

Unmasking the Bay Area Bio Lab and SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY

Health, Justice, and Communities afi

March 29, 2012

7:00-9:30pm

David Brower Center 2150 Aliston Way, Berkeley, CA 94704

FREE

PRESENTERS INCLUDE:

Nnimmo Bassey, Right Livelihood Award Winner (the Alternative Nobel Prize) (Nigeria)

Maria José Guazzelli, Center for Ecological Agriculture (Brazil)

Steve Zeltzer, California Coalition For Workers Memorial Day Becky McClain, Injured Workers National Network

Jeremy Gruber, President, Council for Responsible Genetics Jim Thomas, ETC Group

Jeff Conant, Global Justice Ecology Project

Dr. Henry Clark, West County Toxics Coalition

Eric Hoffman, Friends of the Earth

Other speakers TBA

Moderated by Andrew Kimbrell, Executive Director, International Center for Technology Assessment

Lawrence Berkeley National Lab and the Department of Energy plan to build a high-profile experimental laboratory in Richmond. While public pronouncements tell us the lab will focus on 'green' energy research, the truth is more complex.

A primary focus of the new lab will be synthetic biology: an extreme form of genetic engineering that creates self-replicating artificial life forms from synthesized DNA. The development of these high-risk genetic technologies is largely driven by the oil, chemical, agribusiness, and pharmaceutical industries, the military, and other federal agencies, in a rapid, high-profit commercial race. But the risks synthetic biology poses to worker safety, public health, social justice, and the environment are poorly understood, and lack adequate oversight, transparency or protections.

Join us for presentations and public dialogue on the expansion of the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, the dangers of synthetic biology, and the local and global implications of this controversial industry.

"When scientific power outruns moral power, we end up with guided missiles and misguided men." - Martin Luther King Jr.

For more information: www.synbiowatch.org