

# FOR DIRECT ACTION

As we gather today to demand that the financial community stop its funding of the nuclear industry, we must make it clear that we are fighting not only nuclear technology, but the system whose priorities put profits before people. That system is capitalism; a system where the majority of people have no control over the way they live and work, and which is run by the ruling class (the owners and managers of industry, the top government bureaucrats, etc.) for its own interests.

It is because of the authoritarian nature of this system that nuclear power, the most dangerous and impractical source of energy ever developed. Its continued existence allows the big energy corporations to maintain their control through centralized energy production in the form of huge nuclear power-plants. Thus it is in the interests of those at the top of the pyramid of power to push nuclear power no matter what the costs or consequences.

We must also not forget the intimate connection between nuclear power and nuclear weaponry. Nuclear weaponry is an intrinsic part of the permanent war economy that exists only to prop up the power of the Defense Dept. and its war-producing 'private' contractors. This war machine is crucial for the continued power of the American state, both here and abroad, even though it has dire economic consequences. Thus the State, as well as the corporations, needs nuclear power.

Clearly then, the ruling class will not turn away from nuclear power as long as it remains part and parcel of capitalism. It is up to us as working people and students, producers and consumers, to make nuclear power unprofitable. We can boycott corporations involved with nuclear power, withhold utility payments, hold mass demonstrations and occupations; in short, rely on direct action, our single most powerful weapon.

We as anarchists (from the Greek word 'an-archos', without rulers) support a program of direct action for winning immediate demands. But in order to effect a long-run solution of the energy crisis, we believe that the people themselves should organize to reclaim their lives and their world. Only by reorganizing society without bosses, classes or bureaucrats, and creating a world-wide system of decentralized production and distribution, can we eliminate the threat of nuclear power. What we need, in short, is a real social revolution.

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