

From: [Nancy Kile](#)
To: neil_moseman@fischer.senate.gov
Subject: NRC Atomic licensing board activity in the Nebr. Panhandle
Date: Wednesday, August 05, 2015 3:42:42 PM

Dear Neil,

I am a resident of Sioux County just about 12 miles west of my home town Crawford, NE. I and a group of local women have undertaken a grassroots effort to positively move our community "Beyond Yellowcake Production". As I told you on the phone, the NRC's Atomic Licensing Board is convening an evidentiary hearing that will address 9 contentions regarding the renewal of Cameco Crow Butte Resources operating license to mill uranium within the soils of Dawes County Nebraska. The hearing is scheduled and will be held in Crawford's Community Building at 1005 First St. on the west side of town, Aug 24-28, 2015.

Our initial meeting intent was to inform residents about the uranium milling impact on waters within the White River valley drainage. Our neighbors, members of the Oglala Lakota Tribe put together a fact based documentary that chronicles their efforts to raise awareness and inform the region of the impacts of uranium in situ leach processes. We soon discovered how hard it is to break the silence of industrial capture in our rural community. Cameco uranium industry has a tight grip on civic, county, and state agencies as well as our economic development leaderships. Leadership feels hobbled to resist what is perceived as our only way out of deepening rural poverty.

Like women two and three generations before us, we gather in diverse groups to talk about caring for our children and elderly. Screening the documentary opened a door of safety that has many area residents telling us about their health issues and worries about water, soils, crops and livestock. Neighbors who are involved with Northwest Nebraska High County and Western Nebraska Tourism Coalition are detailing severe health problems associated with their rural water wells. Other health issue that are cited include high cancer rate, autoimmune diseases, birth defects, mental illness and young mortality rate. People are afraid to speak out and feel intimidated because the thought of getting shunned by family or community members weighs heavy on their hearts and minds.

We are astonished that the NRC evidentiary hearing does not allow for a public comment period at a federal hearing that is located in the very town that is impacted the most by Cameco's uranium in situ leach mill. What is allowed is a written comment statement specific to the nine contentions that must be copied and sent to two separate mailing addresses. The Sisterhood Water Watch thinks this goes against the very basis of democracy, not allowing representation in our own rural area regarding land use policy and precious water containers, our soils. Please ask Sen. Fischer to look into this situation. We invite Sen. Fischer to attend the next documentary screening at the Crawford Community Building, Aug. 13 at 5:30p.m., before and/or during the NRC hearing period, all taking place in Crawford, NE.

Thank you and best regards;

Nancy Kile, 831 White River Road, Crawford, NE 69339 308-665-1378

nan1868@hotmail.com

Details of the hearing: <http://pbadupws.nrc.gov/docs/ML1519/ML15194A258.pdf>