



Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District

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RESOLUTION ***REGARDING LIFTING THE BAN ON URANIUM MINING*** ***IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA***

WHEREAS, the Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District (RRSD) recognizes that proactive measures to protect and ensure a sustainable environment are important to the citizens, the economy and the need for supply of Safe Drinking Water in the Roanoke River Basin; and

WHEREAS, the mission of RRSD, created by the North Carolina State Board of Health on April 21, 1931 pursuant to Chapter 130A of the North Carolina General Statutes, is to protect public health and the environment through the use of the Roanoke River Basin's resources for now and future generations of its customers; and

WHEREAS, there is a proposed uranium mining and milling operation at Coles Hill in Pittsylvania County, VA, which would require lifting the current ban on such operations in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2011, the City of Virginia Beach released the findings of its \$437,000 study of impacts of proposed uranium mining and milling on its water supply coming from Lake Gaston; and

WHEREAS, the City of Virginia Beach study concluded that in the event of a mill tailings confinement cell failure, the tailings will be washed downstream and will significantly impact water quality in Kerr Reservoir and Lake Gaston resulting in radiation levels in the water supply 10-20 times above the Safe Water Drinking Act levels; and

WHEREAS, RRSD recognizes that the event modeled in the City of Virginia Beach study is rare but the magnitude of potential devastating impacts on the Basin's eco-system and the communities is too great to leave it to chance; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of North Carolina Session 2011 is considering Senate Joint Resolution 430 to authorize the legislative research commission to study the near- and long-term impacts on North Carolina's economy, environment, and agricultural activities and on the health and well-being of its citizens, especially the impacts on that portion of North Carolina that is located in or near the lower Roanoke River Basin, which spans the Virginia/North Carolina border and extends to the Albemarle Sound, were the proposal to proceed for a Canadian Company or any other company to conduct uranium mining in Virginia in the center of the Roanoke River Basin, and

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WHEREAS, because of the presence of the uranium mill in the Basin that can be used to process ore mined at other mining sites in the Basin and/or throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, including but not limited to Orange, Madison, Fauquier, Culpeper, Patrick, and Floyd Counties, the Basin that serves as a drinking water source for over one million people will face increased risks associated with uranium mining and milling, and storage of radioactive waste; and

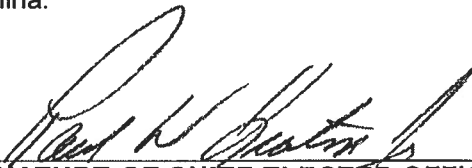
WHEREAS, the best available scientific information indicates that public health, social, environmental, and economic impacts under the uranium mining ban outweigh expected benefits to residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the State of North Carolina from the mining and milling of uranium in the Roanoke River Basin;

NOW; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Commissioners of the Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District assures the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of North Carolina, and the customers of the Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District that it understands the functions and obligations to which the Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District is committing itself in order to endorse the lifting of the ban on uranium mining in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and further agrees that the Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District will proceed with diligence to perform those functions and obligations in assessing the lifting of the ban on uranium mining in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

That open pit mining of uranium and the milling of uranium ore in the Roanoke River Basin with associated tailings impoundment(s) is untenable.

That the Roanoke Rapids Sanitary District Board of Commissioners goes on public record as a riparian rights holder with vital interest in preserving the water quality of its source water; the lifting of the ban on uranium mining in the Commonwealth of Virginia is unable to proceed without the sanction of the Board.

Adopted this the 12th day of May 2011 at 1000 Jackson Street, Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina.



SIGNATURE OF CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL/AUTHORIZED
REPRESENTATIVE

5-18-11

DATE

Paul W. Heaton, Jr.

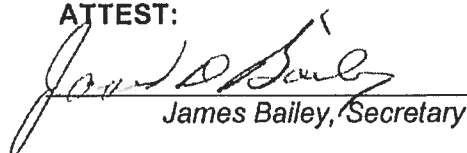
TYPED NAME

Chairman

TYPED TITLE

ATTEST:

(Seal) J



James Bailey, Secretary