

The RadioActivist Campaign

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PRESS ADVISORY

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Radiation Threats near Livermore

Artificial radioactivity has been detected near the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, California. An independent study reports radioactive contamination in Arroyo Seco and Arroyo Las Positas, and downwind of the Laboratory.

The RadioActivist Campaign, in collaboration with Tri-Valley CAREs, collected samples around the Laboratory and Site 300, in December 2003. Radiological analyses of 12 initial samples identified (www.radioactivist.org/reports.html):

- americium-241, a long-lived, water-borne byproduct of plutonium production
- cesium-137, a long-lived, air- and water-borne fission product
- strontium-90, a long-lived, air- and water-borne fission product
- iron-59, a short-lived, water-borne neutron-activation product

One result prompts direct concern for neighbors: a grass sample collected by Flynn Road, northeast of the Laboratory. That sample reportedly had radioactive strontium-90 at about 20 times the reference regulatory level. This result requires confirmation, which is planned with final sampling in May.

These initial results suggest that the Laboratory's monitoring program has fundamental flaws, so neighbors are not adequately protected from radioactivity.

The RadioActivist Campaign will present its radiological findings and preliminary implications at a community meeting hosted by Tri-Valley CAREs on **May 6th, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.** The meeting will be at Tri-Valley CAREs office - 2582 Old First Street, Livermore. (Tel: (925) 443-7148) Norm Buske, Director of The RadioActivist Campaign, and Marylia Kelley, Executive Director of Tri-Valley CAREs, will be available for questions, both before and after the community meeting. Mr. Buske and Ms. Kelley will also meet with the press the day before the meeting, on **May 5th, 2004 between 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.** at Tri-Valley CAREs office.

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