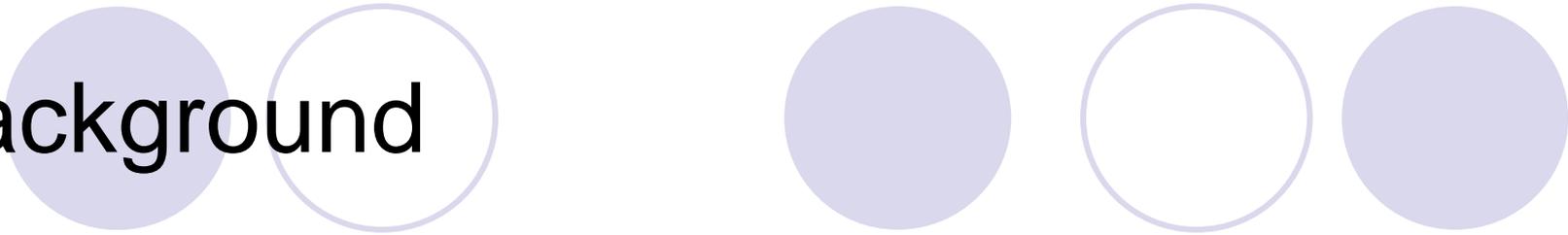


Uranium Mining In Virginia

Presentation to
Norfolk City Council
July 24, 2012

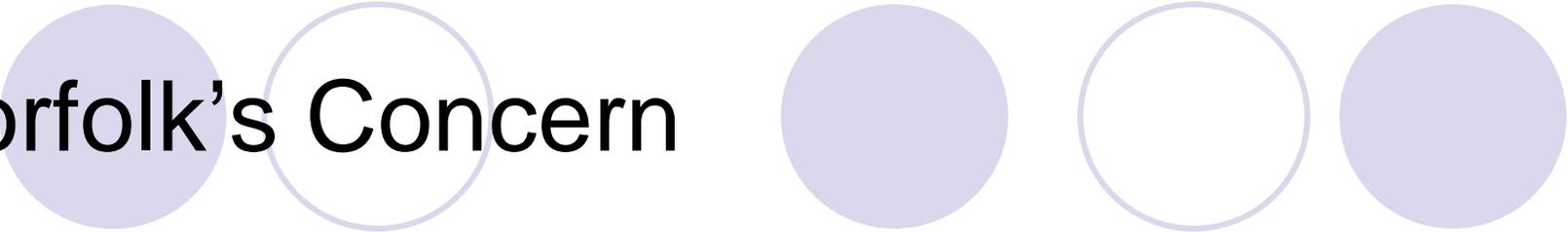
Kristen M. Lentz, P.E.
Director of Utilities

Background



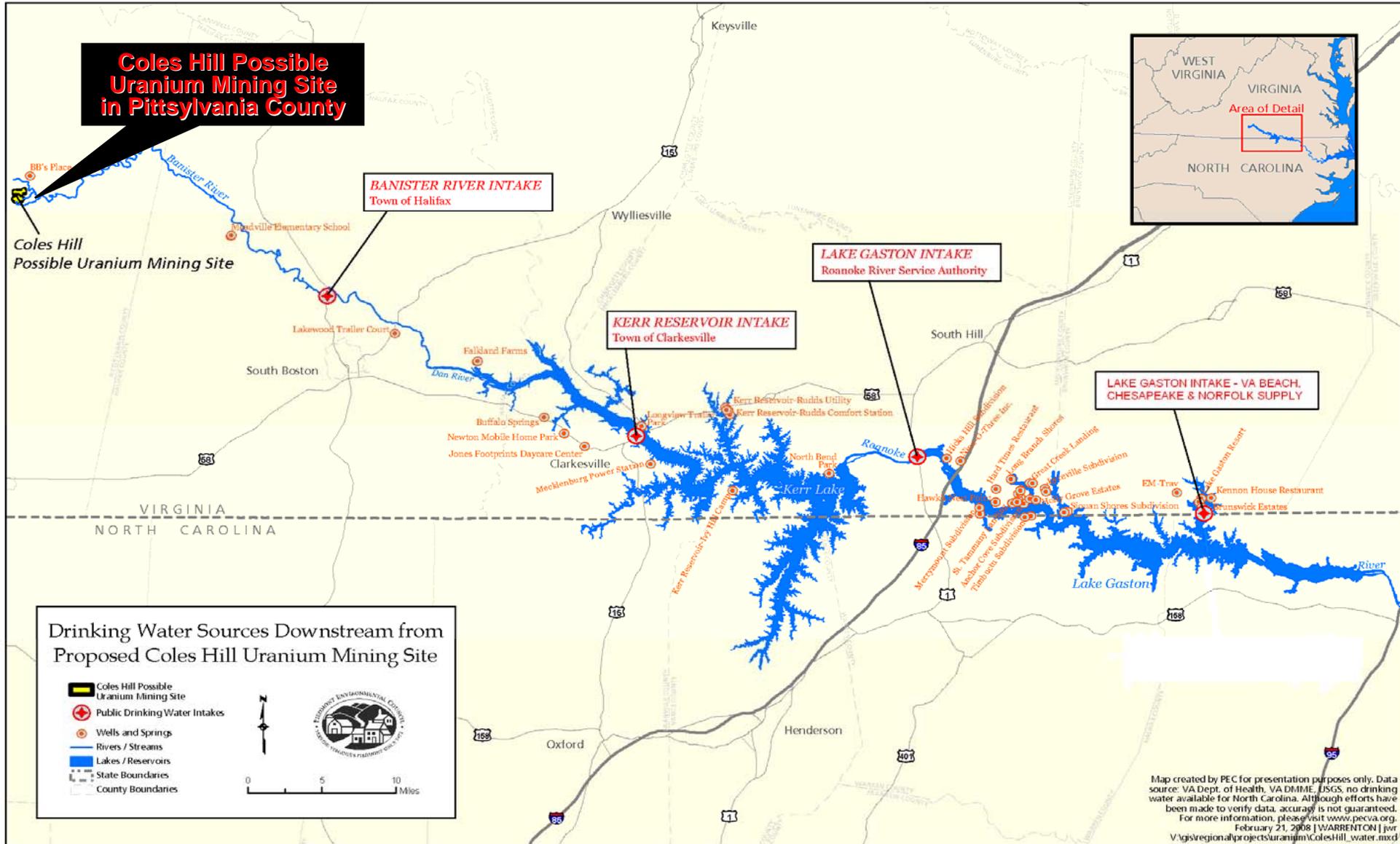
- The purpose of this presentation is to provide City Council with an update on the proposed Coles Hill uranium mining project and the associated efforts to have the statewide moratorium lifted
- Previous City Council briefings were provided:
 - November 2009
 - March 2011, H&HD Committee

Norfolk's Concern

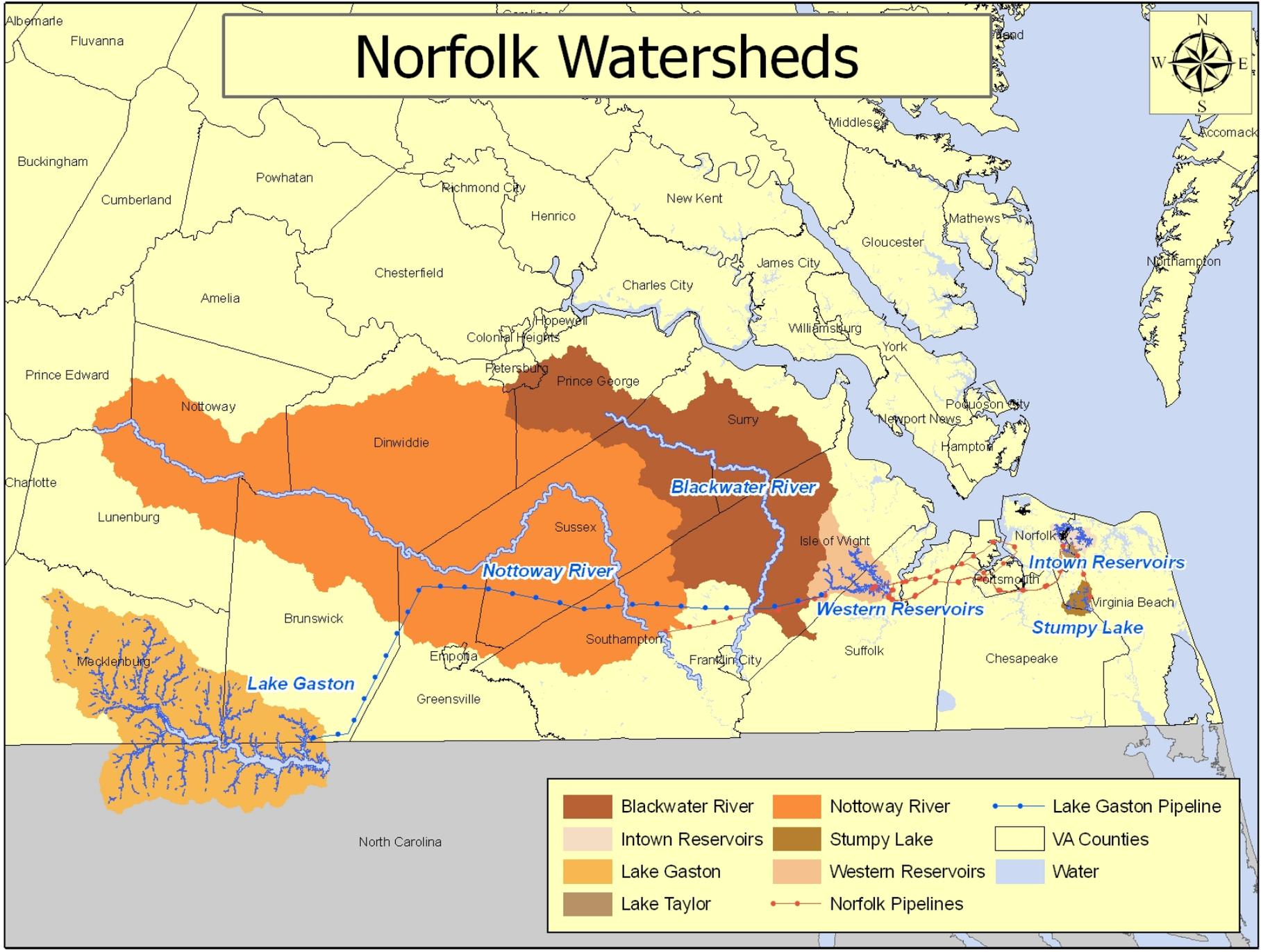


- Coles Hill is located by the Bannister River which drains through Kerr Reservoir into Lake Gaston
- Lake Gaston water is pumped into Norfolk's western reservoirs which are the primary water source for much of Southside Hampton Roads

Drinking Water Sources Downstream from Coles Hill



Norfolk Watersheds

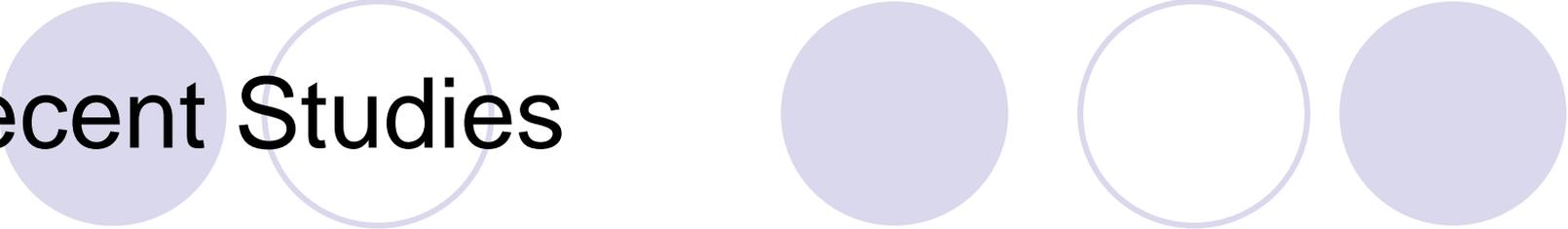


	Blackwater River		Nottoway River		Lake Gaston Pipeline
	Intown Reservoirs		Stumpy Lake		VA Counties
	Lake Gaston		Western Reservoirs		Water
	Lake Taylor		Norfolk Pipelines		

Norfolk Policy Position

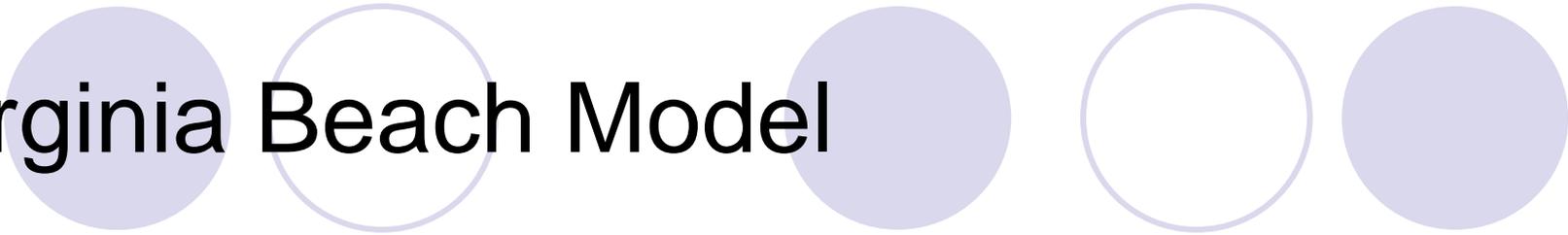
- The City's 2012 Legislative Priorities for the Virginia General Assembly stated the following:
 - The City opposes any legislative efforts to lift the Commonwealth's current moratorium on mining and milling of uranium until studies convincingly demonstrate that it is safe for the environment and citizens. Further, the General Assembly is requested to maintain the moratorium on uranium mining, or the consideration of such, until at least the 2013 General Assembly Session.

Recent Studies



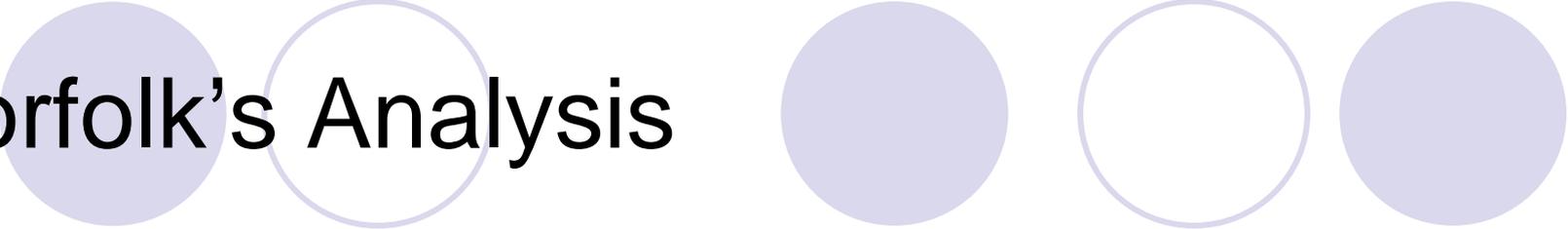
- General Study of Uranium Mining in Virginia- National Academies of Sciences (NAS), Dec 2011
- Site Specific Study of Potential Water Quality Impacts of Coles Hill Project – Michael Baker Engineers (under contract to City of Virginia Beach), Feb 2012
- Studies of Socioeconomic Impacts
 - Chmura, Nov 2011
 - RTI International, Mar 2012
- Study of Potential Impact on Norfolk's Water System - CH2MHill for City of Norfolk, 2012

Virginia Beach Model



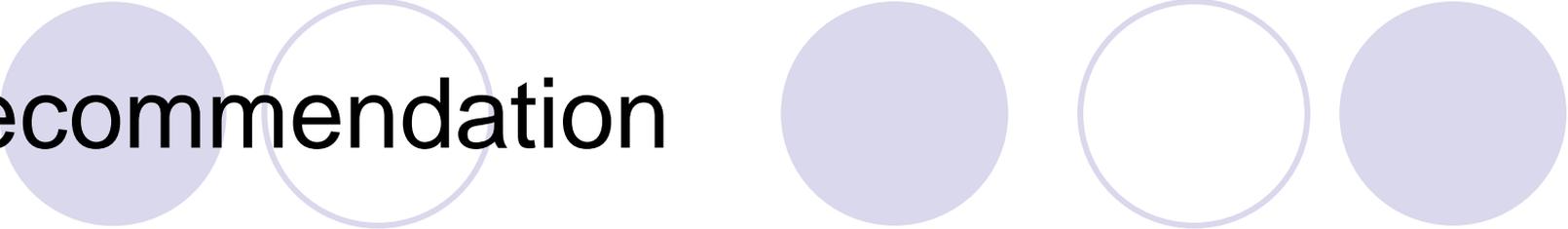
- Virginia Beach's study modeled "worst case scenario"
 - Mill tailings confinement cell breach
 - Caused by probable maximum precipitation (PMP)
 - During an extended drought
- Model demonstrated:
 - Radioactive contamination of Bannister River, Kerr Reservoir and Lake Gaston
 - Contaminants would not enter Pea Hill Creek where Lake Gaston pumps are located unless the pumps were activated

Norfolk's Analysis



- Norfolk's treatment plants are fully capable of treating expected worst case scenario contamination levels to meet Safe Drinking Act requirements
- However, two potential threats to our ability to provide water remain:
 - Legal action preventing pumping from Lake Gaston for an extended period
 - Safety violations by industry due to inexperience, lack of funding, lack of empowerment of state regulators

Recommendation



- Oppose lifting the existing moratorium on uranium mining through:
 - Adoption of resolution similar to that adopted by the City of Virginia Beach on June 12, 2012
 - An updated statement in Norfolk's Legislative Priority package for the 2013 General Assembly session