

# Profits of Destruction:

## The Nuclear Weapons' *Business* at Los Alamos

### Nuclear Weapons:

- LANL's total 2009 budget was \$2.1 billion, two-thirds of which paid for nuclear weapons work.
- US taxpayers spend/waste over \$8 million at LANL every day.
- Annually the US spends more than \$60 billion – or about \$164 million daily – on nuclear weapons and their delivery systems.

### Private Profiteering:

- Since 2006 Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) has operated as a for-profit private corporation comprised mainly of the international giant, Bechtel and the University of California (the Lab's sole previous manager).
- After privatization, LANL, for the first time in 70 years, became a for-profit business designing nuclear weapons.
- It now pays its corporate director more than \$1 million annually, triple the director's salary before privatization.

### Contamination:

The Lab, together with its tons of radioactive and toxic waste, sits high on a mesa above the Rio Grande, a critical source of drinking water for thousands of downstream users. Independent studies have concluded that gravity could carry Lab wastes through fractured mesa rock to the river in as few as 26 years.

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