



# Uranium Mining is Not Worth the Risk: Keep Our Communities Healthy

## Virginia Interfaith Power & Light

Virginia Interfaith Power & Light (VIPL) is the environmental program of the Virginia Interfaith Center, focused on caring for creation. VIPL works to educate and mobilize faith leaders, members, and congregations to take action on environmental justice issues in Virginia.



Virginia Interfaith  
Power & Light

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[www.vipl.org](http://www.vipl.org)



1716 E Franklin St.  
Richmond, Va. 23223  
804-643-2474  
[www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org](http://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org)

## Mining uranium in Virginia would jeopardize the health of Virginia's communities

*The Virginia Interfaith Center supports keeping the 30 year ban on uranium mining and milling in Virginia. Mining uranium in Virginia would be a risky experiment that could threaten our water, health, and local economies. Opening our Commonwealth's fields, valleys and water supplies to this kind of experimental mining would benefit a few individuals, while risking the health, safety, and prosperity of millions of Virginians.*

### Uranium exposure would negatively affect Virginians' health.

Exposure to toxic radiation from uranium mining can cause cancer, and destroys kidneys, bones, and blood cells. Mining waste retains significant amounts of uranium, as well as toxic by-products such as radium, thorium, lead, arsenic, and mercury.

### A uranium mine would make Southside Virginia the launching ground for a risky experiment.

There is need for jobs in Southside Virginia, but the corporate promise of a few hundred jobs does not outweigh the risks posted to the health of Virginia's communities.

### Toxic waste is unhealthy for our neighbors, whom we are called by faith to care for.

Our faith calls on us to care for our communities and the health of our neighbors. Allowing a foreign-backed company to risk Virginia's water, health, and local economies by mining uranium is not healthy for our communities. The risks to our neighbors in Virginia and North Carolina do not outweigh the financial gain of one foreign-backed, corporate interest.

### Did you know? Uranium exposure can cause cancer.

*A recent "Cancer Causes & Control" Journal report revealed "a relationship between elevated groundwater uranium concentrations and increased breast cancer risk, particularly among African American women."*

