

November 5, 2008

Mr. James Park
NRC Project Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Park:

RE: Uranium Recovery GEIS

I am writing to you to ask that the NRC follow the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and conduct individual environmental impact statements for all proposed in situ uranium mines.

Usually when agencies of the federal government consider permitting environmentally harmful activity (e.g., mining), they must review the potential impacts of the activity in each location that the activity occurs. If a mining company wants to build a mine in Nevada, and another in Alaska, each must be reviewed with a separate Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

However, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission is trying to avoid individual environmental reviews for several proposed in-situ uranium mines in South Dakota, Wyoming, New Mexico and Nebraska, proposing one generic EIS to cover all the proposed mine sites.


The people of the potentially impacted areas and communities deserve the respect and individual attention the NRC should be giving when considering something as potentially dangerous as an in situ uranium mine.

There is no one size fits all approach to uranium mining across the country and the NRC should be conducting individual assessments of the areas to make sure the environmental risks are taken into consideration.

A GEIS will not spotlight potential problems in any of the proposed areas and could lead to devastating impacts on the environment, ecosystems and communities in the area.

Thank you for your help in this very urgent matter.

Respectfully,


J. Capozzelli
New York