

*“There is a non-trivial chance” that the mining site “could suffer extended periods of reduced production or may even be idled. This would necessarily entail that some of the economic benefits – both jobs and taxes – would be foregone.” Chmura Economics & Analytics, Pg. 66*

## “Agriculture is a leading economic sector for the county.”

The National Academy of Sciences Study of the Health, Safety, and Environmental Impact of Uranium Mining stated the obvious fact that agriculture is vital to Pittsylvania County’s local economy. Pg. 49

- Pittsylvania County is Virginia’s largest county and is a top agricultural producer with 274,289 acres in agriculture.
- 44% of Pittsylvania County’s land area is farmland.
- Agriculture contributes \$409 million annually to the local economy. Tourism follows closely with an economic contribution of \$306 million annually. Chmura, Pg. 146

## Local Jobs at Risk from Uranium Mining Contamination

Contamination of the county and the region by uranium mining could have significant negative consequences on local businesses and their workers.

- If mining contamination occurs above federal pollution standards at Coles Hill, it is estimated that agriculture would experience a 20 percent economic loss or a loss of \$80.1 million. Chmura, Pg. 146
- If mining contamination occurs above federal pollution standards at Coles Hill, it is estimated that tourism would experience a 20 percent economic loss or a loss of \$110.9 million. Chmura, Pg. 146
- Residents would experience “the loss of more than 2,800 jobs.” Chmura, Pg. 146
- Manufacturing jobs would also be impacted. The Chmura report explains that the closure of a large manufacturer could cost 1,581 jobs and over 25 years could yield an economic loss of \$10.02 billion. Chmura, Pg. 146

## Local Workers Unlikely to be hired at Uranium Mining Site

Multiple studies have pointed to the likelihood that uranium mining jobs will be filled by employees outside of the local area.

- The Chmura report says that “when the area has the need for highly-skilled occupations, it becomes more likely that a firm will recruit from outside the region.” Pg. 22
- The National Academy of Sciences encourages the use of outside professionals: “Development of a mining and/or processing project should use the expertise and experience of professionals familiar with internationally accepted best practices.” Pg. 258
- Additionally, it is recognized in the Chmura report that the current company proposing the mine may not remain under local ownership. Pg. 109

## Uranium Mining Site to be a Bust?

Economic analysis of the Coles Hill mining site raises the point that this project may not be financially viable.

- The Chmura report references Lyntek and BRS’s Scoping Study which says that if uranium prices “fall below \$45 per pound, then the net present value of the entire operation would approach zero.” Pg. 66
- The report goes on to say that “there is a non-trivial chance” that the mining site “could suffer extended periods of reduced production or may even be idled. This would necessarily entail that some of the economic benefits – both jobs and taxes – would be foregone.” Pg. 66

All studies are available at [www.KeepTheBan.org](http://www.KeepTheBan.org)