

24 May 2019

Mr. Neal Blue, CEO
General Atomics
P.O. Box 85608
San Diego, CA 92186-5608

Dear Mr. Blue:

On May 3, an [interfaith rally](#) was held just one block away from your office in Washington, DC. The group gathered in support of the Future of Life Institute's [Lethal Autonomous Weapons Pledge](#). Companies that sign the pledge promise that they "will neither participate in nor support the development, manufacture, trade or use of lethal autonomous weapons." General Atomics has not yet signed this pledge.

As faith communities, we oppose the development of lethal autonomous weapons for moral reasons. By eliminating meaningful human control over the decision to take a human life, we would be giving an artificially intelligent machine the responsibility to make decisions that include moral factors it cannot comprehend. The use of these lethal autonomous weapons raises significant concerns over who, if anyone, would be held accountable for civilian casualties and illegal use of force.

We are also concerned that the use of AI to make targeting decisions would exacerbate existing biases against marginalized communities. Using machine learning, lethal autonomous weapons systems would extrapolate from current biased human decision making that disproportionately impacts racial and religious minorities.

The Interfaith Working Group on Drone Warfare urges you to sign on to the Future of Life Institute's Lethal Autonomous Weapons pledge. By signing, General Atomics would be joining hundreds of organizations who recognize the devastating consequences of delegating kill decisions to artificially intelligent machines.

[You can read the full text of the pledge, and sign on, here.](#)

Sincerely,
The Interfaith Working Group on Drone Warfare

cc: General Atomics Washington DC Office