

A photograph of a middle-aged man with a grey beard and mustache, wearing a blue button-down shirt, sitting in a library. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background is filled with bookshelves containing many books. The lighting is warm and focused on the man.

# ATOMIC

## HEALTH NEWS

for Department of  
Energy & Uranium  
workers

## Real Workers Real Stories

Gene , James & Roy

## Atomic Resources

Guidance Corner

## Historical Highlight

Los Alamos National Lab

40 year & 3 Careers  
in the Nuclear  
Weapons  
Industry

3

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From Wheelchair to Walking

On the cover: Gene spent 40 years at the Savannah River Site as a welder, security and maintenance worker.



# NUCLEAR CARE PARTNERS & THE PANDEMIC

Due to the diligence and commitment of our wonderful care teams, we've been able to manage all of our patients' needs while mitigating cross-contamination and the health risks associated with this pandemic. Our care teams are equipped with the proper PPE to continue providing our patients with the safe care they deserve. We will continue to prioritize the protection of the health and safety of our patients, staff, and communities and our teams are prepared for a possible resurgence in the fall.

To learn more about our Emergency Response Plan and how we are navigating the pandemic, visit [NuclearCarePartners.com/COVID19Updates](https://NuclearCarePartners.com/COVID19Updates). Wishing safety and health to you and your loved ones.



Jenna Noem Co-Founder & CEO

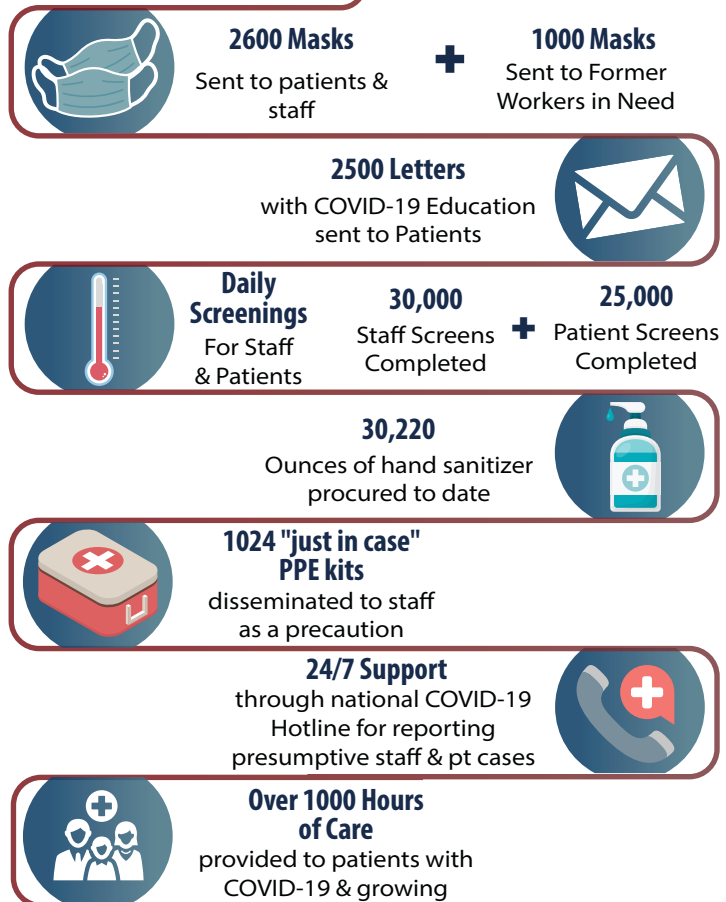
## PPE

Minimum  
2 week supply  
in each branch

Designated  
15 Material  
Coordinators  
to disseminate  
and manage  
PPE locally



## COVID-19 Prevention & Education



## Continued Growth



**18% Staff Growth**  
during the pandemic

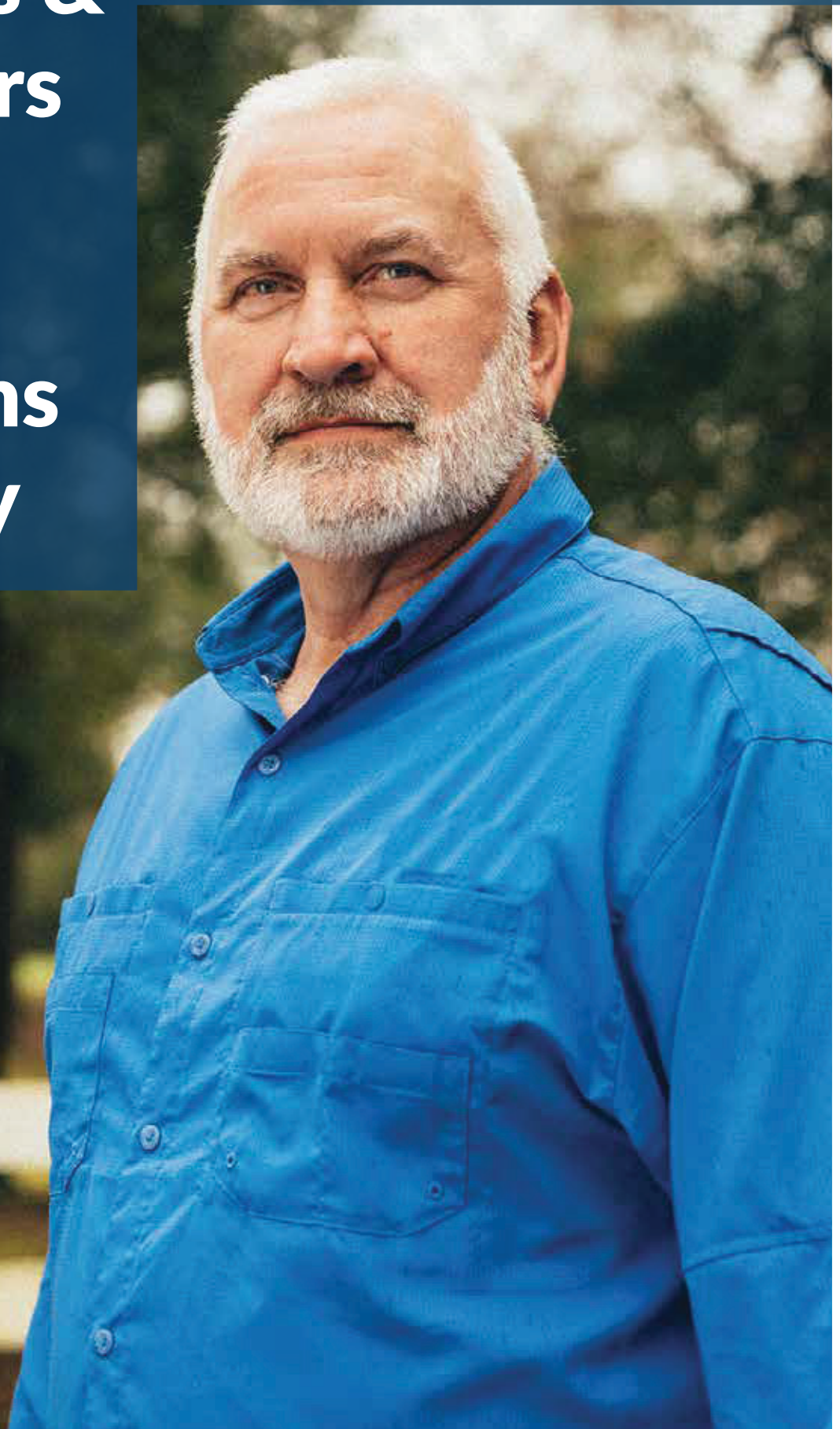


**0 Patient Admissions denied**  
due to covid symptoms or diagnosis

**Every patient had access to care regardless of symptoms.**

**We have acquired all necessary personal protective equipment to ensure the safety of our patients and staff for the next 6 months.**

# 40 Years & 3 Careers in the Nuclear Weapons Industry



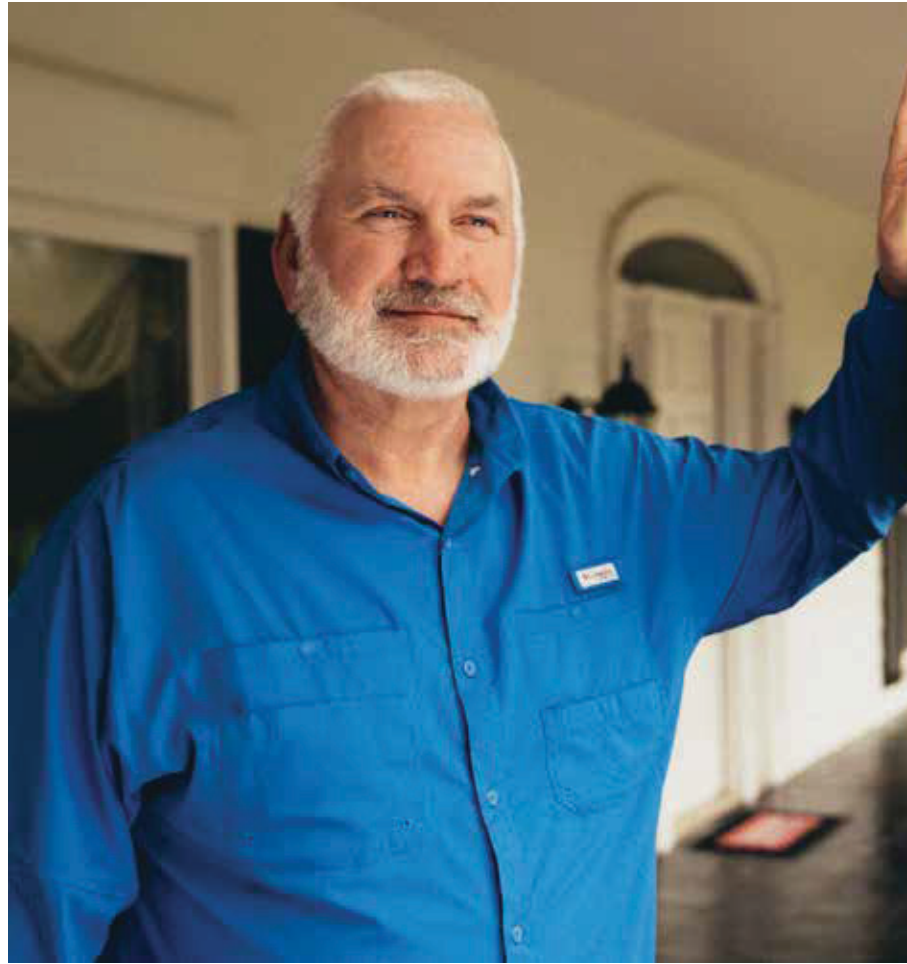
## Former welder, security, and maintenance worker remembers his time at SRS.

My name is Gene and I'm originally from Augusta, Georgia which is about 20 miles southwest of Aiken, South Carolina—where the Savannah River Site is located.

When I was in my early 20s I started working in security at the site. I actually didn't plan on working in security, I wanted to go out there to work in maintenance, but at the time—around the late 1970s—there weren't any open positions in maintenance. So I took a job in security to try to get my foot in the door.

It sure did work for me because I ended up spending 40 years working at the Savannah River Site, and worked in many sides of the industry—security, maintenance, and welding.

Like I said before, I started in security working the barricades. I also worked security in the 700 Area, at the lab, and in the 300 Area—which isn't there anymore. I did this for about 3 years.



***I've really been so pleased with everyone at Nuclear Care Partners. Even during the coronavirus, my nurse has been so great about wearing a mask and keeping me safe when she comes into my home. I really appreciate all the help they give me and am so grateful for them.***



After security, I transitioned into maintenance—which was exciting because that's what I originally wanted to do at the site. When I did maintenance I worked in the Naval Nuclear Fuels Manufacturing Facility in the F-Area.

Then I moved back to the SRS lab and was promoted to a supervisor over maintenance at the

300 Area. Later I moved into welding, and while I wish I could share what I did in that position, most of the stuff I welded was and remains classified.

I genuinely enjoyed the four decades I spent working out at the Savannah River Site. It was a great company to work for with good benefits and retirement, and those things were important to me.



When I was actively working there, I had no idea I was being exposed to all kinds of chemicals and bad stuff that would affect my health. They never told us we were being exposed.

In 2007, about 10 years before I retired, I started having problems with my health—specifically my feet. I went to the doctor and was diagnosed with neuropathy. That's when I started trying to file a claim to see if it could be covered under the EEOICPA.

**Peripheral neuropathy is the disease or dysfunction of one or more peripheral nerves, typically causing numbness or weakness. *This is a common condition covered under the EEOICPA.***

I had to do some research to find out about the EEOICPA program and how it worked. The hardest part was trying to prove that my neuropathy was caused at the site because nearly everything I had done and was doing for work was classified. It took nearly 10 years to get my diagnosis approved.

At the time I had a few coworkers who were also dealing with health issues because of the exposure—a couple of them had neuropathy too. I've tried to help them pursue getting help with their diagnosis and benefits, but the process to file can be very complicated and confusing—especially if you're doing it on your own like I did. I keep telling them they need to get with Nuclear Care Partners because they know so much about the program and the process of how to file.

Unfortunately, I didn't know about Nuclear Care Partners until after I got my white card so they weren't able to help me with the filing process. But ever since I met with them and talked with their team in South Carolina, they have been so helpful and given me a lot of support that I needed.

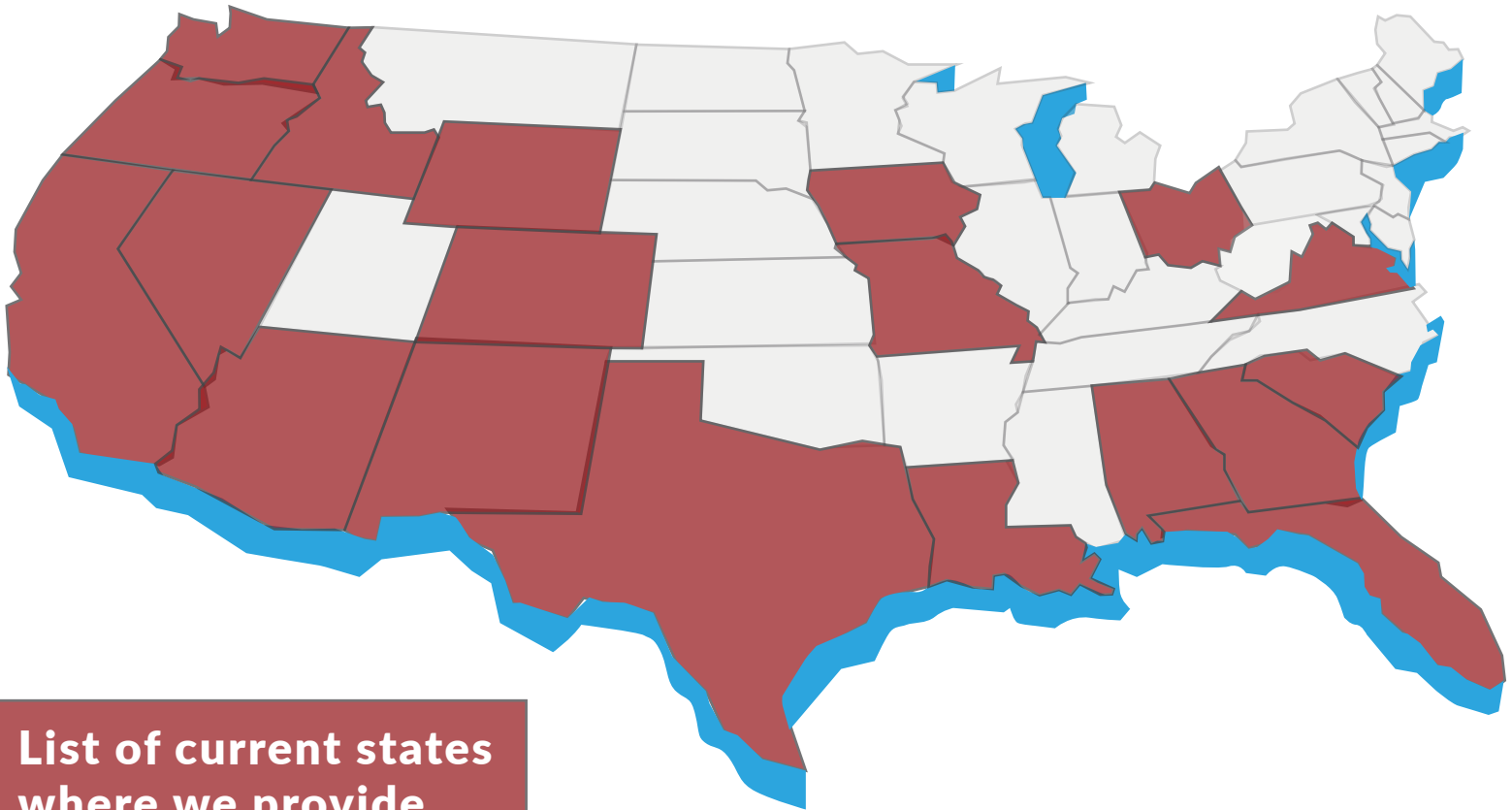
I've been a patient with Nuclear Care Partners for about a year and a half now. My nurse is wonderful and she comes to my house once a month to check in on me and see how I'm doing and what I need.

I've really been so pleased with everyone at Nuclear Care Partners. Even during the coronavirus, my nurse has been so great about wearing a mask and keeping me safe when she comes into my home. I really appreciate all the help they give me and am so grateful for them.



# Our Service Areas

**We serve former atomic workers in nearly  
20 states across the country!**



## List of current states where we provide service

Washington	Iowa
Oregon	Missouri
California	Louisiana
Nevada	Alabama
Idaho	Georgia
Wyoming	Florida
Arizona	South Carolina
Colorado	Virginia
New Mexico	Ohio
Texas	

***Connect with your local  
Nuclear Care Partners  
team today!***

**800.295.5846**

# Los Alamos National Lab



## The Birthplace of the Atom Bomb

In 1943, Los Alamos National Lab (LANL) was established as site Y of the Manhattan Project. Growing concerns over the threat of a growing German nuclear research program led the federal government to commission the lab as the centralized location of all research associated with the Manhattan Project.

General Leslie Groves, commander of the Manhattan Project, scouted the location for its safety from enemy attack, isolation due to the project's top-secret status, and its sparse population in the event of a nuclear accident. The lab was created with the sole purpose of designing and building an atomic bomb.

At its peak two years later in 1945, more than 5,000 scientists, engineers, technicians, metallurgists, and their families lived on the site. However, the city was so secret that it was not on any map and a single post office box, P.O. Box 1663, served all of its residents. Babies born during the Manhattan Project even had the post office box listed as their birthplace on their birth certificates.

Some of the most famous physicists of the 20th

Century and Nobel Prize Laureates participated in the research at LANL, including Enrico Fermi, Edward Teller, Richard Feynman, Hans Bethe, and Isidor Isaac Rabi.

Under the leadership of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the lab successfully weaponized the atom just 27 months after its establishment. On July 16, 1945, the world's first atomic bomb was detonated at the Trinity Site in Alamogordo, New Mexico—about 200 miles south of Los Alamos.

The bomb's yield, equivalent to 18,000 tons of TNT, was enough to astound even the scientists who spent years on its calculations.

Within a few weeks, two atomic bombs were dropped over Japan. Little Boy, a uranium bomb was dropped over Hiroshima on August 6th and Fat Man, an implosion plutonium bomb was dropped over Nagasaki on August 9th. Five days later armistice was declared and World War II formally ended on September 2, 1945, following the Japanese surrender.

Today, LANL has a heightened focus on worker safety and security awareness while maintaining





# LANL's Major Awards:

- 145 R&D 100 awards since 1978
- 34 Ernest Orlando Lawrence Awards
- 9 Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists & Engineers
- 3 Glenn T. Seaborg Awards
- The Edward Teller Medal
- The Nobel Prize in Physics: Frederick Reines

its rich variety of research programs in national security, nuclear nonproliferation and border security, energy and infrastructure security, and countermeasures to nuclear and biological terrorist threats. The lab continues to boast over 75 years of scientific innovation.



## Article research sourced from

LANL.gov  
Encyclopedia Britannica  
Atomic Heritage Foundation  
APS Physics

## Photos sourced from:

LANL.gov



SWITCHING

COMPANIES

## *Saved My Dad's Health*

*(AND POSSIBLY HIS LIFE)*

*Told by Joanna, daughter of James,  
former SRS worker*

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My father, James, worked at the Savannah River Site. He worked as a machinist at the machine shop there on and off during the 1970s and 1980s. He's now battling COPD as a result of his exposure at the site. We're also trying to get his Parkinson's covered under his EEOICPA benefits.

In March of 2020, he was hospitalized for a broken hip. We aren't sure whether he got sick from there or from one of his nurses with the old home care company he was with, but a couple of months later he got sick. Unfortunately, the company he was with thought he just had a cold so they didn't bother testing him for the coronavirus. Then my mom got sick, and a couple of days later I got sick. Since I work in healthcare, I got tested immediately and it came back positive for the coronavirus. Then my dad got tested and he also was also positive.

After that, his nurses just stopped coming to the house altogether. They didn't even call us to tell us what was going on. They kept putting me off and just said "We don't have anyone that's willing to come care for your dad." They had no plan in place to care for someone with the coronavirus.

I was terrified because we went through all of the worst-case scenarios of what could happen, and I thought I was going to be there just by myself to help my dad. I knew we were going to have to have somebody here to care for him. I told our old provider that I was going to call another home care company, but they tried to intimidate me and said if I called another company that my dad wasn't going to get the same amount of care hours.

That was one of my biggest fears, I thought "We can't change companies because Dad can't lose his care." This ended up not being true as he still gets 24 hours of care a day after switching companies.

A friend had told me about Nuclear Care Partners so I called and that same day the local Administrator, Katie, came and met with my mom and I. The very next day my dad had new nurses in the home. It was a swift and easy process to switch!

***It was a swift and  
easy process to switch!***

When Nuclear Care Partners came in they were gowned up and wearing masks and had a plan to care for my dad and keep him safe. The nurses he had with his old company are nowhere near the nurses he has now. His old nurses wouldn't even make him lunch or offer to get him something to drink. His nurses now are so great and super nice.

***The care he's getting  
now is so much better.***

He's fully recovered from the coronavirus and is doing much better in that aspect. The care he's getting now is so much better and we're having a great experience with Nuclear Care Partners.





*James and his family*



*James and his wife*



*James and his granddaughter*



# ROY

## Patient Feature



I've worked in every area of the Nevada Test Site. I worked as a painter, and I had no idea that my body had been damaged in such a way from the contamination.

I have silicosis in the lungs and 5 years ago I beat prostate cancer. I had to get ahold of whatever I could do to help myself and then I had to gather people around me to help me. My nurses come to my house and check on me every other day of my life. If I need something, I've got people that care in Nuclear Care Partners.

***A year ago I couldn't walk, I had to use my walker. A year before that I had to take my wheelchair. Every day that I have had Nuclear Care Partners helping me, I have been getting better.***

I don't know what I would do without them. I truly believe they're everything you need to live your life properly.

# Guidance Corner

*To better serve you, we created 3 new programs focused on enhancing the experience for our patients, their caregivers, and all former atomic workers.*

*Read on to learn more about these exciting new programs—now available to you!*

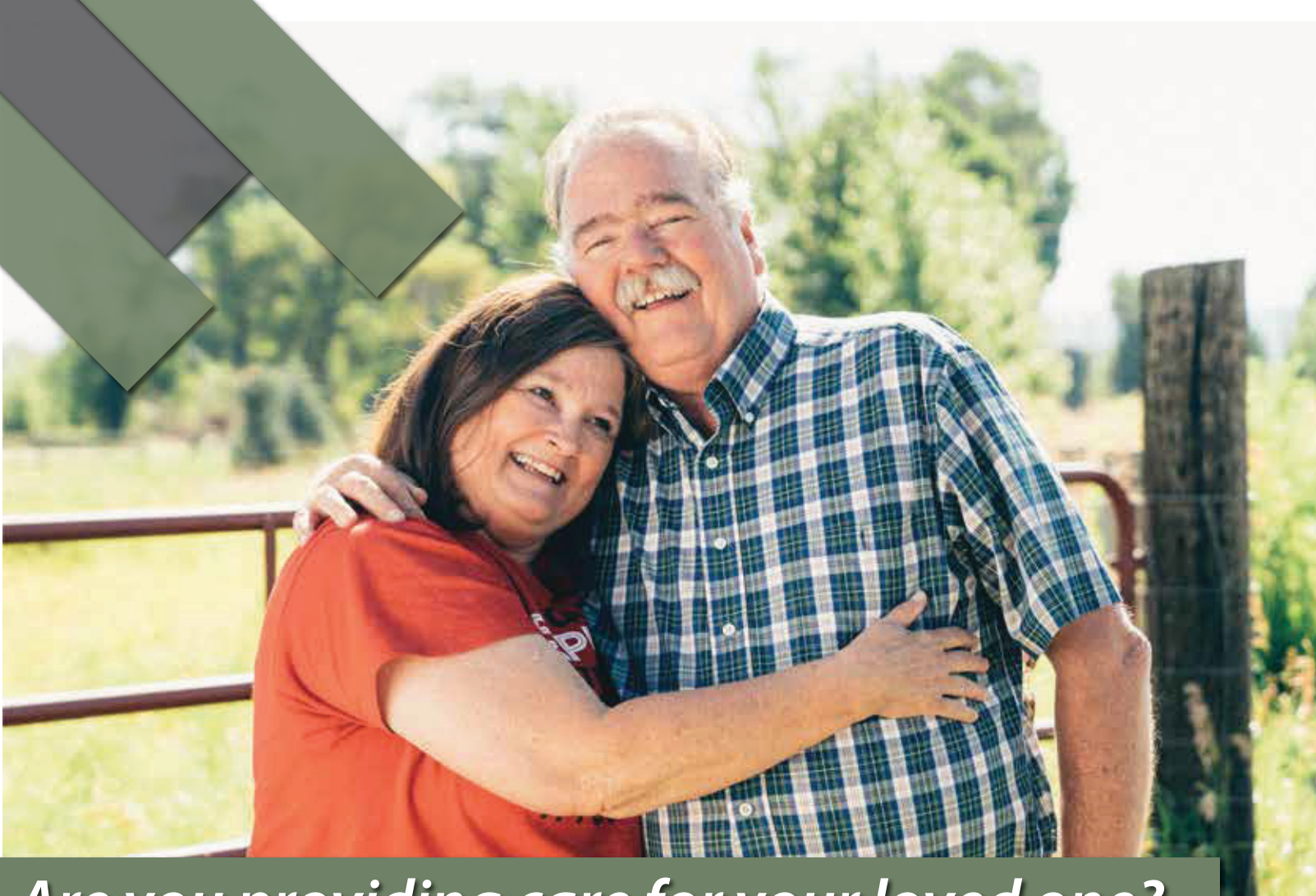


**BreatheBetter**  
A Respiratory Care Program  
A Nuclear Care Partners Initiative

**Health Watch**  
A Nuclear Care Partners Initiative







***Are you providing care for your loved one?***

***Did they work for the Department of Energy  
or as a uranium worker?***

***Join our Family Caregiver  
Bootcamp!***

This **FREE program** will guide you through the basics of what it means to be a family caregiver and will provide **education and support** to help you protect and care for your loved one.

Over the course of 5 weeks you will receive emails twice a week with video trainings that will cover the following topics and much more:

- How to keep your loved one's medication organized & safe
- How to effectively communicate with your loved one's physician
- What a care plan is and how to have a conversation with your loved one about it
- How to care for yourself while you provide care
- And much more!





# *As a family caregiver, are you wondering...*

***What is a care plan? How do I talk to my loved one about it?***

***We've got the answers you need!***

**1** A care plan is a document that summarizes a person's health conditions and current treatments for their care. The plan should include information about:

- Health conditions
- Medications and when to take them
- Healthcare providers and their phone numbers, nurses' names, etc.
- Emergency contacts
- And caregiver resources for you

**2** Here are some tips to help you talk to your loved one and create a proper care plan for them.

**Start a conversation about care planning with the person you take care of.**

- You can use the "My Care Plan" form available on the CDC website to help start the conversation. This form guides you through the basics will guide you through the basics, but you should talk in detail with your loved one.

**One of the hardest conversations to have is about Advance Directives (what are your loved one's wishes at the end of life).**

- When the inevitable happens, how would they like that to look? You can talk to your doctor or nurse to discuss how to make sure their wishes are met.

**Discuss any needs you have as a caregiver.**

- 84% of caregivers report they could use more information and help on caregiving topics especially related to safety at home, dealing with stress, and managing their care recipient's challenging behaviors.

Remember, ***you are not alone!***

Your local Nuclear Care Partners team can help you manage your loved one's care plan, aid you in supporting doctor's orders at home, and answer any questions you may have!

***Better health is just a  
phone call away!***

***There's never been a better time to stay on top of your health.***

During this free 8-week program, we will help you monitor your health & provide you with a variety of resources related to your EEOICPA health benefits.

You will receive weekly calls from our certified registered nurses that will discuss a variety of topics including:

## **White Card Review**

**DOL**

Are you using your  
white card to its  
full potential?

## **Durable Medical Equipment**



What would make  
getting around your  
home easier?

## **Help Around the House**



Do you need help and  
support around the home  
or with getting groceries?

## **Consequential Illnesses**



Do you need help adding  
a consequential illness to  
your card?

## **Reimbursement Forms**



Do you need help with  
your medical travel/mileage  
reimbursement forms?

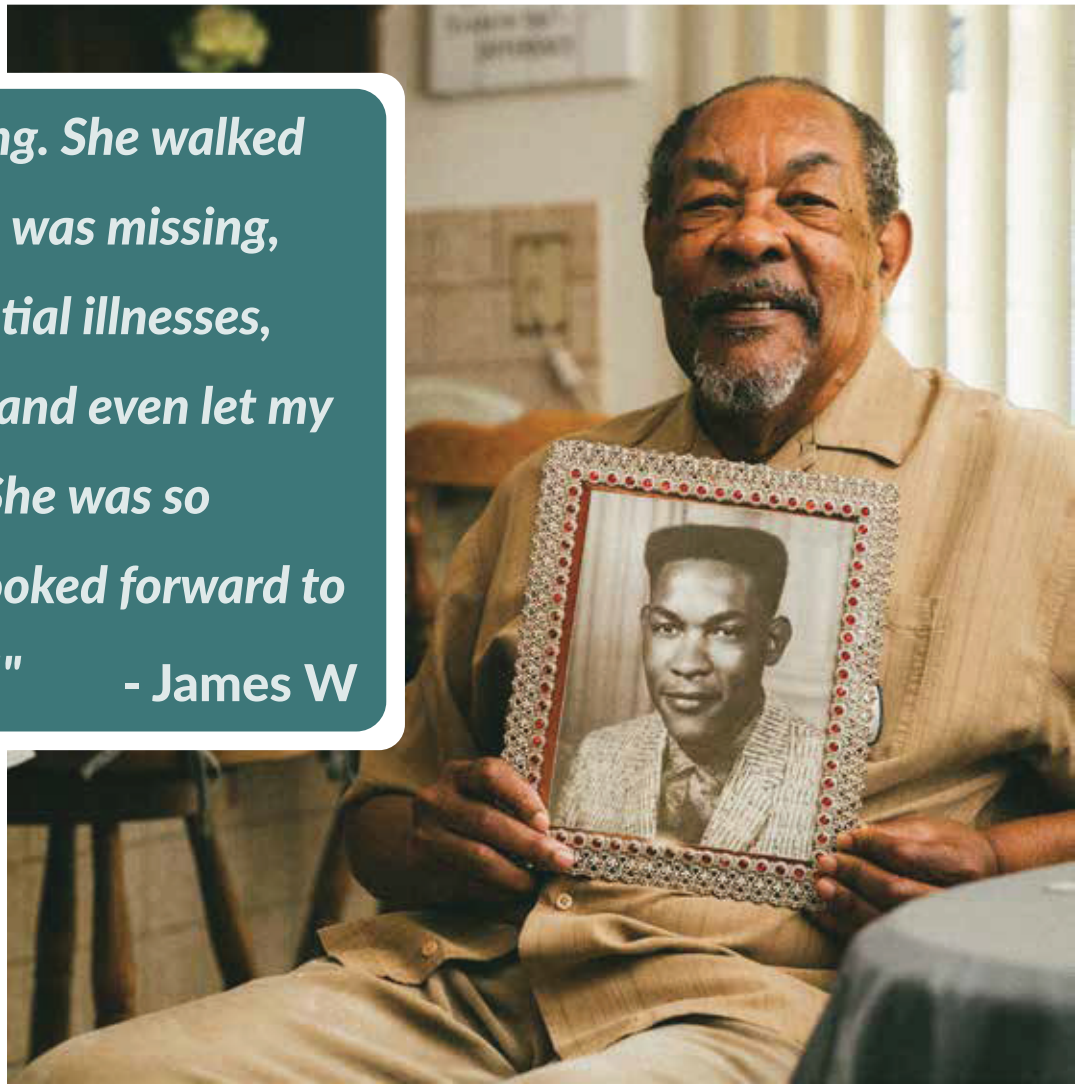
## **Family Q&A**



Would any of your family  
members like to ask us  
some questions about your  
health or your benefits?

*"Jennifer was amazing. She walked me through all that I was missing, looked at consequential illnesses, impairment ratings, and even let my wife ask questions. She was so patient and kind. I looked forward to her calls every week!"*

*- James W*



*"I never realized all I could use my white card for. John helped me understand instead of paying my monthly deductible I could order my oxygen and supplies through the card. On my limited budget that savings really helped."*

*- Roger S*

Call **800.295.5846** to sign up for Health Watch today!

### ***Thinking about switching providers?***

Try our 4-week Health Watch program to see how Nuclear Care Partners can make a difference in your care!

\*This program is for former atomic workers not currently receiving care services from Nuclear Care Partners.





# BreatheBetter

A Respiratory Care Program

A Nuclear Care Partners Initiative

*Committed to Elevating  
the Standard of Care  
for Former Workers*

Here at Nuclear Care Partners, we specialize in caring for former nuclear weapons and uranium workers. Over the years, we have seen a large need for specialized programs within the EEOICPA, which is why we are excited to announce

## ***BreatheBetter - A Respiratory Care Program!***

Of the major diagnoses commonly found in former atomic workers, nearly 40% are lung-related. Are you battling any of the following diseases?

**COPD**

**Chronic Asthma**

**Chronic Beryllium Disease**

**Silicosis**

**Asbestosis**

**Emphysema**

**Pulmonary Fibrosis**

**Sarcoidosis**

**Pneumoconiosis**

**Pleural Plaques**



*"Over 80% of the former workers we come into contact with are battling some form of lung disease and we know how that impacts their quality of life. We created this program to help former workers better manage their respiratory conditions with the goal of improving their breathing through individualized interventions and exercises unique to their needs. Being able to help our atomic heroes breathe better is just one small step we are taking to give them the superior care they deserve."*

**- Patti Kendall, Vice President of Clinical Compliance**

***Breathe Better  
& Enjoy a  
Higher Quality  
of Life!***

This free program can improve your breathing and will guide you through individualized interventions unique to your health needs.

*Receive education  
on your specific disease  
and disease process.*

*Practice a variety of  
provided lung exercises  
to help with your  
breathing.*

*Find comfort in  
knowing that we will  
advocate for you and  
your lung health  
needs to your  
physician(s).*

National Specialty Pharmacy (NSP) is a retail pharmacy dispensing traditional and compound medications. Based in Las Vegas, Nevada, we specialize in providing prescription fulfillment services to patients who are former atomic workers under Department of Labor (DOL) programs. We have been successfully working with DOL patients in the White Card program for over three years and have established streamlined processes that ensure efficient and accurate prescription fills for patients across the US.

Everyone involved in the patient care process starting with the patients themselves, to the caregivers, nurses, case managers and physicians quickly discover that having one central pharmacy focused on fulfilling their prescription needs, simplifies the process for all involved.

Our three full time pharmacists and dedicated DOL support team are able to oversee the management of these medications and give advice to a patient, practitioner or nurse for any interactions, over-prescribed medications, treatment options, etc.



Your Whole Family Wellness Partner

*“After being diagnosed with chemo induced neuropathy, my podiatrist wrote me a prescription for a medicated compound cream to see if it would alleviate the numbness and burning in my legs and feet. After mentioning this to my nurse from Nuclear Care Partners, she told me about National Specialty Pharmacy which is approved and recognized by the Department of Labor. I’ve been having them fill my prescriptions for the past 6 months and taking advantage of their free delivery service. In addition, National Specialty Pharmacy will fill any other prescriptions; even those not covered by the Department of Labor. I’m very pleased with their courtesy and professionalism.” Robert Bodak*

## Contactless delivery and shipping

In many cases, patient specific compounds are an alternative treatment to traditional medications.

Listed below are several examples of symptoms and the compound medication to treat the corresponding symptom.

**Neuro compound cream** - Neuropathy pain, nerve pain, diabetic and general pain, arthritis

**Pain compound cream** - Arthritis, orthopedic injuries, muscle pain, generalized overall body pain

**Nasal dryness compound gel** - Patients that are oxygen dependent or even use oxygen intermittently and experience dryness around the nostril area

**Diabetic compound cream**- Diabetics that have dry/cracked skin issues, also effective with chemotherapy and radiation patients

**Compounded scar cream** - New and old scars



If you are interested in any of our compounded medications, please call to speak to a Pharmacist to discuss which compound formulation may be right for your specific symptoms. With your permission, we can then request the medication prescription from your doctor or you can request the medication during your next doctor visit.

The National Specialty Pharmacy team is here to help you with all your prescription needs and we will do all we can to earn your business, and more importantly, to earn and keep your trust.

## STAY HOME AND LET US DELIVER YOUR MEDICATION DIRECTLY TO YOU

We are joining forces with Nuclear Care Partners in the following states, and many more.

Arizona  
California  
Colorado  
Georgia  
Idaho  
Iowa  
Missouri

Nevada  
New Mexico  
Ohio  
Oregon  
Washington  
Wyoming

NATIONAL  
SPECIALTY PHARMACY

Please feel free to contact our pharmacy with any questions.

Pharmacy 855.557.6595

### *Want to share this newsletter with a friend?*

*Give us a call & we'll send them a copy!*

Call **800.295.5846**

Give us their name & address

We'll sign them up to receive our latest editions!



*Want to see your story featured in an upcoming newsletter?  
Give us a call & get connected with our team!*



# 3 Quick Questions

**to See if You Qualify  
for Benefits!**

**1** *Do you have a verifiable illness?*

**2** *Could your illness have been caused by something you were exposed to at a DOE site or uranium mine or mill?*

**3** *Did your work put you in contact with radiation or other hazardous materials/chemicals that could be the root cause of your illness?*

**Our Benefits Specialists can help you determine your benefit eligibility and discuss your next steps in the filing process.**

**Visit [NuclearCarePartners.com/3questions](https://NuclearCarePartners.com/3questions) to learn more!**

# FILING FOR BENEFITS 101 *with an Authorized Rep*

## Knowledgeable

A credible Authorized Representative is familiar and experienced with the EEOICPA filing process, the various atomic sites across the country, as well as the potential exposures from the sites.

## Advocacy

Authorized Representatives can assist you with responding to requests and speaking with the Department of Labor Claims Examiners on your behalf.

## Convenience

An Authorized Representative can sign all forms on your behalf, with the exception of the financial forms, and can answer any questions you may have about filing your claim.

## No Upfront Payment

All services are performed on contingency. If you don't receive the financial compensation, you don't pay your Authorized Representative. Payment is required only after your claim is approved.

## Gina Martinez

Authorized Representative



Gina Martinez has served as an Authorized Representative for 11 years, helping former atomic workers successfully file their EEOICPA claims and receive the benefits they deserve. With a medical and health physics background, she is a leading EEOICPA advocate.

Gina's extensive knowledge in the healthcare field allows her to connect health conditions with previous workplace exposures. She specializes in securing benefits for workers meeting the following conditions:

- Worked as a civilian worker for the Department of Energy or a Contractor**
- Worked on site for at least 250 days during SEC defined work period(s)**
- Diagnosed with cancers**
- Diagnosed with a Pulmonary disorder and at least 1 year on the job**

There are multiple ways to file your claim. If you choose to file with an Authorized Representative, Nuclear Care Partners can connect you to reputable Authorized Representatives like Gina Martinez.

**We can connect you to Gina if you need help filing your claim!**

# 800.295.5846



# NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM WORKERS



October 30th marks the National Day of Remembrance (NDOR) for Nuclear Weapons Program Workers. This honorary holiday recognizes the hundreds of thousands of men and women who worked in the nuclear weapons development industry—strengthening and maintaining our nation’s nuclear defense.

**THIS YEAR’S CELEBRATION WILL RUN ALL MONTH LONG DURING OCTOBER!**

We will be celebrating virtually this year by:

- Sharing real stories of former atomic workers

- Highlighting various atomic sites

- Sharing videos from several resources for former DOE workers

  - Impairment ratings

  - Filing with an Authorized Representative

  - Pharmacy delivery services

- Special giveaways & more!

**CELEBRATE WITH US!**

Visit **[NuclearCarePartners.com/NDOR2020](https://NuclearCarePartners.com/NDOR2020)**  
or visit our Facebook page **@NuclearCarePartners**  
to learn more and see how you can join the celebration!

Call today to find an NDOR celebration  
near you!

**800.295.5846**



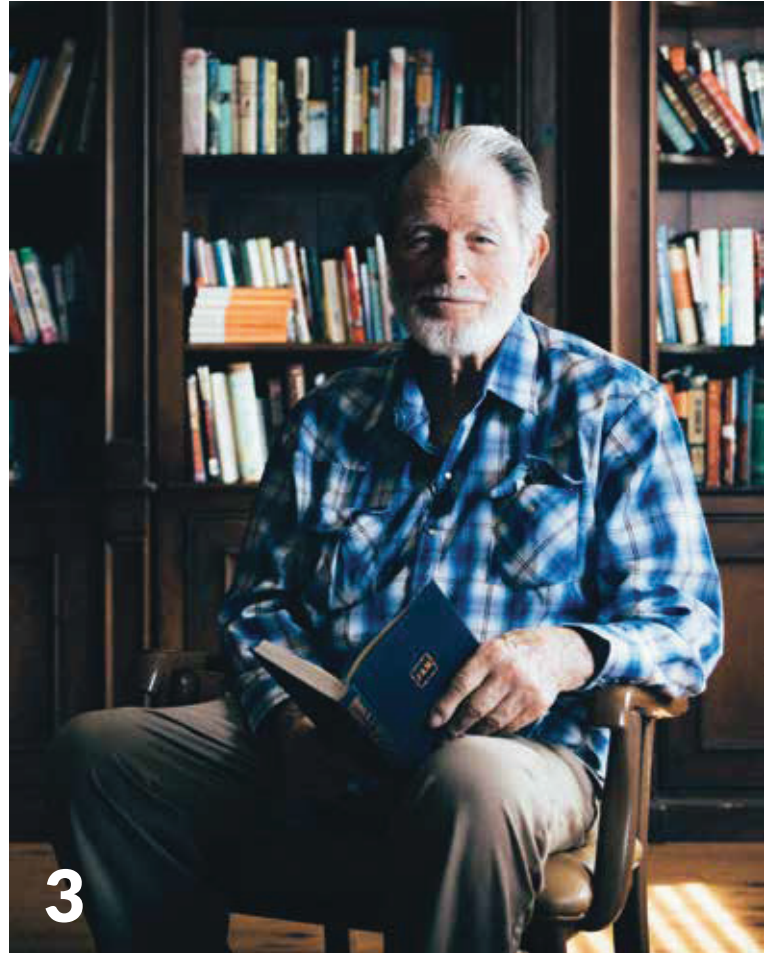
Although we can't celebrate in-person as we have in the past, we still celebrate and honor all the work you've done for our nation's nuclear weapons complex.

**Thank you for your service & sacrifice.**





# Atomic Heroes Gallery





## 1 **Ramona**

Nevada Test Site

## 2 **Herman**

Rocky Flats

## 3 **Roger**

Hanford

## 4 **Ruben**

Uranium Miner

Real Workers  
Real Stories





NUCLEAR  
CARE  
PARTNERS®

631 24½ Rd. Suite C  
Grand Junction, CO 81505

## 2021 Atomic Heroes Calendar

This year's limited-edition calendar highlights various historical events that took place at some of the biggest atomic sites and facilities across the country. From the day of the Trinity Test to the day EBR-1 produced the first electric power from a nuclear reactor, each month features significant events and dates in our nation's atomic history.

Order your **FREE 2021**  
Atomic Heroes Calendar Today!

**800.295.5846**



Photos Sourced from

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atomic\\_Energy\\_Act\\_of\\_1946](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atomic_Energy_Act_of_1946)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity\\_\(nuclear\\_test\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity_(nuclear_test))

<https://www.ctbto.org/specials/testing-times/16-july-1945-trinity-worlds-first-nuclear-test>

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