

11/1/2021

Dear Rocky Flats Stewardship Council,

Hello my name is Chris Allred, resident of Longmont, CO, and I've worked for Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center for the past 7 years. During this time I've learned valuable lessons about Rocky Flats and the U.S. nuclear weapon complex. I'm no longer employed by RMPJC, which concluded on good terms. Today I speak on my own time as a U.S. Citizen because I have serious concerns about the way our government is operating.

In reviewing the agenda for today's meeting, I realized a problem between two of the matters up for discussion - new board appointments and the 2022 budget. The Stewardship Council application requires conflicts of interest to be identified but there is a conflict of interest built into this council's very structure. The Stewardship Council 2022 budget includes 90% of it's funding from the DOE, \$150,800. This is the federal agency that oversaw the crimes at Rocky Flats and continues a nuclear weapon policy that has brought us into a second accelerated nuclear arms race. That is a direct financial interest related to the management of Rocky Flats. Therefore, DOE funding must be rejected.

We need our elected officials to keep taking steps to correct this injustice. The conflict of interest with DOE must be identified. I have been thankful to see several elected officials on this board show great leadership by exercising the Precautionary Principle, and allowing a balanced discussion on the difficult conversations. That will stand the test of time.

On the other hand, It's clear to me that the U.S. nuclear weapon policy is terribly unjust, from beginning to end. Have you spoken with the Navajo who had their land stolen and became ill from Uranium mining? Or the Western Shoshone who were driven from their lands at gunpoint to have them contaminated for countless generations by nuclear bomb testing? Or the people of the Martial Islands who were used as human test subjects for the bomb? Or the families who lost loved ones from contamination at Rocky Flats? That contamination still remains in this region, but our government tells us: No problem, unlimited use, unrestricted exposure, go hiking, go mountain biking, forget the past. While people are slowly poisoned and the DOE makes new bombs. That policy will not stand the test of time.

So we will keep speaking out, and we will keep coming back. Dr. King once said, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice". I believe he is right. My

question now is, will you please help to take action and make his words true to those of the future.

Sincerely,

Chris Allred

Statement on the 2022 Budget for the Rocky Flats Stewardship Council

The Stewardship Council 2022 budget includes 90% of its funding from the DOE, \$150,800. This is the federal agency that oversaw the crimes at Rocky Flats and continues a nuclear weapon policy that has brought us into a second accelerated nuclear arms race. Since the executive director of the stewardship council is paid by DOE, this raises the serious question of a vested financial interest in aligning with the DOE. The executive director of this board should be an elected official who is accountable to the people, not the DOE.

I've observed and documented multiple conflicts of interest with the DOE. DOE provided \$8.315 million to USFWS for the RFNWR. DOE provides an annual grant to CDPHE Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division. CDPHE likes to use the talking point that this is the Polluter Pays Principle, however that is a fallacy. It is not a punishment to DOE to institute a system where they fund and influence their own regulatory oversight. That is called regulatory capture.

Therefore, it is not appropriate for the executive director of the Stewardship Council to receive a raise at this time. It is not appropriate for the executive director to be paid by the DOE. This board should be re-organized to have an elected official as the executive director, someone who is accountable to the people, and who may be voted out if they are doing a poor job at representing the people. That is a fundamental of Democracy we need to stand by in order to have justice in government. I urge this council to reject the funding from DOE and take steps to make this forum more just and equitable to the people of Colorado.