

# A Healthier and Safer Future –Without the F-35 Jets

The **Interfaith Peace Working Group** ([interfaithpeacewg.org](http://interfaithpeacewg.org)) is inviting individuals, civic groups, and faith communities to join our **Postcard Campaign of Resistance** that challenges the decision to deploy a squadron of twenty F-35 fighter jets at Truax Field in Madison by 2023. These planes will jeopardize the health and safety of Wisconsin citizens and our natural environment.



Senator Tammy Baldwin is a main proponent of the F-35 basing and she has the power to stop it. We have three major concerns about the deployment of the F-35s in Wisconsin.

**Please join us in this critical postcard campaign. Tell Senator Tammy Baldwin that you do not want these F-35 fighter jets in Wisconsin!**

**You can get more postcards using the link at [safeskiescleanwaterwi.org](http://safeskiescleanwaterwi.org)** - especially if you know people who live in areas near Sen. Baldwin's other offices around the state. Or scan this QR code.



Feel free to use some of the facts here to express your concern, or find out more at [safeskiescleanwater wi.org](http://safeskiescleanwaterwi.org).

This project is an example of environmental racism, disproportionately affecting the multiracial and low-income neighborhoods close to the base. The F-35's excruciating noise, four times louder than the current F-16 jets, will not only interfere with student learning, but also can result in hearing loss and cardiovascular issues for community residents. In addition, the F-35s will further contaminate Madison's watershed with PFAS, toxic chemicals that are linked to cancer and other serious health issues. Poor families eat fish from these waters to supplement their food supply. Children play on the river banks. Egrets, turtles, ducks, and geese drink and eat from these PFAS-contaminated streams and lakes.

**But the negative health and environmental impact is also state-wide.** The F-35 engine emissions release thousands of tons of deadly pollutants and climate-warming carbon dioxide into the air that we all breathe. This F-35 squadron at Truax will cost at least \$2.2 billion. This project exemplifies how our bulging military budget consumes over half of the U.S. discretionary funds, thus depriving us of the necessary financial resources to meet human and environmental needs within our state and nation.

**Lastly, the F-35s are designed to carry small, "useable" nuclear weapons.** These so-called "low yield nuclear bombs" have an explosive force up to three times the bomb dropped on Hiroshima which killed 140,000 people. Therefore, the F-35s will make Wisconsin a potential target for nuclear retaliation!

**For F-35's in Madison, Wisconsin US taxpayers will pay \$2.2 Billion. Here is what that money could buy:**

- 213,516 Veterans Receiving VA Medical Care for 1 Year, or
- 73,533 Hospital Stays for COVID -19 Patients for 1 Year, or
- 27, 294 Elementary School Teachers for 1 Year, or
- 89,023 Students Receiving Pell Grants of \$6,195 for 4 Years, or
- 62,641 Scholarships for University Students for 4 Years, or
- 61,892 Head Start Slots for Children for 4 years, or
- 3.8 million Households Powered by Wind for 1 Year, or
- 3.54 million Households with Solar Electricity for 1 Year, or
- 29,780 Clean Energy Jobs Created for 1 Year, or
- 39,707 Infrastructure Jobs Created for 1 Year.

– Jane H Kavaloski, Tom Boswell and Rev. Jim Murphy