioactive waste. The U.S. has not mass produced plutonium pits since the only U.S. plutonium pit factory, Rocky Flats, near Denver, Colorado, was raided by the FBI in 1989 and permanently shut down after poisoning workers and contaminating the countryside with radioactive plutonium.



Now the U.S. proposes to build a plutonium pit factory at Savannah River Site (SRS) in South Carolina near Augusta, Georgia. Thanks to environmental laws enacted in 1970, people have been able to stop proposed plutonium pit factories at SRS four times in the past 30 years.

Corporations such as Lockheed, Boeing, Martin Marietta, Raytheon and Honeywell profit greatly from a Cold War business model. Even without the capability to mass-produce nuclear weapons, the U.S. spends more than **\$100,000 per minute** of our tax dollars on nuclear weapons, more than every other country combined.

The U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons outlaws the possession, manufacture, and use of nuclear weapons and has been ratified by more than half of the nations on Earth.

ACTION PLAN STOP PLUTONIUM PITS AND STOP THE BOMB

A successful lawsuit by environmental groups is forcing DOE and its super-secret semi-autonomous agency NNSA (National Nuclear Security Administration) to produce a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for the proposed Plutonium Pit Processing Facility at SRS.

The PEIS must analyze all foreseeable impacts of producing plutonium pits, including using the end-product, which, of course, produces nothing but death and mass destruction.

The draft PEIS was published April 10, 2026, and is subject to a 90-day comment period which concludes on July 16, 2026. Additionally, there will be five public hearings including one in North Augusta, SC, on May 5, 2026, at North Augusta Community Center at 495 Brookside Drive beginning at 5:30 pm.

All of our comments will be recorded and NNSA must respond to them. All comments carry equal weight whether given in person or by email or by FAX or U.S. postal service.

We are being given an historic national referendum to confront nuclear weapons! We don't need a New Nuclear Arms race costing trillions of dollars to destroy everything we hold dear. We do need to address decades of radioactive waste and nuclear weapons materials to protect our home planet.

Email your comments to PitPEIS@nnsa.doe.gov. Email info@nonukesyall.org for facts and tips to help you write your comments!

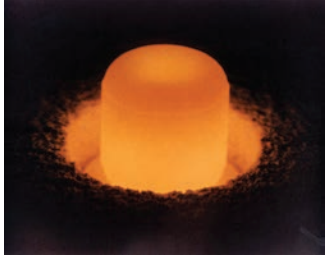
Plutonium threatens *everything* that we know and love. There is no Planet B!

 **Nuclear Watch South**
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PLUTONIUM

THE DEVIL'S ELEMENT



Nothing about plutonium is simple. Plutonium is named for Pluto, the Roman god of Hell. It does not occur in nature. Plutonium is a byproduct of

fissioning enriched uranium in a nuclear reactor. The U.S. has 93.5 tons of plutonium. The average amount of plutonium used to make a modern nuclear bomb is 3 kilograms.

Plutonium is hellishly toxic. The form of plutonium most hazardous to life (besides a nuclear bomb) is plutonium oxide powder. Plutonium metal which is exposed to air gradually turns to plutonium oxide powder. If inhaled, a lethal amount of plutonium is 2,000 micrograms. The amount of sugar substitute in a 1 gram package is 1,000,000 micrograms.

Extracting plutonium from reacted uranium is a messy process using industrial solvents that leaves radioactive liquid waste which is very difficult to manage. There are 35,000,000 gallons in 70-year-old underground tanks at Savannah River Site (SRS) near Augusta, Georgia in South Carolina where 40% of U.S. plutonium was made.

Production of plutonium ceased in 1989 when the FBI raided and shut down for environmental crimes the only factory that made the plutonium pits, or triggers, at the core of every nuclear weapon. The Soviet Union dissolved ending the Cold War and the mission of the nuclear weapons complex became environmental clean-up.

Every modern nuclear weapon uses plutonium pits and because plutonium is used in nuclear weapons it must be heavily guarded. Plutonium has a half-life of more than 24,000 years so it must be guarded for almost as long as *homo sapiens*, our species of human beings, has existed.

WHAT IS AT RISK FROM OUR PLUTONIUM?



To the village square we must take the facts of atomic energy.
From there must come America's voice.

ALBERT EINSTEIN