WARN findings confirmed: McGovern's office 'misled'

by Evelyn Lifsey

Indian Health Service statistics confirmed reports from Women of All Red Nations that radiation levels in some Pine Ridge water exceed federal standards and that the miscarriage rate on the reservation is higher than the average for Indians and for the United States population as a whole. In a report released March 30, 1980, the IHS statistics indicate that in 1980, 15.8 miscarriages occurred among 1,096 births during that period. On Pine Ridge, the rate per 1,000 births was 100.4. In 1979, the miscarriage rate on Pine Ridge was almost twice the rate for the Aberdeen service area, which covers the Dakotas and parts of Iowa and Nebraska.

Women of All Red Nations (WARN) is a national grassroots organization of Indian women. They organized in 1978 to protect the health, culture and lives of their communities and to document the poor conditions of living on some Indian reservations. WARN members on Pine Ridge are observing high incidences of miscarriages, birth defects and cancer deaths and are conducting an informal health study. The women collected data and evidence to support their health concerns.

The IHS is now conducting a series of water tests and has released a statement confirming that drinking water does not exceed safe levels. The report also showed that water quality in the area is improving.

Nuclear weapons closely linked to South Dakota uranium mining

by Lillies Jones

Editor’s note:
This begins a three-part series on nuclear weapons. Next issue, we’ll talk about nuclear secrecy, new weapons, and the triple-digit inflation on the economy. The third part will focus on nuclear weapons and defense, health problems and bomb manufacture, and nuclear risks.

It is hard to research and write about nuclear weapons without getting depressed. With power plays in the Middle East and talk of draft registration, it is difficult to ignore the possibility of war. Living in western South Dakota, we are also neighbors to a Strategic Air Command base and nuclear missile bunkers.

But most people see only a vague connection between all this uranium mining. They see orders for nuclear power plants being cancelled and wonder why the uranium rush is on in South Dakota.

The answer is the military projects like the MX missile, nuclear-propelled submarines, and cruise missiles. The government has always used more uranium than business has, about 95 percent of the uranium mined in the U.S. through 1970. The Atomic Energy Commission gave the Department of Defense 80 percent of the total uranium purchased through 1970. Accounts of national energy use don’t usually include these military uses of uranium, and relevant figures are hard to get.

The available information was summed up in a 1978 article in the Science magazine: “Nearly all the global warming changes now occurring and the global warming changes created by nuclear energy to date are due to military uses.” So, when we talk about uranium mining, we are talking mainly about fuel and weapons for the U.S. government.

The connection between civilian and military uranium is still close. The government’s work is contracted out to private corporations. And although the non-government use of uranium is mostly for energy, while government use is mostly for weapons, the two applications are tightly tied together.

Before uranium gets to a nuclear power plant, it is milled and re- fined. The power plant, while boiling water, also produces plutonium-239, the fuel used in most atomic bombs manufactured today. Further processing is needed to make reactor waste into bombs, but the hard part is in the technology between uranium ore and plutonium. Having a nuclear reactor and fuel is for it brings one much closer to having nuclear weapons.

As of last year, 34 nations have nuclear power plants. Eight of these were countries who had not signed the 1970 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty— including South Africa, Brazil, Egypt, Israel and Pakistan. As part of U.S. power plants have dropped off, more reactors are being exported. The U.S. has exported more reactors than anywhere else— 57, compared to 23 from the U.S.S.R.

The two U.S. corporations, General Electric and Westinghouse, accounted for 59 percent of the total international market for nuclear plants. To bring that statistic home, a Westinghouse subsidiary, Wyoming Materials, has an exploration permit in Fall River County.

Nuclear power plants produce 600-500 pounds of plutonium a year and only 10 pounds are needed to make a bomb. The U.S. assumes that less industrial countries won’t be able to make their reactors to make bombs. For example, if war reactor technology to Pakistan, the U.S. government believes that the country wasn’t industrially ad

able to account for as much as 150 pounds of highly-enriched uranium on at once, and has registered a total loss of 247 pounds in 12 years. The plant was closed last fall because of these problems, but was scheduled to reopen the end of January because the Navy needed the fuel.

In New Mexico, 5,000 pounds of semi-refined uranium were stolen from a fuel plant last February. Two men who worked there simply borrowed a company truck to make the heist, and problems with plutonium security were aired in December when at least 11 guards at the Trojan plant in Oregon were arrested for running a drug ring on the plant grounds. The guards were bored and poorly paid— about half of the guards hired at the plant quit each year. So the idea of bomb material being “diverted” is not in the realm of myth.

Nations that are not ordinarily considered a threat and that are not as constrained by world opinion as superpowers, are in possession of the technology materials to create their own little holocausts.

Weapons and manufacture are big business, with many of the large federal contractors being the same corporations that are looking for uranium in the Black Hills area. For example, Westinghouse had $820,158,000 in defense contracts in fiscal year 1977, making it number 15 among the federal government’s military contractors. Number 322 on the list of Standard Oil of California, also known as Chevron

The Black Hills Pahso Sapo Report and Black Hills Alliance give special thanks to the students at CUSTER COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE who helped produce this issue by doing the typesetting.

The Black Hills Pahso Sapo Report staff and the Black Hills Alliance give special thanks to the people at the CUSTER COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE who helped produce this issue by doing the typesetting.

BOX 2508 RAPID CITY, SD 57709
000-342-5127
BLACK HILLS
INTERNATIONAL SURVIVAL GATHERING

by Sherry Oswald

We rely on our children for the survival of this planet. Through them, we must envision living in harmony with the natural life systems of the Earth. To make our visions real, we must develop an awareness in our children of how crucial all life systems are to human kind. These educational concepts will be the focus of the Education for Survival section of the International Survival Gathering. We will analyze the threats to our survival and to future generations. We will then ask if the schools are doing all they can to promote healthy attitudes toward the environment, or if they promote values that lead to an unhealthy one. A careful and complete examination is needed.

We offer a challenge to all people with skills and knowledge: a challenge to promote a deeper awareness of our dependence on the Earth among our young people. Our challenge is to educate ourselves to support these efforts.

Through two projects, "Education for Survival" will promote unity among all people concerned about the education of our children. The first, Inservice Education Project, will provide educators an opportunity to raise questions and to discover how to teach survival concerns. There will be discussion groups on curriculum development geared to maintaining a healthy environment, centered around the following topics: teaching about ecosystems, teaching about appropriate technology and the hazards of nuclear energy and nuclear weapons, homes in dignity in the classroom; teaching self-concept, community building, and conflict resolution; educational alternatives; and surviving in your own environment.

Organizations and corporations throughout the country have developed school materials and programs presenting nuclear energy as a viable alternative. For example, in southern California, Pacific Gas and Electric, the operator of a nuclear power plant, has "Nuclear Energy Modules" which is equipped with balloons, a deck and information for children on how clean and cheap nuclear power is. The Inservice Education Project's workshops will address the problem of corporate influence in the schools and include materials that traditional schools can use. Alternative means of supplying energy needs must balance the widely propagated belief that uranium and coal are our only choice.

The second part of "Education for Survival," the Black Hills Survival School 1980, will demonstrate some alternative education programs that have successfully developed holistic values in young people. This demonstration will be modeled after Native-controlled survival schools, other alternatives throughout the United States, which insure the development of individuals, traditions, cultures, lifestyles and histories.

The model school will cover such topics as basic survival (urban and rural) art and culture; language, with emphasis on sign; hazards of non-renewable resources and alternatives to those resources; genes and relations; and contemporary issues. The Survival School staff will also provide day care for the children of those working on the Gathering. As all areas of the Black Hills International Survival Gathering, "Education for Survival" seeks in individuals and organizations who are concerned about the quality of life, and who want to insure a viable future. If you have skills and knowledge that will strengthen this goal, we welcome you to participate. Please consider what your participation will be.

Editor's Note:
The 1980 Black Hills International Survival Gathering will be held July 18-27, in the Black Hills of South Dakota. It is sponsored by the Black Hills Alliance.

Education for Survival—Pre-Registration Form

Please indicate the area(s) you are interested in:

Black Hills Survival School—1980
Inservice Education Project
facilitator facilitator
participant participant

If you are interested in facilitating a workshop or group discussion, please submit a brief proposal.

Name
Phone Number

Address

Send to: EDUCATION FOR SURVIVAL
P. O. Box 2358
Rapid City, SD 57799
The Johnson County Wyoming cattle war

Editor's note: This is the first of a series on the Johnson County Cattle War.

by Homer Ayres

Those who have read the history of Wyoming know that there was real trouble for the "family" cattle owners before the war of the cowboys and the beefs. Wyoming was a livestock country in the early days, and the cattle industry was the economic backbone of the state. But as the years went by, the cattle industry began to decline, and the big cattle companies, formed by British and U.S. capital, took over the industry.

The true story was hidden for years, and even today... There are places where the Johnson County war is not discussed.

The violence came to a head in 1890 in a long, dramatic shootout not far from the city of Casper. The true story was hidden for years, and even today in Wyoming... The Johnson County war is not discussed, since the story of the families that involved in the Johnson County war is not discussed, since the story of the Johnson County war is not discussed, since the story of the Johnson County war is not discussed, since the story of the Johnson County war is not discussed, since the story of the Johnson County war is not discussed.

As we drove through the plains, we passed a sign that read, "Invasion Bar. The name "Invasion" comes from an almost unbelievable, wild west operation known in the annals of the cattle country as the "Johnson County War," or the "Invasion." This shooting and killing conflict, the "Invasion," was not only a war between the families, but also a war between the United States and Mexico. The cattle companies finally organized what might be called a "train and destroy" mission with hired mercenaries, most of them from Texas, to actually murder some 70 of the leading small ranchers in Johnson County and the surrounding area, along with the Mayor of Buffalo, the Sheriff of Johnson County, and a few townspeople at the county seat.

The plan called for blowing up a church and the courthouse in Buffalo. The big companies raised $10,000 from among themselves, and the killers were to get $5 a day which was a high wage in those days. The job was finished, the firearms and money, and a house of $500 for each killer for each person murdered by the mob collectively.

There was no legal way to get some of the acres from the public domain anywhere except Texas, through the state lands... While the owners of foreign cattle companies often hid this from their investors, their American representatives and ranch managers tried to hold their government grants by putting fences on the land that the landowners were free to use. But the plot did not turn out like they anticipated, and the little army of Killers came within an ace of getting killed themselves.

The government-owned "free range" would be free forever from any incursions by farmer or any other group of settlers... commented the Denver Daily News in a review of a book about the invasion written in 1910, two years after the end of the war. The cow paradise would be safe.

As an excuse for their murderous plot the leaders of the big stockgrowers organized a propaganda campaign extending from coast to coast, branding settlers they wished to eliminate, or run out, as cattle rustlers. The big ranchers were to be judges, jury and executioners. In some places in the early days it was customary for the big ranchers to simply ride up to a new settler's place and tone him out. As the years passed, the big ranchers violated the peaceful over the area with guns. So, with this little private army the big fellow held the range.

The plan was... that three or four hundred... settlers would become so terrified that they would... drive out of the country to safer locations.

The late Marie Sanford stated what she thought they were the guiding principles of the big Wyoming cattle ranchers in her book, "THE CATTLE MEN: There was no denying the British cattle interests and their employees were determined to have Wyoming grasses regulated and ordered. Perhaps they looked upon the American public domain as something like their own backland, to be gifted by the king to his favorites or appropriated by any aggressive chieftain with the long bow to hold it.

Anyone sitting on a foot or it thereafter was a trespasser or a poacher, not one different from the predatory animals with a bounty on their ears, or taken connected, their scalps. The early British colonists had put a bounty on the scalps of the Indians, and this bounty was very attractive. It was a way to earn money.

To be continued next issue.
Corporations still can't get it right

Mineral exploration South Dakota style

by Nancy Burke

Citizens of South Dakota are becoming more aware of the Division of Conservation's role in mineral development. More landowners are being approached by mineral seeking corporations for use of their land, and more people are attending Conservation Commission hearings.

The South Dakota Division of Conservation, under the Department of Agriculture, is the state agency that issues mineral exploration permits. South Dakota law states that the agency is to review each application for a permit on its merits.

It is important to understand that the surface of the land and the mineral rights may lie separately, or may lie together. A surface landowner cannot prevent a mineral owner of higher land from also owning the minerals. In other words, mineral rights are not subject to easements or surface rights. The surface owner can only prevent unreasonable methods of exploration and mining, and seek compensation for damages suffered.

Mineral exploration includes all activities leading to the location and opening of ore deposits, including location, drilling and mining. The permission to engage in exploration is not permanent.

A company or individual files a Notice of Intent to Explore with the county Register of Deeds. After that, the applicant submits an application with a description of the exploration program. A public hearing is held before the Conservation Commission to make sure that the plans are reasonable.

The public has the right to make a comment at the public hearing. The Commission decides whether or not to grant the exploration permit. If all the laws appear to have been followed, the permit is granted.

If the exploration permit lasts a year, and during that time as many as sixteen connecting townships are leased, each citizen of the township can request that certain information be published so that the townships can maintain competition between operators. If a majority of the public wishes to continue the granting of an exploration permit that person may file a petition to include a contested case and the application should then be put on a contested case hearing.

Over the past year, it has been scheduled, other persons may become involved in the proceeding by filing a petition to intervene. The testimony at the hearing may be taken and be entered into the public record. The Notices of Intent to Explore, the application and the reclamation plan are all public record on file with the DOC in Pierre. However, the reef plan will only release the general description of the land to be explored upon and will release no information on the location or geologic nature of the exploration holes.

A bond is paid to cover damage if exploration ruins the land. The operator has to determine how much the bond will be, potential damage to wells and the location of water sources. South Dakota law states that the DOC must require an inspection of the permit area after the reclamation plan is submitted and before the permit is granted, but this law was re-adopted by the next legislative session.

If a proposed permit area contains historic or cultural sites, or is to be a ramp or a rare endangered species, the company can be denied a permit.

Current Uranium Exploration Permits: 11

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CORPORATION</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>Permit No.</th>
<th>Permit Issue Date</th>
<th>Expiration Date</th>
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<td>JK-1</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>31/07/1979</td>
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<td>EC-8</td>
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<td>EC-7</td>
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<td>31/07/1979</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

URANIUM CLAIMS: BLACK HILLS NATIONAL FOREST 1,163

Oil and Gas, Tennessee Valley Authority has about 2,546, and Union Carbide about 1,997. Generally speaking, a claim is roughly 390 acres.

ACREAGE UNDER URANIUM LEASES: include land 218,747

3,970 acres more than any of the uranium sites.

FOREST SERVICE - CURRENT PLANS OF OPERATIONS 1979-1980

1. Gulf Mineral, approved exploration plan from June 1979 to August 1980 in Wild Canyon, Custer County. Drilling program is for 42 holes, 10 acres of surface disturbance.
2. Silver King Mines, approved exploration plan from May 1979, to April 1980, drilling 553 claims in Custer and Fall River counties.
3. Union Carbide - Craven Canyon Horizontal Mine shaft approved plan of operation for July 1979 to January 1980. BHA attorneys have halted this project for the time being.

FUTURE URANIUM PLANS

1. Silver King Mines/TVA - Edgemont Uranium Mining project: plans for three underground and one open pit mine near Burdock, S.D. in Fall River county.
2. Union Carbide - five year plan project: eight underground and two open pit mines plus a heap leach processing facility. The area involved is Craven Canyon Long Mountain and Robinson Plats in Fall River county.

The landowner has the right to state preferences for reclamation of the land. These preferences, including means of access and protection under special weather conditions, have to be considered by the DOC and the operator. Roads and trails should be restored to minimize environmental damage, and drilling areas should be reseeded as nearly as practicable to the original condition or to a substantially beneficial condition. (Agency Rules of South Dakota)

The law also describes exploration standards and methods including minimum acceptable plugging methods for drill holes. Drilling wastes must be put back into the hole with a non-slip plug, five foot column of cement and top soil. Water bearing rock layers have to be sealed in a special way with bentonite gel to prevent water contamination.

Within 60 days of drilling an exploration hole, a geological report should be submitted, including drill logs which tell how deep the hole is and what layers of rock were penetrated. The hole is to be plugged with bentonite gel and covered, sealed with bentonite gel to prevent water contamination. The hole is to be plugged with bentonite gel and covered, sealed with bentonite.
by Evelyn Lefau

Union Carbide Corporation is the 21st largest corporation in the country and, according to its Product Directory, enjoys more than $8 billion in sales annually.

Major interests of Union Carbide Corporation (UCC) are Eveready Batteries, Glad Wrap products, Proust Antifreeze-and uranium.

UCC has been exploring for uranium in the southern Black Hills for more than four years. The Corporation received its first permit in July 1979, even though one was required for years before that.

A permit for a horizontal mine shaft in Craven Canyon was first granted last fall, but has not taken effect because UCC has faced opposition from ranchers, townpeople and other concerned citizens of the southern Hills area.

A Cluster resident and the BHA have also challenged the U.S. Forest Service approval of UCC’s operating plan without requiring an Environmental Impact Statement.

Southern Hills residents charge that UCC has proved itself irresponsible and last in concern for people and the environment.

On December 30th, Enviros-Villa Pueblo Senior Report Vol. 1, No. 8, UCC’s federal and state reclamation plans for the area are considered by many to be grossly inadequate. A major problem with UCC’s plans for reclamation of the area is that the corporation is still exploring for uranium.

In October 1979, Union Carbide stated in a brief to the Forest Service that the Black Hills Alliance is concerned with the environment and merely employs obstruction tactics to impede the corporation’s progress. In the same brief, UCC states that the "BHA is an anti-nuclear group dedicated to disrupting nuclear energy at the exploratory stage" if it exists without regard to actual environmental impact, mitigating measures or eventual retrial.

The brief further states that "BHA is attempting to stop exploratory drilling for uranium for being an obstructionist group." This is the attitude of the BHA’s action and Indian culture and when neither is threatened.

Uranium-related activities come under extensive federal guidelines specifically because they have the potential to threaten the environment, including all living things.

UCC lambasts the BHA because the BHA demands an Environmental Impact Statement that includes future UCC activities of milling and processing the area, because it demands studies on the health effects to area residents, and because it is concerned for the archeological significance of the Southern Hills and for several endangered species which are found in the Craven Canyon area.

The battle in the courts is a necessary extension of the Alliance’s commitment to get the word out about the dangers of alternative technologies. The courtroom activities must be complemented with community work and education. BHA members feel people in areas that may be affected by uranium development need to understand the legal, social and ethical issues that are present.

The briefs written by Union Carbide and by the applicants are on file at the BHA Research and Documentation Center. The Center is open six days a week for public use.

**Nemo Valley residents prepare to battle mining companies**

by Todd Draves

The Black Hills became the center of heightened conflict in 1974 when Union Carbide’s expedition to the Hills discovered a gold prospect in Craven Creek, near Cluster. Likewise, the iron ore in Nemo gave rise to the 1980 Jemez Expedition, when iron ore was found throughout the Nemo district.

More recently, in 1986, Pittsburgh Pacific Company filed a claim covering 245,000 acres in Benchmark, according to the U.S. Forest Service. Benchmark is about four and a half miles northwest of Nemo. Details on company mining plans are difficult to obtain. Obstacles to clarity are confidentiality, which prohibits release of certain data, and the benefits of Pittsburgh Pacific’s competition. (See "BHA Mislead Explanation" this issue.)

Several weeks ago, after many years in court, the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that it was necessary for Pittsburgh Pacific to file an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on its iron ore mining plans. Since then, residents of Nemo Canyon have heard rumors that equipment is being moved into Nemo Valley to begin the mining process in the areas and cliffs that are 3 to 100 miles old.

The State of South Dakota which wants an EIS on the project, intends to appeal the court decision. Members of "Concerned Citizens of Nemo," an environmental group from that area, are interested in filing a friend-of-the-court amicus brief in the case.

A more detailed report will be forthcoming in the May issue concerning the exploration and mining activities in the Nemo area.
Paha Sapa Printing provides progressive press

by Kathy Sullivan

While standing in front of the folding machine, rancher Mary Kammerer smiled and murmured, “Wonderful, wonderful, wonderful.”

Paha Sapa Printing has opened its doors to inhouse printing. Since February 19th, the Davidson 233 press has been turning out literature and bulk mailings for the Education for Survival Mobilization, Transportation and Appropriate Technology work areas of the upcoming Survival Gathering.

Run for Survival flyers detailing activities planned this June, general office publications and stationery for Alliance attorneys are also being printed. Our pressman can hardly keep up with the machine.

We need a print shop to serve the BHA and other concerned groups has become increasingly clear. The wealth of information on soft technologies, new findings on health hazards and contamination, and other important local news can now be put in people’s hands more easily and less expensively.

BLIGHTED HILLS HAPPENINGS

by Kathy Sullivan

Printing International Survival Gathering literature, a priority of the print shop, will help people understand the Gathering’s structure before they arrive at its door.

Surviving BHA staff turned out to haul in the press, two folding machines, a paper cutter, photocopier machine, addressograph machine, a light table and supplies for the press.

Three people are currently working full time at Paha Sapa Printing, doing all the bookkeeping, layout, machine operation and maintenance work.

David Tilsen of Haymarket Press in Minneapolis breathed life into the print shop with his efforts to recruit machinery and training staff. Many other people also donated time, money, and materials to the establishment of Paha Sapa Printing. South Dakota is now home to a print shop dedicated to protecting the Black Hills.

Miners for Safe Energy enters newspaper business

The Black Hills of South Dakota boast a new publication in its midst. Miners For Safe Energy, formed last autumn, has published the first issue of its newsletter, the Northern Hills Safe Energy Times. The paper has attracted the easy accessibility of solar technology, labor environmental coalitions, and all working people by virtually destroying the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and many other activities of local interest.

For your copy of the Northern Hills Safe Energy Times write: Miners For Safe Energy, P.O. Box 267, Lead, S.D. 57754.

Earth Day ’80

BHA, community plan weekend events

The Black Hills Alliance is planning a week long agenda to celebrate the tenth anniversary of Earth Day, which is Tuesday, April 22. “The activities will celebrate 10 years of environmental awareness since the first Earth Day,” Sherry Oswald of the Rapid City BHA says that people should not think of April 22, 1980, as a deadline or a time limitation. “We must plan for the future and create ongoing projects to continue and increase our environmental awareness,” Oswald says.

The Sierra Club, the Black Hills Energy Coalition, ACOGN, Rapid City schools, area churches and the Audubon Society are also working on events for Earth Week. ACOGN is contacting local businesses and asking them to conduct an advertising campaign concerning environmentalism with a focus on energy alternative companies. Supermarkets will be asked to promote recycling; for example, encouraging customers to recycle plastic bags, which are made from petroleum. Local bicycle shops will be asked to teach people how to tune up their bikes, and a ride-a-bike-work day is planned during the week.

BHA-CAT work for low-income people

Building solar collectors and donating them to local families was the purpose of a public workshop in late February. The Rapid City Community Action Team (CAT) and Rapid City BHA, and People for Solar Energy sponsored a hands-on workshop with the Public Utilities Commission that more than 309 people attended. Two solar collectors were built on Saturday, February 9, one elderly man and his family, the other to a ranching family.

Participants in the workshop learned how to reduce their heating costs up to 80 percent through simple and efficient technology that uses the sun. CAT and the BHA are working together to build more collectors with interested people and to help people gain the information and skills necessary for meeting their own needs.

happier control chemicals sprayed last year on Pine Ridge Reservation. Kammerer’s ranch borders Ellsworth Air Force Base, where nuclear weaponry is stockpiled.

Photo by Ken Strand

Homer Thunder Hawk (left) of Pine Ridge, and Martin Krammer of Meade County are two landowners working with the Rapid City BHA. Thunder Hawk’s land lies close to an area contaminated with gas.
No Nukes News ... Moratoriums ... Community Action Around the World

British Columbia

A seven-year moratorium on uranium exploration and mining in British Columbia was announced on February 27. The moratorium is effective immediately. Premier Bill Bennett stated that British Columbia can continue to meet its economic goals without developing its uranium resources and that nuclear power does not have a role in the government’s energy strategy. Bennett said, “It is clearly the mood of the people of this province that they are not prepared to live with uranium mining. What uranium resources BC has will be left in the ground until the people decide otherwise.”

Three companies were exploring in British Columbia and had estimated the existence of more than $800 million in uranium reserves, according to the February 28 Vancouver Sun.

Vermont

Thirty-three out of 36 towns holding town meetings in Vermont in early March voted to prohibit uranium mining in their areas, according to the March 9 Boston Globe. Union Carbide Corporation and a West German company are two companies that have prospected for uranium in Vermont, although no one is actively exploring at this time. Aerial photographs have shown serious health hazards in northern Vermont.

Vermonters voting to prohibit the mining say they are concerned about the health hazards associated with the mining. They also feel that the economic benefits from the mining, according to Melvin Cade, a depot man from a southern Vermont town.

Pennsylvania

Ninety-two electricians at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Harrisburg, PA haled work on February 20, 21 and 22 after two electricians were suspended for refusing to work in a “hot area.” The area was not clearly designated a contaminated area. The Three Mile Island reactor, still in a crisis situation one year after a near meltdown, is now releasing radio- active Krypton gas into the atmosphere in an effort to cool with NRC demands to decontaminate the plant.

Australia

Members of the Australian Amalgamated Metal Workers and Shipwrights Union are refusing to handle contracts for 4,000 tons of fabricated steel for the Ranger Uranium Project. This is the first union to impose a ban in the uranium industry since the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) congress in September 1979 (see article this issue). The Amalgamated Metal Workers and Shipwrights Union’s action should strengthen the ACTU policy, according to a trade union spokesperson.

Belgium

Belgian union members shut down a mine in eastern Belgium that had been operating since 1930. The workers cited safety hazards and lowered wages as reasons for the action.

South Dakota

Eighteen South Dakota organizations have called for an immediate halt to all uranium development in the state.

Press conferences in Rapid City and Sioux Falls were held on February 18 to draw attention to the concerns and demands of the groups. According to a joint statement the groups released, “The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has stated that uranium mining and milling is the most dangerous aspect of nuclear fuel cycle. Federal and State governments have known of health-related problems arising out of past uranium development in South Dakota from a 1972 Federal Environmental Protection Agency Study and have done little to protect South Dakotans from health hazards. In the past, corporations have disregarded state laws by illegally exploiting, leaving unapped and uncontrolled exploratory drill holes, destroying pastureland, de-watering wells, jeopardizing historical sites and endangered species, and not following established permit procedures.

The welfare of the people of South Dakota must be protected,” the statement continued. More than 800 South Dakota citizens have petitioned to put the issues of nuclear development before a vote of the people.

We strongly urge Governor Jank low, state representatives and the people of South Dakota to ensure that the rights of the people are protected and that their health is not endangered by uranium development in this state.

The Black Hills Alliance urges people to contact Governor Jacklow, the South Dakota State Conservation Commission, Representatives and local newspapers to offer support of this moratorium and demand safe energy development.

Endorsing organizations include Amalgamated Meat Cutters, local 504; Black Hills Alliance; Citizens for a Non nuclear Future; Miners for Safe Energy Normal Farmers Organization, Fifth District of Farmers Union People for Safe Energy, Save Centennial Valley Association; Sioux Falls Area; Sioux Falls Black Hills Alliance; South Dakota Resource Coalition; Spearfish Black Hills Alliance; Stop Uranium Mining; Students for Safe Energy and Environment; University of South Dakota at Vermillion; United Sioux Tribes; Vermillion Black Hills Alliance; Vermillion Friends Meeting; Western S.D. Community Action Teams and Women of All Red Nations.

Eleven concerned and prominent individuals also endorsed the action. If you are a member of an organization that would like to endorse this statement, please contact the Black Hills Alliance at 961-0101.

20,000 South Dakotans can’t be wrong.

The people of South Dakota put their signatures on a petition which could enable citizens to vote on uranium mining, milling and waste disposal operations. Nearly 20,000 voters signed the initiative and Secretary of State Alice Kondert said the petition was “cleaner” than most. There were relatively few duplications or ineligible names.

The petition, sponsored by the Black Hills Energy Coalition, embraces the democratic process by allowing citizens to vote on what they want in their communities.
Tips to help you save energy

from
IF YOU WANT TO SAVE YOUR ENVIRONMENT by the American Association of University Women.

Avoid water softeners—their phosphate contents run as high as 50 percent.

Teach your children well. Demand conservation workshops and the teaching of alternative technologies in school. Encourage them to raise pets and plant gardens. Go camping and hiking as a family. If you live in the Hills, take advantage! Encourage blue riding and local parks where needed.

Give conservation books, calendars and posters as presents. Spread the word every way you can.

At Home . . .

Cut down on the use of frivolous appliances. Quality good-hand made kitchen utensils will, for instance, eliminate the need for an electric carving knife, can openers, toothbrushes and frying pans.

The Crud Stops Here

How would you like to go to court and face your state senator representing the opposing party?
That's what happened to Ronald and Shirley Glawe, of Sioux Falls, early this year.

In 1977 the Glawes' finished building their home, and in November 1978, a representative from Northern States Power told them the utility was going to build a powerline over their land.

A year and a month later, the Glawe's were served papers stating that their farm had been condemned. The couple was summoned to court in early 1980. The NSP attorney was Senator Dick Gregerson from Sioux Falls.

Turn off lights in unoccupied rooms. Try to centralize activities at night when electrical usage is high. For example, children can do homework in the same room, so separate rooms don't have to be lit.

In the hurry-room, remember phosphates cause overgrowth of green algae and can destroy fresh water bodies. Don't use detergents with phosphates.

Making a compost hoop . . .

Compost lightens the soil and disperses certain plant diseases, thereby reducing the use of the nutrient the plants have taken away. It holds moisture and is a fine mulch.

Put anything in the pile that was once living material; weeds, hedge clippings, sawdust, coffee and tea grounds, etc. (no bones or meat scrap). Add a few handfuls of lime or fertilizer and a layer of manure and then a layer of soil and then soak it well.

After the February hearings, NSP made the Glawes an offer for their land, which the couple refused. When the utility raised the price to what the Glawes felt it was worth, they accepted and sold their home.

When asked why they didn't fight the utility, Ronald said, "What if I lost? Then I would be stuck with a farm with a powerline on it."
"It's been a real education for me," says Ronald. He feels he benefited in some ways from his confrontation.

"We intend to get involved with other people who are working for human causes," say the Glawes.

April Calendar

If there are any events happening in your communities that you would like to put into the Calendar, please contact the BHA in Rapid City one week prior to the event so we will have time to print and distribute to local chapters, support groups and interested people. Contact Kathy Jeffries at 342-0127.

April 23, 1980: Rapid City: Live debate with the Black Hills Alliance and Union Carbide at 9:00 a.m. on KTEQ, 95.1 FM broadcast.
April 22, 1980: Earth Day—a day to raise the concerns for the preservation of the Earth's resources. April 25-26, a whole week of activities will be in celebration of Earth Day. Contact Sherry Oswald at the Rapid City BHA for more information.
April 29, 1980: Miners for Safe Energy: Drawing for MFSE window box solar collector. Winner will be announced on KEDS radio, Deadwood, 9:00 a.m.
April 29, 1980: Lead: Miners for Safe Energy will sponsor an evening with Lawrence County Legislators. Kay Jergensen, Reid Richards and Jim Dunn have been invited to speak on energy development in South Dakota at the Moore Hall in Lead, 7 p.m.

Help Wanted

IF YOU CAN READ this you can help save the Hills. Please contact the Black Hills Alliance to find out what you can do in or out of the office.

WRITERS, ARTISTS, TYPISTS and so many others are needed for the many aspects of publishing the BLACK HILLS - PANA SAPA REPORT. Technical and non-technical support is needed. Contact BLACK HILLS - PANA SAPA REPORT at the Rapid City BHA.

Wanted: Black Hills residents who want to stop uranium development! We have jobs for you—out of your own home or the BHA office. Good talkers, good typists, good imaginations please call 342-5127. Outreach/ Communications has a place for you.

Health for Survival is looking for contributions and medical people for the Outreach Medical Facility at the 1980 Survival Gathering.

Ron Rosen 455 S. Meade Denver, CO 80217
BHA Speakers Bureau
We would like to introduce you to the Black Hills Alliance Speakers Bureau. Listed below are the topics which can be presented to your group, organization, or class. Travel food and lodging must be arranged for each speaking engagement and an honorarium is requested but negotiable, as our speakers do not receive a salary in exchange for the expertise they can offer.

The following topics affect all of us: Uranium Mining in the Black Hills; Alternative Energy Development (Renewable Resources); 1872 Mining Act; Health Effects of Low Level Radiation; 1865 Fort Laramie Treaty and the Rights and Responsibilities of the United States Government; Uranium for War and Peace; A Threat to All People; Black Hills Alliance, Background and Purpose; Multinational Corporations (Government Control of Resource Development (Pitifully Commission) Effects of Uranium Mining Jobs and Energy; Health Effects to Workers in the Uranium Industry. Speakers will also address other topics, as requested. For more information, contact Gina Eadschin, Black Hills Alliance.
Yes, Virginia, the Survival Gathering is happening

Organized into a conference room at the Town & Country Motel in Napa City on April 16, 56 people gathered to exchange ideas for the 1989 Black Hills International Survival Gathering. Sponsored by the Black Hills Alliance, the Gathering will take place July 18–27 in the Black Hills. This was the fourth planning conference, and a final coordinator's conference is planned for April 1. One of the goals of National Office Coordination is to arrange for these planning conferences.

There are two work groups for the event: the Emergency Planning, and National Coordination. The Emergency Planning Committee is the umbrella for the other three. It is the function of each area coordinator to plan and carry out these events in his area. The National Coordinator works to ensure that all the work is being done on schedule. The Emergency Planning Committee works to ensure that the work is being done on schedule.

WarWrench findings confirmed

continued from p.1

With test results still coming in, the health authorities are preparing plans for dealing with the water crisis. The drinking water is being tested for radiation levels, and the results are expected to be available by early next week.

Midland water poisoned

Results of radium tests should be coming in during the next three weeks of April. The EPA test results show dangerous levels of radiation. The tests will be finalized later this week. The tests were conducted by the EPA, and the results will be released later this week.

The Radium Poisoning Act of 1975 mandates the EPA to take action if high radiation levels are found in drinking water. The act requires the EPA to test and regulate the water supply. The water authorities in Midland have been notified of the results, and they are expected to take action if high radiation levels are found.

The City of Midland has been working to improve the water supply since the radium poisoning was discovered. The city has invested millions of dollars to improve the water supply, and the results of the tests are expected to be a sign of progress.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch has reported that the Midland water system is being monitored by the EPA. The EPA is expected to release the results of the tests in the next few weeks.

The Midland Water Authority has been working to improve the water supply since the radium poisoning was discovered. The authority has invested millions of dollars to improve the water supply, and the results of the tests are expected to be a sign of progress.

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Utilities grow while demand shrinks

According to the South Dakota Resources Coalition, ELECTRIC WORLD, the journal of the electricity industry, reported that the U.S. will have 45 percent more electrical capacity than it needs in 1980. The Midwest Area Reliability Council reports that the eight-state Midwest region, experienced a 28 percent excess electrical capacity this past year.

Rural Electric has traditionally had an 8.1 percent growth rate in electrical demand, which means output must double every 10 years. However, in 1978 Rural Electric's increase was just over six percent and last year it was 2.99 percent according to the Coalition.

Missouri/Arkansas Electric (M/ARE), originally reported having 2,400 megawatts available, but only a 1,700 maximum demand. M/ARE raised its demand estimates to 2,820,000 megawatts. Missouri State Electric has an annual budget of $740 million, of which $170 million is for construction.

Rural South Dakotans won't benefit from powerline

Loren Zingmark, Manager for members of Safe Energy Alternatives and others that rural South Dakotans will not benefit from the Mandan Powerline Project, according to Joyce Hodges of Lake Preston. At a recent meeting in Madison (McCook County), Zingmark told the audience that Canadian electric rates are quite low, in the order of six cents per kilowatt - twices what North and South Dakotans are now paying. Zingmark also said that East River Electric, has all the power customers will demand through 1990, Hodges reported.

Safe Energy Alternatives (SEA) is a grassroots organization which formed to investigate the Mandan Powerline Project. An above-ground 200 kilovolt powerline, SEA has a farming membership of more than 200 people who are educating area residents about the possible negative effects of the Mandan Powerline Project (see BHP Report, March 1980).

Joyce Hodges, a Kingsbury County Commissioner, and the county posted a resolution that Nebraska Public Power District, primary sponsor of the Mandan, must show a need and benefit, and must prove that there is no health hazard before the line can run through Kingsbury County. Hodges reported that the counties of Clay, Bon Homme, Clark, Davison and Day have passed similar resolutions.

Split wood, not atoms

The MEQRI and citizens along the line have been circulating survey forms on people's experiences along the line route. The list of adverse health effects includes 17 symptoms.

For people, some of these are:
- Respiratory problems such as sinus trouble, bronchitis, shortness of breath, chest pains, long congestion, increased blood pressure
- Nausea, dizziness, blood pressure
- Headache, eye or ear problems
- Changes in milk production
- Stress or nervousness
- Breeding problems
- Others

More than 250 forms have been returned to the MEQRI, and about 70% associate problems people are experiencing with the powerline.

The survey asks people to identify their doctors, nurses, veterinarians and other professionals who have witnessed changes along the line's route. These people will be screened, and some will be asked to present testimony before the MEQRI. Other evidence that will be presented is research into scientific literature and testimonials from people on the immediate effects of powerlines.
East River update

A hearing in Pierre will take place on April 10 as this paper goes to press. Anaconda Copper Company (ACC) a multinational corporation that filed an application to explore for uranium in seven southeast South Dakota counties early this year, will have its permit application reviewed for the second time. William Strakas, the hearing examiner, appointed by the State Conservation Commission, found several discrepancies in the company's original application. He recommended that ACC be allowed to revise its application and to insert several important features that were originally omitted.

One of these omissions, according to East River attorney Cindy Kirkeby, is the list of names and addresses of residents in each county of proposed exploration that ACC must furnish to the Division of Conservation (DOC). Kirkeby said she believes that the company has corrected the application so that it now complies with the law, although she says she has not seen the amended document.

William Strakas recommended at the Feb. 20 hearing that Anaconda be allowed to amend its application, which is linked to starting the process over and following all procedures correctly. The DUC will have decided by April 10 to accept, reject, or amend Strakas' recommendation. Strakas is also a paid lobbyist for the Nebraska Public Power District, which is a primary sponsor of the Mandan Powerline project and runs a nuclear plant in Nebraska.

However, the DUC, which believes Strakas' recommendations, the State Conservation Commission will not decide whether or not to grant the exploration permit until its May meeting, according to Kirkeby.

People interested in becoming involved or needing more information should contact Cindy Kirkeby at 624-2766 or Nancy Lohacker at 624-3653 in Vermillion.

Is the Wizard of Oz hiding in the Hills?

by Ullas Jones

Did the yellow brick road run across South Dakota? And is the Emerald City really a reference to the Black Hills? Yes, says Thomas St. John, the author of a recent paper on L. Frank Baum's classic, The Wizard of Oz.

Baum spent in southeastern South Dakota Territory, from 1888 until 1891, the period spanning the division of the Great Sioux Reservation into the current reservations, the creation of South Dakota, and the Wounded Knee Massacre.

In Aberdeen, as owner of a novelty shop and editor of a local newspaper, Baum knew what was happening around him. He would sit on the rough-cut boardwalks and tell children stories about the unique world. From these stories and from other experiences, St. John says, Baum created his classic in 1899.

The yellow brick road—a quick way to success—was probably a comment on what St. John calls the "outlandish get-rich-quick dreams of the invaders of the Black Hills." The road led to the ruby and diamond-studded Emerald City—"like the Black Hills, a place of great mineral wealth. But, as Baum wrote, it was a "long journey," that wasn't "a slam dunk," said to be full of dangers.

Do not like strangers to cross their country. At the turn of the century, St. John notes, the connection between the Land of Oz and the Black Hills was taken for granted. The connection would be a good one to rebuild in the minds of the millions who have loved Baum's books only as "fantasy stories"—and especially in the minds of those who would like to destroy the Black Hills with regard to their special meaning to many contemporary people.

The full text of St. John's paper is available at the Black Hills Alliance Research Center in Rapid City.

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