



Uranium Mining is Not Worth the Risk: Safeguard Our Drinking Water

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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FOR PUBLIC POLICY

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Mining uranium in Virginia gambles with our water supply

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.

Contaminates would wreck our drinking water.

Even a small breach in mine waste containers could contaminate our drinking water. A Virginia Beach City study revealed a damaged tailing containment system would risk our downstream water supplies. Radioactive water, therefore, could reach residents of Southside Virginia, Hampton Roads, and North Carolina. With one accident, millions of Virginians would have unsafe drinking water.

Clean water is essential to the well-being of our families and local businesses.

Our tourism and farming industries need clean water. Agriculture is Virginia's largest industry, relying heavily on clean, local water supplies. Gambling with our water is not worth the risk to Virginia's businesses.

We have a moral responsibility to be good stewards of creation.

Water is a gift from God and we need to keep it clean and free of contamination. We are called to care for creation, not put it, and the health of our neighbors, at risk so a corporation can turn a profit. Virginia should not be in danger of becoming the next Superfund site.

Did you know? Water supplies are vulnerable.

The Environmental Protection Agency reported that "water is perhaps the most significant means of dispersal of uranium and related [radioactive materials] in the environment from mines and mine wastes..."

