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Opposition to Uranium Mining

In the summer of 2007 the physicians on the Larimer County Medical Society (LCMS) Board of Directors became aware of the proposed uranium mining in our area. Upon review of the available information the LCMS Board of Directors passed a resolution opposing this uranium mining project.

The rationale for this resolution involves patient advocacy. Physicians not only help their patients when they are sick but encourage healthy behaviors. The environment plays a tremendously important role in health and the contamination of water and air, which is very likely a result of this mining process, will adversely impact the health of our patients

In September of 2007 physicians of the Colorado Medical Society (CMS) heard this resolution at their annual meeting and deferred a decision to the CMS's Health Affairs Committee (HAC). A meeting was arranged with Powertech, the company that is proposing to mine uranium in Weld County, as well as the citizens that are against this effort.

After hearing the pros and cons of in situ and open pit uranium mining, from both sides, the HAC recommended to support the Larimer County resolution and the Board of Directors for the Colorado Medical Society adopted this resolution as their own policy in November of 2007.

Both the Larimer County Medical Society and the Colorado Medical Society are on record opposing the proposed uranium mining in Weld County. Our position is, as noted above, based on protecting the health of our families, neighbors and patients, the citizens of Colorado.

Cory D. Carroll, MD