

NRCREP Resource

From: Ernie Goitein [fego@pacbell.net]
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2008 5:34 PM
To: NRCREP Resource
Subject: Uranium Recovery GEIS

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RULES AND DIRECTIVES
BRANCH
U NRC

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Dear NRC,

While in situ mining is the least expensive method of extracting uranium from scattered deposits, there are many problems associated with this process. Foremost is the groundwater contamination that is inevitable and has been the case in previous in situ mining operations. The results have been health effects on ranchers, and damage to sheep and cattle grazing operations. Animals that have ingested (drunk) contaminated water or have grazed on contaminated vegetation will further spread uranium to unsuspecting customers of meat products.

The health effects of uranium ingestion, whether caused by the toxicity or radiation are well documented. It seems to me that approval of a mining process that can disseminate a toxic element to the public is not in the best interest of our society.

The irreversible contamination of groundwater resulting from in situ mining should not be approved. Particularly in the dry Western states, where water is at a premium and where these mining operations are proposed.

I hope that the NRC Commissioners will put the protection of the health of America's citizens and the environment above the financial interests of the mining companies.

Sincerely,

Ernest Goitein

SUNSI Review Complete
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E-RIDS = ADM-03
Add = J. Park (JRP)
B. vonTill (RWV)