

Challenge is designed to take place online, involving the use of such everyday activities as e-mailing, blogging, and social networking. To champion a cause you must be a legal U.S. resident aged 13 years or older. Anyone can donate to a cause using a valid credit card or other form of payment accepted by our donation processing partners Network for Good and GlobalGiving.

How it works:

There are two ways to get involved:

Champion a Cause and have the chance to get \$50,000 for the charity of your choice. The eight individuals whose charity badges attract the most unique donors through the America's Giving Challenge will get \$50,000 for their cause.

Give to a Cause and help the charity you care about get \$1,000. The 100 nonprofits with the greatest number of total donations made to them through America's Giving Challenge will each get \$1,000.

The Challenge will close January 31 at 3pm EST.

A quick note about unique donations:

To succeed at the Challenge, the objective is to get as many people as you can to donate to your cause. Duplicate donations from the same individual will only be counted once. For more information, please read America's Giving **Challenge Rules** and **Frequently Asked Questions**.

AA

Get Well Cards and Letters One of the elder women who was declared to be a Kahtela last September, 2007, is in a long term care facility due to complications from surgery last year. Please send cards and encouraging letters to her to help her speedy recovery.

Stella Pretty Sounding Flute

Sanford Long Term Care Facility

Room 213

Chamberlain, SD 57325

AA

April 19, 2008 Meeting The next meeting of DOBH will be held on Saturday, April 19, 2008. This will also be a commemoration of the beginning of the signing of the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868. A committee to plan the meeting needs to be convened. Anyone wishing to be on the committee, please email Charmaine White Face at bhdefenders@msn.com, or mail a letter to her at PO Box 2003, Rapid City, SD 57709. The place of the meeting has not been decided. If

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reach the department by February 20, 2008, to be considered.

After the hearing, the board will consider all written and oral comments it receives on the proposed rule amendments. The board may modify or amend a proposed rule at that time to include or exclude matters that are described in this notice.

Notice is further given to individuals with disabilities that this hearing is being held in a physically accessible place. Please notify the Department of Environment and Natural Resources at 605-773-3296 at least 48 hours before the public hearing if you have disabilities for which special arrangements must be made.

An electronic version of the rules is available on the department's web site at <http://www.state.sd.us/denr/DES/Ground/groundprg.htm> or copies of the proposed rules may be obtained without charge from the

Ground Water Quality Program

South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Joe Foss Building

523 East Capitol

Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Phone: 605-773-3296

Steven M. Pirner

Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources

AA

Uranium Update

1. Powertech Exploratory Well Appeal For those who did not hear before, we lost our appeal to stop the uranium exploratory well drilling for 160 more wells in the southwestern Black Hills. By the time the appeal process was finished, Powertech Uranium Mining Company had already drilled 60 wells as the Judge refused to issue a stay. By the time the appeal was sent to a higher court, it could have been possible for the remaining wells to be completed. Our deepest gratitude to the Oglala Sioux for providing the legal funds in this case.

2. Crow Butte ISL Uranium Mine A number of years ago, in 2004, during Defenders meeting held on Dec. 17th, we asked Deb White Plume and their family organization, Owe Aku, to work on comments for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding the Crow Butte Uranium Mine near Crawford, NB. As they live on the Pine Ridge Reservation, we were concerned the aquifers were being affected by the Crow Butte ISL mine. On Jan. 16, 2008, through their

3. Health Surveys General Health Surveys are currently being conducted in the communities of Wakpala and Rock Creek which are both located on the Grand River on the Standing Rock Reservation. Water samples for uranium were also collected. The Grand River receives radioactive water runoff from the 89 Cave Hills and Slim Buttes abandoned uranium mines. More surveys need to be completed on the Cheyenne River Reservation. Four villages along the Moreau River also receive water runoff from the Slim Buttes abandoned uranium mines. We would like to survey all the communities in western South Dakota eventually.

4. Hearing on proposed Uranium mining near Belfield, ND There is a possibility of uranium mining starting up again in western North Dakota counties which will affect the groundwater. ND State geologist Ed Murphy said the time to put rules in place is before the uranium activity gets underway. Belfield was the center and a processing site for past uranium mining, and many abandoned mines are located nearby.

We strongly encourage everyone to attend this meeting.

[illegible]

P. O. Box 2003, Rapid City, SD 57709

DATE: Jan. 21, 2008

RE: Request for Strategy Meeting on Radioactive Pollution

Dear Tribal Chairperson,

First of all, wopila tonka, thank you very much for the passage of a resolution declaring all of the

The leaders of the states in the Upper Midwest seem not to be concerned about the radioactive pollution that is affecting the plants and animal, the surface and ground water, and the human beings. But you have proven your concern as evidenced by your Resolution. As leaders of the Region's Tribes, you have the ability to impact the situation for the good of all the people and environment of the area.

Nuclear radiation not only causes cancer but also birth defects and stillbirths, and diabetes. Think of all the Native American people afflicted with these problems. The most susceptible are the children and young adults. The federal agencies have been aware of this situation of nuclear pollution for decades. They have not informed the public as they don't know how to fix it. We need to find and demand that the public and the environment be protected now.

An ancient philosopher named Hillel once said, If I am not for me, who is? If not now, when? In our case, as we care for one another as a collective, the phrase would be, If we are not for us, who is? If not now, when?

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Charmaine White Face, Coordinator

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Uranium - 238 is a naturally occurring element that slowly disintegrates in 14 steps to a final, non-radioactive element known as Lead 206. The decay products are just as radioactive, if not more, than U-238 itself. When these decay products are disturbed in any way, they begin their unstoppable, expanding radioactive processes. Yet, uranium mining companies and

governments continue to plan for new ways to mine uranium. Check out the Decay Chain of Uranium 238 at http://www.defendblackhills.org/joomla/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=124&Itemid=27

1. Above Ground Detonations of Atomic Bombs in the Southwest

According to the National Cancer Institute, during the above ground detonations of atomic bombs in Nevada from 1951-1963, the radioactive fallout was spread throughout the United States and Canada. (See the Above Ground Detonation map at www.defendblackhills.org) One of the radioactive contaminants, Iodine-131, was inhaled and/or ingested by the children of that era, who now have a high incidences of thyroid cancer and thyroid disease.

2. Abandoned Uranium Mines and Prospects It is estimated that more than 1,000 abandoned uranium mines and prospects were dug in MT, WY, ND and SD. (See Abandoned Mines map at www.defendblackhills.org/joomla) The radioactive dust, and water runoff from these abandoned mines and prospects has been spreading throughout the region for the past 35 to 40 years.

3. Abandoned Uranium Exploratory Wells More than 4,000 uranium exploratory well holes, some large enough for a man to fall into, are located in the southwestern Black Hills with an additional 3,000 holes in WY, 10 miles west of the town of Belle Fourche, SD, for a total of 7,000 uranium exploratory wells. These holes, 600 - 800 feet deep were usually not capped, filled, or even marked. Cross contamination of radioactive materials to underground water sources (aquifers) is the primary concern

4. Abandoned ICBM Missile Silos and Radar Stations from the Cold War Era

In the 1950s, hundreds of missile silos and radar stations were built and manned in the Upper Midwestern United States. The US Air Force used small nuclear power plants in some of the remote radar stations to power the equipment. What about the hundreds of missile silos? The US Air Force is still responsible for monitoring the sites although there is no way to control the underground radioactive pollution that could be contaminating aquifers in the region.

5. Coal The geology of the upper Midwestern Region shows that the area contains wide expanses of uranium which is often mixed in coal. The coal laced with uranium, which is mined in North Dakota and Wyoming, is sometimes burned locally, or shipped to power plants in the Eastern and Western parts of the United States. During the strip mining of the coal, radioactive dust and particles are released into the air and carried by the wind through the Midwest and to the South and East.

6. Radon Gas Radon gas is a tasteless, odorless, radioactive gas emitted naturally as one of the decay products of Uranium. In areas where uranium has been disturbed, whether in digging a foundation for a house or in the natural movements of the Earth, radon gas may be emitted in the air, or through contaminated water. Lung cancer can begin when radon gas is breathed by human beings.

AA

Jan. 2008

Sunday, 27 January 2008 20:30

Jan. 23, 2008

Let the Spirit lead. Tony Black Feather, UN Delegate 1984-2004