

22 April 2021

News ADVISORY

Contact: **801.382.9824** or AmmonHennacy@CatholicWorker.biz

Protesters Decry Utah's Nuclear Program

On **Monday April 26th** there will be a peaceful protest at **11:00 AM** at the intersection of **State Highway 222** (a.k.a. North Hill Field Road) and **State Highway 193**, near Southgate Avenue on the south side of Hill Air Force Base (Hill AFB), organized by Achorus Amorphous, a nonprofit advocacy group for unhoused Utahns.

The nonviolent picketing party reminds Hill AFB's traffic that Northrop Grumman is actively working on a nuclear weapons facility (finishing three years from now—April 2023). The protesters believe that weapons of mass destruction are illegal, unethical, and don't belong in Utah (whether at Hill AFB or anywhere else). Downwinders and others who have suffered from nuclear weapons explosions since 1945 are unanimously opposed to nuclear terrorism, and Northrop's nuclear program in this bio-region adds insult to injury.

The forthcoming facility which broke ground at Hill AFB nineteen months ago is slated to cost more than \$80 billion over the next thirty years. It's part of the well-funded government spending program called Ground Based Strategic Deterrent (GBSD), intended to replace the obsolete Minuteman missiles at over 400 sites across the West and Midwest.

One of the picketers singing protest songs at Hill AFB for these demonstrations is Marc Collonge. He said the date for this nonviolent protest was chosen because, "This is the 35th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster, where a sector of the nuclear industry contaminated their local land, plants, animals and waters forever. Whether power, mining, waste, or weapons, the enormous ecological footprint of radioactive industries is terribly expensive as people play with poison fire." Collonge continued, "That's the simplest reason to resist the nuclear weapons industry with Northrop Grumman as our local contractor in Utah. The more urgent spiritual reason is the bad karma to threaten your neighbors with total annihilation and your own descendants with permanent contamination for plants, animals, waters and land. We have a moral imperative to take care of people here rather than continue holding the nuclear knife at the throat of law-abiding nations."

Activists decrying the nuclearism of the past 76 years are calling for the cancellation of contracts with Northrop Grumman, and for Hill AFB's employees to likewise resist the work that makes our bioregion an international target for terrorists, nuclear and otherwise. Singing picketers this month remind the folks driving in, out and around Hill AFB that planned crimes against humanity run counter to international treaties, and that the U.S. Constitution declares our government's treaties to be "the supreme law of the land."

###

*More Info is available online at <http://lovarchy.org/achorusamorphous>
and via phone at 801.382.9824 and on twitter @Lovarchist with #NorthropGdirt*