

Press Release

4th March 2015

Salisbury CND join AWE Burghfield Protest



Members of Salisbury CND form part of the protest at the North Gate of Burghfield AWE (2.3.2015)

Members of Salisbury CND joined Action AWE – a grassroots campaign against Trident replacement – and 150 campaigners who had travelled from across the UK and as far away as Belgium, Finland, France, Spain, and Sweden to protest against government plans to spend £100bn on a new generation of nuclear armed submarines.

The 'Burghfield Lockdown' saw blockaders descend on the Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) in Burghfield, Berkshire, from 5am in the morning to disrupt work at the facility. It marks the start of a month of action organised by Action AWE in the run up to the general election, where Trident replacement is set to be a key issue for voters.

The peaceful protest closed one of the roads to the site and blocked two of the entrances.

Nuclear warheads are assembled, maintained and decommissioned at AWE Burghfield. Currently, the site is the largest construction project in the UK, costing the taxpayer £2 billion.

CND Chair Dave Webb, who joined the blockade, said: 'The Burghfield Lockdown is a direct expression of the view of so many across the UK that Trident replacement is morally repulsive, politically irresponsible, and economically disastrous. While the NHS is being slashed it is simply unjustifiable to squander £100bn of taxpayers' money on a weapon which does nothing to keep us safe and threatens indiscriminate mass murder.

'With the final vote on Trident replacement due in 2016, we have a golden opportunity at the upcoming election to make sure we elect an anti-Trident parliament. We have to use this election as our vote against Trident replacement.'

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