

May 2008

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As many of you have no doubt been made aware there is a major battle brewing in our South Park area. New Horizon Uranium Corp. is proposing exploration to open an in situ uranium mine thru our drinking water aquifer. In the late 1970's 11,000 exploration wells were drilled. The mounds you might still see are left over from the 1980's. One radioactive probe was "lost" and left in the shaft. There is a metal plaque marking the site! In-situ mining pumps uranium and other heavy metals out of an "exempt aquifer" (non-potable) through the upper aquifer, which is the potable (drinkable) water aquifer. This will be piped to recovery tanks filled with resin beads, places in containers and then placed on trucks to be transported to a processing plant in Nebraska; entirely by trucks clearly marked "radioactive", through Park County, the Denver metro area and on to Nebraska. The bleed liquid (unwanted minerals) will be left in evaporative ponds on the surface to dry (in our windy environment?) and be trucked away. These operations will be run 24/7/365 with periodic monitoring. The proposed mining will take place over years before the uranium is completely extracted. If New Horizon is successful there will be 28 test drill wells per acre before actual extraction.

Park County has published an official statement advising that the County will enforce LUR 1041 (Land Use Regs.) review process. This requires an environmental impact statement on all public lands in the area which fall outside of residential/agricultural zoning. The County has two zone districts in which mining is permitted. They are Conservation/Recreation and Mining Zone Districts. Only Fed'l., State or County owned lands may be zoned C/R. Mining is prohibited in Agricultural, Agricultural Small Lot, Residential Ranch, Residential Estate, Mountain Residential, Rural Center Mixed Use, Residential, Commercial and Industrial Zone Districts.

New Horizon Mining Corp. shows the proposed area of mining to be in the Residential, Agricultural and C/R Zone Districts. Both Residential and Agricultural Zone Districts prohibit in-situ mining. Even though in-situ mining is permitted in a C/R Zone District, not only are there requirement provisions for mining operations, but this operation will be subject to 1041 Park County Regulations review process.

So we believe the County will prohibit some mining. The issue is BLM and Fed'l. lands within the residential and agricultural zones may not need to abide by the LUR.

The SOSPW08 group was started by concerned home/property owners. It is an all volunteer group. There is no government or grant funding. This same issue has been fought by concerned property owners in Weld County (Ft. Collins) for well over a year. Another uranium company is applying for drilling and mining permits there. (See www.nunnqlow.com) They have been effective in authoring and campaigning for the State Legislature to pass House Bill 1161

unanimously! This bill establishes minimum standards to protect Colorado's environment and waters from unsafe uranium mining. Mining companies would have to restore the ground water at injection (in situ) uranium mining projects to the original, pre-mining condition or to state standards. This bill comes in response to the concerns of in situ uranium mining, which occurs directly in ground water and will jeopardize the environment, our health, agriculture, property rights and the economy.

Jim Miller from Denver Water wrote a letter to Park County, Colo. Mined Land Reclamation Board, Colo. Dept. of Natural Resources, Water Quality Control Commission, Water Quality Control Div., Aurora, Centennial, Englewood Thornton and Brighton Water Districts expressing serious concerns about the possibility of in-situ mining contaminating the South Platte River and Spinney Mountain Reservoir, i.e., the front range water supply. He also testified at the HB1161 hearing about the difficulties utilities would face if uranium mining puts increased radiation into water supplies.

Coloradoans Against Resource Destruction (CARD) another group strongly behind preventing uranium mining has met with five states, S.D., WY, CO, Western NE and N.D. regarding this issue. "It has already been proven worldwide that in-situ mining contaminates aquifers and those aquifers can't be restored to their previous state." Action For The Environment has stated they are concerned South Dakota taxpayers will be forced to clean up the toxic messes left when a mining company leaves an area, as has happened previously with Canadian mining companies. Mining companies in both Weld County and Park County are Canadian. The town of New Brunswick, Canada has banned all exploration and mining in their own town! CARD statement: "Any bonds designated to pay for clean up of former mining areas haven't been sufficient and taxpayers have been forced to pay the bill."

There has been a formal request to Governor Ritter that a petition be filed with the Sec'y. of Interior of the United States under Title VI, Section 601 which states "With respect to Fed'l. lands within any State, the Sec'y. of Interior may, and if so requested by the Governor of such State shall, review any area within

such lands to assess whether it may be unsuitable for mining operations for minerals or materials other than coal, pursuant to the criteria and procedures of this section." What this means in layman's terms is we need to sign the petition asking the Governor to have the Sec'y. of Interior deem Park County off limits for uranium mining! There is an electronic petition at the website.

New Horizon Mining announced just April 15th they have acquired two uranium properties for staking on Fed'l. mining claims. One is near Naturita, Colorado in Montrose County. This company is in it for the long run, either in Park County or somewhere else.

We need to come together as a community to prevent this atrocity from happening. Consider the following:

- Diminished property values
- Invasion and damage to our wildlife
- Environmental damage to land
- Possible contamination to Spinney, 11 Mile, Tarryall
- Reservoirs and the South Platte River
- Permanent and forever contamination

We have bumper stickers available, placards and soon yard signs. We could use donations of copier paper, gift cards from Office Max, Staples or Office Depot for ink jet and toner cartridges, No. 10 envelopes, stamps, phone cards, poster boards, etc. Linda Watson at the Beary Berry Café and Bakery in Fairplay has graciously volunteered to be a drop off point for any donations.

Let's keep South Park the beautiful community we all love and cherish.