



## Coloradoans Against Resource Destruction

CARD, PO Box 143, Wellington, CO 80549, 970-372-0029 (leave message) [www.nunnglow.com](http://www.nunnglow.com)

*CARD Wishes all Supporters a  
Happy New Year!*

### Donations Please!

At this time of year, many of us write checks to favorite charities or donate to causes that are important to us. **This year, please make the effort to stop uranium mining your first cause of choice. Invest in Northern Colorado and your own future.** We still need your help to pay for a lobbyist to support the legislation that will be introduced in January at the State Capitol. Every \$30, \$50, and \$100 helps. And if you can give more, please do!

The amount we ask for is a drop in the bucket compared to the money that Powertech is likely to spend on their lobbying. They didn't hesitate to splurge on a full page ad in the *Coloradoan* when the Fort Collins City Council cast their courageous vote against the mining. It is also a small amount for giving us our best shot at protecting our invaluable groundwater resources.

You can donate at the [www.nunnglow.com](http://www.nunnglow.com) website or send your money order or check to CARD, PO Box 143, Wellington, CO 80549. If for some reason you don't want to be publicly acknowledged for your contribution, please let us know.

### Fort Collins Public Forum

CARD will participate in a public forum at the Harmony Library on Monday, **January 14** from 6-9 PM. If you have not yet seen our presentation, this may be the time for you. If you have not yet seen Powertech's presentation, they'll be there too.

### Briggsdale Town Hall Meeting

Our next town hall meeting will take place in Briggsdale on **January 16** at the old gym from 6-9 PM. Spread the word, and hope to see you there!

### They Keep Coming!

We have confirmation that Pacer Energy of Littleton (part of a larger mining company) is trying to lease uranium mineral rights northeast of Nunn. This makes six companies that we know are looking at northern Weld County for potential uranium operations.

If you live in the area, watch for any unusual activity, and report it to CARD through our website or by phone. Talk to your neighbors and contact non-resident property owners. Let them know that uranium activity has major impacts and is not wanted in the area. Give them CARD's website, or offer to give them information if they don't use the internet.

## **Fort Collins City Council Lauded**

Excerpts from *Rocky Mountain News* Speakout: "Vote against uranium mine a state first," by Gary Wockner and Becky Long, Wednesday, December 19, 2007

On Dec. 4, the Fort Collins City Council made Colorado history. With a standing-room-only crowd that had just spent one hour testifying, the council took the bold leadership step of helping to secure the future of northern Colorado's economy and environment. Amidst hoots, hollers and eruptive applause, Fort Collins became the first Colorado city to pass a resolution against uranium mining in the northern part of our state... it passed with a 6-0 vote with one member abstaining.

The threat in northern Colorado comes from a proposed project - the Centennial uranium mine - near the town of Nunn and just seven miles from Fort Collins. The mining company - a Canadian corporation named Powertech - is proposing an in-situ leach mining operation that will pump chemicals into the groundwater to leach out the uranium, and then pump the groundwater to the surface to chemically extract the uranium from the water. In addition, the mining company has not ruled out the possibility of digging a massive open-pit mine to extract the uranium by mechanical means.

The potential health risks have caused both the Larimer County Medical Society and the Colorado Medical Society to pass resolutions against the mine. The environmental and economic risks have caused a multitude of people - elected officials from both political parties, farmers and ranchers, medical professionals, real estate agents and conservationists - to take a stand against the mine, the city of Fort Collins being the latest in opposition.

We encourage other communities in Colorado to take a long and hard look when uranium mines are proposed in their areas. Always ask hard questions of the mining company, always attend all public hearings, and don't be afraid - like the people of northern Colorado - to organize your own watchdog group. The coalition against the Centennial mine has created [www.nunnglow.com](http://www.nunnglow.com), and its e-mail list already has several thousand members.

On Dec. 4th, the city of Fort Collins made history by opposing this mine, but what it also did was help write a new history of Colorado. Instead of the history our generation inherited - one dotted with mines, endless pollution and endless Superfund clean-up costs - the next generation might inherit a cleaner, greener Colorado, one that protects both the economy and the environment.

## **Thank the Fort Collins City Council for Taking a Stand!**

The Fort Collins City Council took a courageous stand – and we need to thank them. If you haven't already done so, drop Council members a note or an e-mail thanking them for opposing uranium mining. Send a thank you Letter to the Editor to the *Coloradoan* through its website at [opinion@coloradoan.com](mailto:opinion@coloradoan.com). It only needs to be a few lines (and can't be more

than 250 words). Include your name, address, and phone number, so the paper can be sure “it’s really you.”

### **Colorado Company Wants to Mine and Mill Uranium in Wyoming**

The Associated Press reported on December 7, 2007 that Ur-Energy, a Colorado company, has submitted an application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to mine and mill uranium in southwestern Wyoming.

Formed in March 2004, the company is based in Littleton. The Lost Creek project would be its first producing uranium mine. Ur-Energy proposes to use the in-situ leaching mining process. Its proposal includes a plant to process the uranium into uranium oxide, or yellow-cake.

### **Yet Another Uranium Industry Problem**

An article in the *StarPhoenix* (Sask., Canada) published on December 5, 2007, quoted a Toronto-based mining research analyst, David Talbot, in a presentation at a Saskatchewan Geological Survey open house:

“... challenges, such as lack of experienced staff, will likely push several new projects off schedule... People that don’t necessarily have a lot of uranium experience are building uranium mines, and all of a sudden you have design flaws and material failures and logistical issues that weren’t necessarily thought of before. And this is on a global scale.”

### **The Irish Don’t Want It Either!**

[www.ireland.com](http://www.ireland.com) reported on December 2, 2007, that prospectors have been banned from uranium activities in County Donegal in northwest Ireland. The Minister for Natural Resources, Eamon Ryan, refused to grant exploration licenses to two companies, who were eyeing some of the County’s most wild and scenic areas.

"There are also significant environmental and public health concerns surrounding uranium mining, including contamination of ground and surface water supplies and radiation levels," he said. Uranium mining was also proposed – but never occurred - in County Donegal in the 1970s and early 1980s.

### **Uranium Company with Local Interests Has Spill**

Uranium One, whose division Energy Metals is looking for uranium in northeast Weld County, announced that its dam at a South African uranium mine burst on December 8. The Canadian company said that a storm water containment – designed to handle large amounts of water in case there was a storm – burst when the area received over 2” of rain in 30 minutes.

The company said it had repaired the damage to the dam. It estimated that over 26 million gallons were discharged into a nearby stream that feeds into the Vaal River. The company said that it “does not expect any environmental impact due to the discharge.”

It’s all in the wording. Perhaps it doesn’t “expect” any impact (in the future) because it already happened?

## Endeavor Uranium Interests in Colorado and Utah

DENVER - [www.businesswire.com](http://www.businesswire.com) reported on December 11, 2007 that Endeavor Uranium provided details surrounding its acquisition of mining rights to ten unpatented claims in Colorado and Utah. These properties include the Old Mines claim in Paradox Valley in southwest Colorado, the Salt Wash - also in southwestern Colorado near the Utah border - and the Chinle properties in the area extending from Naturita, CO, to Moab, UT.

### “Pacifying the Public”

Excerpts from an editorial by Charmaine White Face, Coordinator for the Defenders of the Black Hills (South Dakota)

The USDA Forest Service is responsible for a large area in the Northwestern corner of South Dakota. The Cave Hills and Slim Buttes area was used extensively in the 1960s for open-pit uranium mining. Unfortunately, at that time, there were no laws for reclamation, so 89 mines and prospects were left abandoned.

Tronox Worldwide LLC, formerly Kerr-McGee Corp., pushed a million plus cubic yards of overburden over the edges of the rimrocks surrounding the plateau at the Riley Pass site. The wastes left behind included poisonous arsenic, molybdenum which harms cattle, and the highly radioactive thorium, not to mention other uranium decay products such as radium and radon.

The Forest Service reached a settlement agreement with Tronox [concerning the Riley Pass site.] The reclamation plans are only for one bluff at the Riley Pass site. This raises the question, what about the other 88 mines? Are all 89 mines going to be reclaimed? Laurie Walters-Clark, the USFS On-Scene Coordinator, quickly deflected the question and never gave an answer.

However, there is another entity watching this whole course of action, a Quality Assurance body called Millennium Science and Engineering, Inc. To the question of: “When will all 89 mines be cleaned up?” The answer from MSE was: “Not in your lifetime.”

The large amount of written material made available in the [reclamation] plan is only a “pacifier for the public.” It is an insult to the courage and the right of the people living downwind and downstream from these mines to be duped into believing that the situation is being remedied when work will only be completed on one bluff of one mine with the result of that work not guaranteed.

It is estimated that there are more than 1,000 abandoned uranium mines located in this region which also includes the southern Black Hills in South Dakota, parts of Montana, and a major portion of Wyoming. What will it take to wake up the country and the world to this deadly “silent Chernobyl” in the middle of the United States?

### Who Are We?

CARD (Coloradoans Against Resource Destruction) is a diverse collection of citizens concerned about the health, environmental and economic impacts of uranium-related activity. We are convinced this project will have dire consequences for northern Colorado and set a dangerous precedent. Our goal is to prevent uranium mining in Colorado and protect our valuable resources, especially our water, for future generations.



The CARD website, [www.nunnglow.com](http://www.nunnglow.com), has a wealth of information about the proposed mining, the processes and the potential impact on our air and water. On our website you can learn what you can do to stop the proposed uranium mining, sign an online petition and make a donation.