

# Vermilion Mine Informational Meeting



**Monday, August 27th, at 7:00pm**

**Wesley United Methodist Church**

**1203 W Green St., Urbana, IL**

*Parking available in lot to the south of Wesley United Methodist Church on Goodwin Avenue*

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

## **What would a new coal mine mean for local communities?**

Join us for an informational presentation and discussion about the proposed coal mine, how it threatens local drinking water supplies, the Salt Fork River, clean air, and the area’s rich farmland. Hear from local residents who are working to protect their communities from coal, and find out how you can help work to protect local resources for future generations.

### **Sponsors:**

Wesley United Methodist Green Team

Salt Fork Friends

Stand Up To Coal

Prairie Rivers Network

Faith in Place

[wesleyui.org](http://wesleyui.org)

[saltforkfriends.blogspot.com](http://saltforkfriends.blogspot.com)

[standuptocoal.org](http://standuptocoal.org)

[prairierivers.org](http://prairierivers.org)

[faithinplace.org](http://faithinplace.org)

# Concerns About Coal in Our Community

We are concerned about the following impacts the proposed coal mine would 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 neurologic 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, 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 lowering the productivity of the rich soil in this region.

## **Jobs**

The assertion by Sunrise Coal that 300 jobs will be brought to our community 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 community 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 make our communities 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](http://www.standuptocoal.org/petition)
- Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/standuptocoal](http://www.facebook.com/standuptocoal)
- For more information, contact: [bperbix@prairierivers.org](mailto:bperbix@prairierivers.org)