

November 4, 2013

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Dear East Central Illinois landowner,

We are reaching out to you on behalf of rural landowners and members of Stand Up to Coal, a grassroots organization that is working to protect the clean water, productive farmland, and way of life that we cherish in east-central Illinois.

As a landowner in East Central Illinois, you are a caretaker of valuable land which holds together the fabric of the rural community. Stand Up to Coal is made up of ordinary citizens like yourself – people who want to maintain the values of their community, who support vibrant local schools, who farm and tend to their land, who expect their local government to make well-informed decisions, and who enjoy sitting with their family in the backyard.

The members of Stand Up to Coal are now working to protect these values from the threats of Sunrise Coal. The proposed Bulldog Mine in southwestern Vermilion County would impact the clean drinking water supplies of surrounding towns, take prime farmland out of production forever, and bring traffic and health-threatening coal dust and coal slurry to previously traditionally self-reliant rural communities.

As citizens whose land, values, and way of life are currently being challenged – and as neighbors acting in fellowship with those citizens – Stand Up to Coal is asking you to stand up for the integrity of your land.

Sunrise Coal has been cutting across Vermilion County, urging landowners to surrender the standards they have maintained for their land in order to make way for dirty industry. Sunrise Coal repeatedly altered the nature of its water needs with the Homer board and cut corners to make deals with the Georgetown City Council. Sunrise Coal is now pushing landowners to allow a water pipeline to run through their property. This is where we are asking for your help.

Whether you are concerned for the integrity of your own property or for the families in and around the mine site that will be impacted or uprooted, we urge you to consider these values and communities before entering into a bargain with Sunrise Coal.

We are always here to help answer your questions and try to provide any information you might need. We are also here if you have concerns or information about interactions with Sunrise Coal. Feel free to contact us at standuptocoal@gmail.com or any of the phone numbers and email addresses listed below. Learn more at standuptocoal.org. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Tom and Sue Smith, suzanne56smith@gmail.com or 217/896-2698
Keith and Brenda Rohl, rfarm1996@gmail.com or 217/896-2712
Nancy Goodall, ntgoodall@gmail.com or 217/288-9523
Jim and Crystal Allen, isuag85@gmail.com or 217/896-2538
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and the members of Stand Up To Coal

Proposed Bulldog Mine Threatens Communities

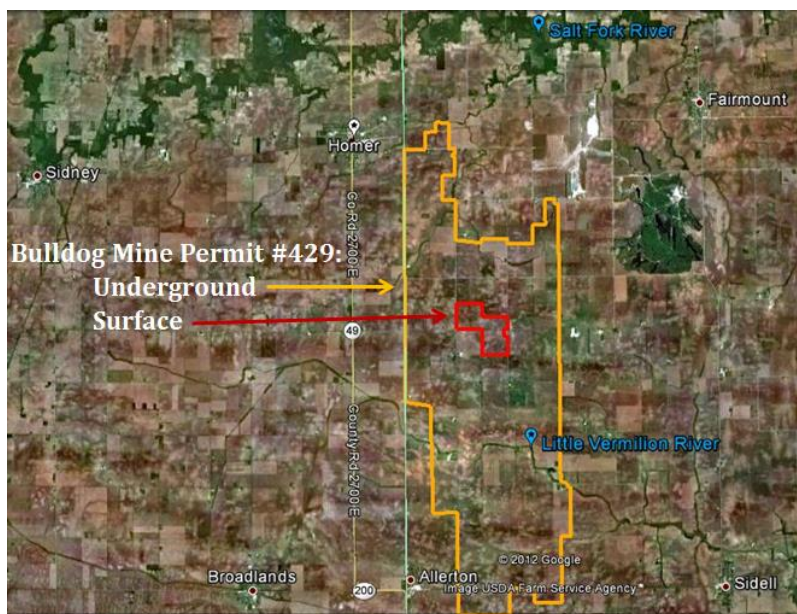
Sunrise Coal (Hallador Energy) Threatens Farmland, Water, and Communities



Sunrise Coal is modeling the proposed Bulldog Mine after their existing Carlisle Mine near Carlisle, Indiana, shown above

What are the consequences of a local coal mine?

- **Removing large quantities of water from local streams** could impact drinking water supplies for downstream communities, threaten wildlife, and impair recreation.
- **Groundwater supplies** may also be threatened by proposed withdrawals and discharges
- **Coal slurry pits**, up to one square mile and 100 feet high containing heavy metals and chemicals used during the washing process, threaten drinking water supplies by seeping into ground water wells and breaching retaining walls at storage pits.
- **Prime farmland would be taken out of production forever**, and the coal mining process damages tile drains and eventually causes subsidence (sinking of the land) lowering productivity of the rich soil in this region.
- **Coal dust that would blow off the coal piles** southeast of Homer at the processing facility and off the trucks and rail cars during transit threaten public health. Coal dust is known to cause respiratory problems, such as asthma, and is known to contain heavy metals including mercury, arsenic, selenium, and chromium
- **Lax enforcement of state and federal regulations** of mining activities and water quality is inadequate to protect us.



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people, fish, and
wildlife.

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Protecting
Vermilion and
Champaign
Counties from
coal mining

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