



This is your chance to protect Grand Canyon and the Colorado River from uranium mining for 20 years! It is critical we show the Secretary of Interior that we oppose uranium mining near the Grand Canyon. Please attend one of the public meetings and submit your comments!

September 30 – Fredonia – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Fredonia Elementary School, 221 E. Hortt

October 15 – Flagstaff – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
High Country Conference Center, 201 West Butler Avenue

Thanks to your help and previous actions, on July 20, 2009, Secretary of the Department of Interior, Ken Salazar, ordered a temporary ban on new uranium claims and exploration across 1 million acres of public land surrounding Grand Canyon National Park. During the two year “segregation” period the Secretary will consider whether to withdraw the area from new mining for up to 20 years. This evaluation will include an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that will address the potential effects of the proposed withdrawal of Federal public lands from new mining near the Grand Canyon.

This is your first opportunity to participate in this EIS. Two public meetings have been set so that the Bureau of Land Management can gather initial comments on the proposed withdrawal.

If you cannot attend a meeting, you can still submit your comments by October 24.

Submit comments at the meetings, email to azasminerals@blm.gov or snail mail to:

Bureau of Land Management
Arizona Strip District
345 East Riverside Drive
St. George, UT 84790



Here are some more details that you can include in your comments. We encourage you to include your own thoughts and opinions on this project and personalize the comments as much as possible.

Tell the BLM:

- You are concerned about potential contamination of water in the Grand Canyon region, including Grand Canyon seeps, springs and the Colorado River which supplies water to tens of millions of people throughout the southwest. Tell them that the EIS must fully analyze impacts to all waters in the region.
- You are concerned about the potential impacts of this mining on Grand Canyon National Park, a crown jewel of our National Park System. How will this affect the Park resources, visitors, and the economy of the region?
- The EIS must fully disclose and analyze the potential short-term, long-term, and cumulative environmental impacts of uranium exploration and mining on groundwater and the connections to surface water in around Grand Canyon. It must evaluate all of the new hydrological information available from various hydrologists and hydrogeologists who have expressed concerns about uranium mining and its potential impact on the water resources.
- The EIS must fully disclose and analyze the potential short-term, long-term, and cumulative environmental impacts of uranium exploration and mining on sensitive, threatened and endangered species; wildlife habitat; soils; air quality; surface water; native plant species; human health; cultural resources; and Grand Canyon National Park.
- The EIS must fully analyze the impacts of cumulative actions – all exploratory drilling and mining proposals on BLM lands north of the canyon, on forest service lands south of the canyon, on state trust lands and private lands – as well as connected actions such as all potential future development of these drilling sites.
- The EIS must plainly and fully disclose the widespread opposition and public controversy surrounding this uranium exploration proposal from the public, tribes, county, state, downstream communities, National Park Service, and Congress.
- The EIS must fully analyze and disclose the impacts of uranium exploration and resulting mining on regional tourism. This must include an analysis of the impacts to visitor experience within Grand Canyon National Park, the potential conflicts between tourism and mining-associated development and traffic.
- The EIS must fully analyze and disclose the controversy attending the potential impacts of uranium exploration and resulting mining on cultural values, including traditional beliefs of regional Native Americans.

For more background information on this issue please go to <http://arizona.sierraclub.org> or contact Stacey Hamburg at (928) 774-6514

