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**Desert Greens Green Party Candidates Oppose Divine Strake Test – Endorse
International Day of Action at Nevada Test Site on Memorial Day**

05.17.2006 SALT LAKE CITY – Desert Greens Green Party of Utah Candidates have joined the Stop Divine Strake Coalition, to pressure the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and the Nuclear National Security Agency to cancel the Divine Strake detonation currently scheduled for June 23. Some of the candidates will be joining the coalition on May 28 at the Nevada Test Site to stand with dozens of other organizations to protest the planned test, and to attempt to influence policy makers to cancel the test in the face of massive public opposition.

Julian Hatch, U.S. Senate Candidate: "America has been addicted to a war economy for half a century, putting the citizens of Utah continually at risk through votes by Orrin Hatch for military test funding. Now when it is an election year, Orrin claims to have doubts but we know too well that deception by government officials in the past continues at present."

Kathy Dopp, Candidate for Summit County Clerk: "I am flabbergasted that the Bush administration is leading us towards using nuclear weapons again; rather than employing diplomatic means to resolve its issues with Iran. Many innocent people in Iraq have suffered due to U.S. depleted uranium bombs and use of phosphorous. U.S. foreign policy should promote world peace and well-being for everyone."

Tom King, State House District 43 Delegate states, "I strongly oppose the Divine Strake Test foremost because I see it as a step towards the U.S. committing yet another illegal aggressive war,"

"This test is a sneaky way of getting back into the nuclear weapons business. We have 'Divine Strake' today, and we'll have a string of 'Holy Explos' tomorrow," states **Chuck Tripp, Desert Greens Candidate for Salt Lake County Council at Large.**

Deanna Taylor, Candidate for Salt Lake County Council, District 5, says "A delay of this test is not good enough. The Divine Strake Test is a threat to the ecological health of our planet and violates the sanctity of life. This test and any future tests must cease. Stop the Divine Strake!"

Desert Greens Candidates and other activists and citizens opposed to the Divine Strake test will be available for press inquiries and interviews at the weekly peace vigil at 5:00 on Thursday May 18 in front of the Salt Lake City Federal Building, 125 South State Street.

For further information, call Tom King at 801-502-8556 or gpu@gput.org