

Vermilion Mine Stakeholder Meeting



Monday, July 30th, at 7:00pm

**Homer Village Hall
500 East 2nd St., Homer, IL**

Sunrise Coal, LLC has submitted a permit application for the proposed “Bulldog” coal mine in southwest Vermilion County.

On July 30th, 2012 at 7:00pm the Homer Water Committee will meet to consider whether or not to sell the community’s water to the mine for washing coal. Homer residents and members of the public are invited to weigh in on the proposal as the Village considers whether this is the best use of the community’s water supply.

Coal mines are water intensive, and generate large quantities of harmful waste. **For more information, visit us online:**

- saltforkfriends.blogspot.com
- standuptocoal.org
- prairierivers.org

Concerns About Coal in Our Community

We are concerned about these impacts that a proposed coal mine may bring to our communities:

Air Quality

Coal dust from coal stockpiles and coal shipping poses a serious public health concern because it contains heavy metals, including mercury, arsenic, selenium, and chromium, which can cause respiratory, cardiac and neurological problems.

Water

Large withdrawals of ground and surface water for coal washing, as well as the discharge of polluted mine wastewater could impact local drinking water supplies, threatening people, fish, livestock, and the wildlife that rely on abundant clean water.

Land

Coal mining takes hundreds of acres of prime farmland out of production forever to construct coal slurry disposal pits, which contain heavy metals that can contaminate the land. Also, coal mining may cause subsidence—with less support below, the land above can sink, damaging roads, buildings, and drainage. and lower the productivity of the rich soil in this region.

Jobs

The assertion by Sunrise Coal that 300 jobs will be brought to our communities does not mean that 300 local people will be hired. More importantly, will the mining wages offset the lifelong health issues and the degradation of our communities once the mine has moved away? Farming jobs are long-term and stable, while mining jobs last for only a few years.

Community and Quality of Life

Coal mining changes the fundamental character of our community. Typically, when a coal mine comes to a community, over time the residents move away and property values decrease. There are other, better industries and businesses we could be bringing to this area that would help our communities remain strong, healthy, and vibrant.

Take Action

To protect our communities from the coal mine, we need you to :

- Contact your village & county officials and share your concerns
- Write a letter to the editor
- Attend a stakeholder meeting
- Sign the petition: www.standuptocoal.org/petition
- Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/standuptocoal