

NRCREP - Uranium Recovery GEIS

From: <Leversredfence@aol.com>
To: <URLGEIS@nrc.gov>
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To Whom It May Concern;

We are a community based committee that has spent the last 10 months running a voluntary survey on the past uranium workers in and around the Grants-Milan area. We have been working with the Navajo Nation, the Laguna Pueblo, Acoma Pueblo, Penasco and Las Vegas, N.M. areas and other people that have been scattered all over the United States and overseas. The general concern with most of the people is that no one has bothered to fix the last mess uranium mining has caused our people and our environment. The contamination levels in the water tables that your people say are acceptable are a gross oversight on facts. It's not at the level that they were before the in-situ leaching, and nothing is being done to repair these water tables. We still live in contaminated environments from the last round of "safe uranium mining." Whoever was in charge of regulating the last mess did not do the job that he was supposed to do. When government does not protect the people for the sake of the dollar, something is wrong with the system. When our government sees genocide happening in other countries, we send in troops to end it. Because it's WRONG. But when it's a government sponsored genocide, and within our own land, it seems to be accepted because our own government says it's o.k. Again, it's just WRONG. Why does 1 life have to be sacrificed to get uranium? Why do we have to fight our own government to save ourselves? Why do they continue to lie to the people that have had to live with contamination? Why can't these big companies pay for protective equipment, adhere to the right rules for extracting uranium, and protect the water and environment? It is our understanding that they knew how to protect all of this since the 1940's, yet they still refuse to do the right thing by the people. Yet we're suppose to close our mouths and eyes, let the uranium companies do what they want, walk away with all their monies, and leave the people with our radiation sickness, our contaminated water and environments, and our environment caused genetic defects in our children. What part of this, if any, is O.K. with the government? How are we supposed to believe the NRC this time? We already know that the water table in Douglas, Wyoming has been in-situ leached, and the Commission has lied about the levels of contamination. They say it has been reclaimed, but the facts say that the levels are still way above what they were before the leaching. We are trying to make things right for our children and grandchildren, they do have a right to live in a clean environment, and we have an obligation to return it to clean for them.

We're no longer ignorant to the effects of radiation on people, plants, and water. We no longer believe what we've told by the "people in charge." We have no reason to believe what we're being told now. We've been doing our homework, and we will not be silent anymore.

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