

# The Coles Hill Progress



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## On the Record With Walter Coles



Chairman  
and CEO

The three years since Virginia Uranium was formed have been marked by steady progress in areas fundamental to our success as a Virginia-owned and -operated company. With the start

of the safety study by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), it is a good time to review our accomplishments and our goals.

On the technical front, our drilling program has confirmed the presence of the largest undeveloped uranium ore deposit in the United States.

These findings have been extensively certified by independent consultants.

In addition, working with a top engineering firm, we are making substantial progress in developing a mining plan that will achieve multiple purposes, including acceptable environmental and economic viability.

From the beginning, we have strongly recommended a science-based study by an independent group that, we hope, will reassure Virginians that what we propose can be done safely and in a manner productive for the entire region. Thus, it is particularly

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## National Academy of Sciences Uranium Study: Experts Appointed, Meeting Dates Announced

The National Academy of Sciences has named 13 scientists and experts to study the safety of uranium mining in Virginia. The panel remains provisional and open for public comment until its first meeting, scheduled for October 26-27 in Washington, D.C. The panelists hail from states throughout the U.S. and include two nominees from France. Their expertise covers a wide range of topics, including geology, mineralization and waste minimization, ecological risk assessments, hydrology,

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August 18, 2010

Dr. David Feary  
Division on Earth and Life Studies  
National Academy of Sciences  
500 Fifth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Dr. Feary,

Let me first thank you for the work you and the study group have undertaken for the Virginia Coal and Energy Commission. We have great faith in your reputation for independence, fairness and scientific integrity.

While I don't believe Virginia Uranium is in a position to critique the qualifications of specific members of the provisional study panel, I would like to express our general sense of satisfaction with the balance you have achieved. Frankly, we see members whose background and qualifications would, we suspect, tend to see things in a light favorable to our goals. The presence of those members seems sensibly counterbalanced by others who strike us as less friendly to our goals. Thus we respect your achievement of a balanced panel that should have the best possibility of reaching findings that are useful and fair.

With all good wishes for smooth sailing going forward,

I am,

Respectfully yours,

Walter Coles  
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

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## Enviro Groups Criticize NAS Selections

Several environmental groups as well as some individuals were quick to complain to the National Academy about its selection of panel members. Such objections seem unfounded as the NAS has made it clear that its goal is to achieve a balanced panel – not an impartial panel. Virginia Uranium recognized this and offered no criticism of those selected by NAS. The company submitted a letter on August 18 clarifying its position.

## On the Record With Walter Coles

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satisfying that the NAS study has been put in motion by a commission of the Virginia legislature.

We applaud the Coal and Energy Commission's ongoing plan for the very important socio-economic study which, we believe, will produce findings similar to our own economic feasibility studies. Our studies have shown substantial economic benefits for the region in the areas of added tax revenues, an enhanced employment base, spin-off industries and, of course, new direct jobs at good wages.

On the political and legislative front, it is gratifying that we have the full attention of various agencies that recognize the significant energy and economic resource we can offer our region as well as the entire Commonwealth. Just this month we were invited to appear before the Virginia Joint Commission on Technology and Science Energy Advisory

Committee. We were also invited to make a presentation to the Governor's Commission on Economic Development and Jobs Creation Energy Subgroup. We stand ready to tell our story to anyone who is interested.

And very important to us is the fact that over these three years, we have hired Virginians as employees, and we have paid out \$16,500,000 to Virginia vendors.

In short, the Coles Hill project has earned the full attention of the Virginia legislature and of the National Academy of Sciences. Potential investors continue to visit us. We have kept our promises to hire Virginians and to do business in Virginia.

We have worked hard to meet these objectives and look forward to continued success. And, as always, we thank you for your interest in Virginia Uranium.

## NAS Uranium Study: Experts Appointed, Meeting Dates Announced

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environmental causes of cancer, world uranium deposits, stakeholder involvement, and the nuclear industry. The panelists will serve without compensation, which is customary for NAS study panels. The experts will present their backgrounds at the first meeting, and assess whether or not additional areas of expertise require representation in order to fulfill the study's scope of work. For additional information and updates on the panel and study process, visit <http://dels.nas.edu/global/besr/Uranium>.

### Meetings:

**October 26 - 27, and  
November 15 - 16, 2010**

Keck Center  
500 5th Street, NW  
Washington D.C. 20001

**December 13 - 15, 2010**

Danville vicinity; TBA

### Panel Members:

Name	Title & Organization	Location
Dr. Joaquin Ruiz - (Chair)	Executive Dean of the Colleges of Letters, Arts and Science, Dean of the College of Science, and a Professor of Geosciences at the University of Arizona.	Tucson, AZ
Dr. Corby G. Anderson	Harrison Western Professor of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines	Golden, CO
Dr. Lawrence W. Barnthouse	President and Principal Scientist of LWB Environmental Services, Inc.	Hamilton, OH
Dr. Scott C. Brooks	Senior Scientist in the Environmental Sciences Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory	Oak Ridge, TN
Dr. Patricia A. Buffler	Professor of epidemiology and holds the Kenneth and Marjorie Kaiser Chair in Cancer Epidemiology in the School of Public Health at University of California, Berkeley	Berkeley, CA
Dr. Michel Cuney	Director of the research team, Genesis and Management of Mineral Resources for the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) at the Henri Poincaré Université	Nancy, France
Dr. Peter L. deFur	President of Environmental Stewardship Concepts, LLC	Richmond, VA
Dr. Mary R. English	Senior Fellow at the Institute for a Secure and Sustainable Environment, The University of Tennessee	Knoxville, TN
Dr. R. William Field	Professor in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health and in the Department of Epidemiology, University of Iowa College of Public Health	Iowa City, IA
Dr. Jill Lipoti	Director of the Division of Environmental Safety and Health at the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection	Trenton, NJ
Dr. Paul A. Locke	Associate Professor at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences, Division of Toxicology	Baltimore, MD
Mr. Henry Schnell	Technical Authority (Senior Expert) in the Expertise & Technical Department, Mining Business Unit, with AREVA NC Inc.	Paris, France
Dr. Jeffrey J. Wong	Chief Scientist for the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) at the California EPA	Sacramento, CA

# Radiation Safety Professionals Endorse Uranium Mining in Virginia

## The Virginia Health Physics Society Says Safety Concerns Based on "Misinformation"



The president of the Virginia Health Physics Society, Carter Ficklen, officially endorsed efforts to mine uranium in Virginia in an Op Ed in the August 25 edition of the Chatham Star-Tribune. "Public concern over uranium mining has resulted in misinformation and misperceptions about radiation," says Mr. Ficklen. "It is the position of the Virginia Chapter of the Health Physics Society", he continues, "that uranium mining in the Commonwealth of Virginia can and should be pursued." "The proposed mining endeavors," he continued, "can be carried out with minimal impact on the environmental quality of the surrounding areas while simultaneously stimulating the economy of Southside Virginia, filling a vacancy in our country's energy needs, and reducing the United States dependency on foreign sources of energy."

Mr. Ficklen goes on to discuss the strict regulations governing the safety and protection of workers, the environment, and public health, including but not limited to the NRC, EPA, VA DEQ, OSHA, and the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, as well as international best practices compiled by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

*The Virginia Chapter of the Health Physics Society is a scientific organization of professionals who specialize in radiation safety. Formed in 1956, the Society's mission is to support its members in the practice of their profession and to promote excellence in the science and practice of radiation safety.*

*Today its nearly 6,000 members represent all scientific and technical areas related to radiation safety including academia, government, medicine, research and development, analytical services, consulting, and industry in all 50 states.*

## What Others Are Saying About Uranium Mining

**"FRANKLY I THINK [COLES HILL] COULD BRING TO THIS AREA TECHNOLOGY, EXPERTISE AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY IT COULD BRING US A DIFFERENT WAY OF LIFE AND THINKING AS WE MOVE INTO THE 21ST CENTURY."** – Victor Miller, Former Chatham Hall Trustee and Former President of Woodlawn Academy

**"LET'S NOT FORGET THE WORLD IS ON THE DOORSTEP OF A NUCLEAR RENAISSANCE THAT IS ESSENTIAL FOR CLEAN ENERGY. HERE IN SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA WE ARE PART OF THIS FUTURE. BEFORE US LIES A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR STUDENTS."** – Walter Anderson, Chatham resident and Hampden-Sydney student

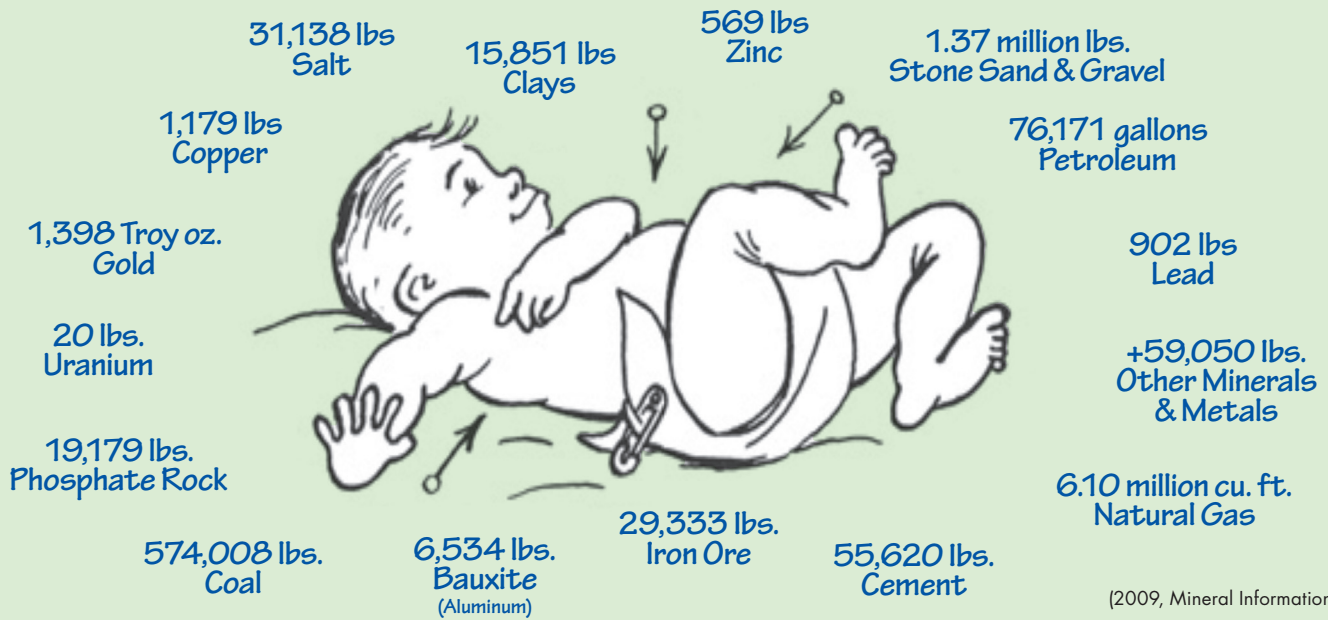
**"IN MY MIND, IF THE URANIUM PROJECT CAN BE DONE SAFELY THEN IT OFFERS THE GREAT POTENTIAL FOR A CHANGE IN THE PERCEPTION OF THIS REGION. AMONG OTHER THINGS INCREASED TAX REVENUES MIGHT BETTER FUND THE SCHOOLS, ALLOW FOR IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO PITTSYLVANIA PEOPLE TO LOCATE HERE."** – Larry Aaron, Chatham resident and science teacher

**"IN ADDITION TO THE CONTRACTORS AND DIRECT EMPLOYEES THERE ARE ANCILLARY BUSINESSES THAT SUPPLY FUEL, EQUIPMENT AND OTHER SERVICES; THERE IS A MULTIPLIER EFFECT WHEN YOU HAVE A COMPANY LIKE THAT IN THE AREA."** – Clay Newton, geologist and contractor

**"IF A STATE STUDY DETERMINES THAT URANIUM CAN BE MINED AND MILLED SAFELY AT COLES HILL, THEN "LET'S MOVE ON WITH IT (MINING),"** – Fred Ingram, Callands-Gretna Supervisor

# If it can't be **GROWN** it must be **MINED**

Every American born today will need...



(2009, Mineral Information Institute)

**3.3 million pounds of minerals, metals and fuels in their lifetime**