



# EARTHWORKS JOURNAL

Summer 2010

## In This Issue

- 2 **Message from the Executive Director**
- 3 **What you can't see will hurt you**
- 4 **Gasland**
- 5 **EARTHWORKS launches Marcellus OGAP**
- 6 **Tar Sands invasion**
- 7 **Uranium and natural gas in the climate debate**
- 8 **Uranium-impacted communities call on the nation's leaders to protect our air, water and public health**
- 9 **Will Anglo American's CEO honor its promise?**
- 10 **No Dirty Gold has 70 jewelry supporters—and holds them to their word**
- 11 **A wave of new jewelers pledge support for protecting Bristol Bay**
- 12 **Court tosses out Rock Creek Mine permit**

# OIL and GAS AT YOUR DOOR





**EARTHWORKS Staff**

Jennifer Krill  
*Executive Director*

Alan Septoff  
*Advocate*

Payal Sampat  
*International Program Director*

Bonnie Gestring  
*Northwest Circuit Rider*

Cathy Carlson  
*Policy Advisor*

Lauren Pagel  
*Legislative & Policy Director*

Scott Cardiff  
*International Campaign Coordinator*

Gwen Lachelt  
*OGAP Program Director*

Bruce Baizel  
*Staff Attorney*

Dan Randolph  
*Organizer*

Lisa Sumi  
*Research*

Jennifer Goldman  
*Health & Toxics Campaign Director*

Morey Burnham  
*Research*

Lorraine Osinski  
*Finance & Administration Manager*

Sharon Wilson  
*Texas OGAP Organizer*

Nadia Steinzor  
*Marcellus Regional Organizer*

Britt David  
*Development Advisor*

**EARTHWORKS Interns**

Erika Kamptner

Heather Kangas

Phil Newell

Stevie Lewis

Emily Phillips

**EARTHWORKS Board**

Kerry K. Anderson  
*Co-Chair*

Michael E. Conroy  
*Co-Chair*

Gloria Flora

Jay Halfon, Esq.

Bill McNeill, D.D.S.

Glenn Miller, Ph.D.

Wilma Subra

Karin P. Sheldon, J.D.

# Message from the Executive Director



Five months ago, I took over the Executive Director post at EARTHWORKS and I've been on a roller coaster ride ever since. I've met with federal and state legislators, strategized with people living downstream from mining pollution, organized two fundraisers, sent out hundreds of tweets, and nearly cried at the pollution some of our supporters endure in their own back yards. Oh yes, and I had the great privilege of touring the San Juan Basin's fracked "natural" gas wells in a motor home named Priscilla.

If you are reading this note, then what I have found is probably no news to you as a longtime supporter: whether EARTHWORKS is suing the government to make it do its job, walking the halls of federal and state capitols, or helping impacted communities speak truth to power, this

organization is on the leading edge of mining, digging, and drilling policy reform. Right now, and every day in 2010, our team is working to change the way government regulates extractive industries, and that in turn is improving our communities and our environment.

Meanwhile, over in the private sector, we are developing a jewelry retailer juggernaut for mining industry reform—a more and more powerful force for change in the places where gold and other minerals are extracted worldwide. No fewer than 70 jewelry retailers are demanding improved practices and reforms from the companies they purchase from: name brands like Tiffany, Jostens, Sears, and Zales are pushing mining companies like Barrick, BHP-Billiton, Rio Tinto, and Anglo American to clean up their act.

In the following pages you will read about how quickly the movement against dangerously irresponsible natural gas extraction is growing from Colorado to New Mexico to Texas, New York, and Pennsylvania, and how we are using clever, mass marketing from documentaries like Gasland: The Movie to ads about AvaTarSands, blending the kind of campaign savvy and commitment to environmental and social justice that wins campaigns and changes industries.

Thank you all for giving me such a warm welcome. Stay tuned for what we have in store for the rest of 2010.

Best regards,

Jennifer Krill  
Executive Director

On the Cover: Aruba Petroleum drill rig outside Tim and Christine Ruggiero's kitchen window in Wise County, Texas.



# What you can't see will hurt you

By Gwen Lachelt

**All of America's waters are threatened by oil and gas development.** As the BP oil slick grows in the Gulf of Mexico, and it becomes increasingly likely that the disaster could irreversibly devastate the economy and environment of the Gulf Coast, consider that the oversight of onshore drilling is not appreciably better than offshore – if at all.

President Obama has -at least temporarily- reinstated the ban on new offshore drilling. But he needs to protect our waters onshore as well and support the FRAC Act.

The Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act, which is before Congress, proposes to regulate the practice of fracturing and require the full public disclosure of the chemicals used in this risky practice.

Onshore, some 2 million oil and gas wells have been drilled. Spills and leaks are common, but precious few oil and gas inspectors in America's 34 oil and gas producing states have resulted in an industry that is largely self-regulated. While the honor system results in some reports of spills and leaks, the industry fiercely opposes new environmental regulations at the local, state, and federal levels, claiming they are responsible stewards.

Adding insult to injury, the industry is exempt from many of our nation's most important environmental laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Superfund, and part of the Clean Water Act, among others. In 2005, after heavy lobbying, Halliburton and other natural gas companies extracted from Congress yet another exception: the controversial practice of hydraulic fracturing became exempt from the Safe Drinking Water Act, which protects the underground sources that supply 50% of our drinking water.

Industry claims that there are no documented cases of water contamination from fracturing. They can make this claim because, since 2005, fracking is exempt: companies are not required to disclose harmful drilling chemicals – so no



*Before: Well without the benefit of infrared to capture fugitive emissions.*



*After: TCEQ Infrared GasFind fugitive emissions video shows fugitive emissions from a well in an unknown Texas location.*

water quality monitoring is occurring. And water-testing laboratories have no idea what to test for when a landowner brings in a suspected contaminated water sample.

Offshore, BP has no place to hide. You can see with your own eyes the contamination from their “Deepwater Horizon” well. Onshore, there are all sorts of places to hide.

When people bring attention to poor practices and contamination in their communities, companies never claim it's their own fault. The standard line is that contamination is either the fault of the landowner or is naturally occurring. And, even though 9 out of every 10 wells are fractured - which involves the injection of millions of gallons of water, sand and chemical cocktails under enormous pressures - companies say the practice is completely safe and communities have nothing to worry about. Perhaps our new environmental mantra needs to be, “What you can't see will hurt you.”

One simple step can help Americans recover some of their rights from the oil and gas industry's stranglehold on our politics: the FRAC Act will force companies to disclose their fracking chemical constituents. Disclosure is the first step towards a responsible drilling era – and, more importantly, a clean and renewable energy future. Go to <http://frackaction.earthworksaction.org> to take action today!



# Gasland

By Gwen Lachelt

**Gasland is the story of OGAP and our members. It is the story of people who live with oil and gas.**

The movie opens when filmmaker Josh Fox is offered \$100,000 for the drilling rights to the gas under his land in Pennsylvania near the New York border. Many people have signed on the dotted line and regretted it, but not Fox. He took off on a cross-country tour of America's oil and gas patch to understand what it would mean to open the door to drilling on his family's land.

ing areas across the country; and toxic waste pits that kill livestock and wildlife.

From Dimock, Pennsylvania, to Wyoming's Powder River Basin to DISH, Texas and Aztec, New Mexico, Fox documents the dark side of America's energy policy: an oil and gas industry that is exempt from nearly every one of our federal environmental laws – the Clean Air Act, National Environmental Policy Act and the Clean Water Act, to name a few. In 2005, Congress, thanks to former Vice-President Dick Cheney and Halliburton, exempted hydraulic fracturing from the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Tens of thousands of wells have been drilled in the last two decades in America's 34 oil and gas producing states. 90% of all wells are fractured – a technique where enormous amounts of water, sand, and chemicals are injected under intense pressures to “crack” open formations and force the production of oil and gas. Fox estimates that out of approximately 450,000 wells currently in production in the U.S., 40 trillion gallons of chemical infused water have been created by the drilling, much of it left seeping or injected into the ground.

**Gasland** features interviews with ordinary people whose lives have been turned upside down by drilling and fracturing; and people like our very own founding board member and MacArthur “Genius Award” recipient Wilma Subra, a chemist from Louisiana who has helped countless communities address toxic pollution.

Fox also highlights our campaign to pass the FRAC Act to regulate the practice of hydraulic fracturing and require companies to disclose the chemical constituents of fracturing fluids. Go to <http://frackaction.earthworksaction.org> to support the FRAC Act today.

**Gasland** debuts on HBO this summer and won the Documentary Special Jury Prize at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival. Our hats are off to Josh Fox for telling this important story.



*Gasland fundraiser at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth.*

**Gasland** is Fox's at once serious, quirky, and humorous look at the natural gas drilling boom that has gripped vast regions of America for the last 25 years – and most recently in the Texas Barnett Shale (in and surrounding Fort Worth) and the Marcellus Shale which underlies Maryland, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia (an area the size of Florida).

**Gasland** follows Josh on a 24-state investigation of the environmental effects of drilling and hydraulic fracturing. What he uncovers is nothing new to OGAP members, but horrifying to those unfamiliar with what it takes to have that blue flame delivered to their stove top: tap water so contaminated you can set it on fire; people with similar chronic illnesses and symptoms in drill-



# Natural gas boom = water bust? EARTHWORKS launches Marcellus OGAP

By Nadia Steinzor

**As the natural gas boom spreads eastward across the United States, EARTHWORKS' Oil & Gas Accountability Project (OGAP) has responded by supporting efforts to protect people and the land in the Marcellus Shale region.** Covering a 54,000 square mile region in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, and Maryland, the Marcellus is viewed by the natural gas industry as a critical shale play with vast reserves.

The hitch? Extracting the gas requires hydraulic fracturing, a common drilling technique that uses vast amounts of water and hundreds of hazardous chemicals, producing toxic waste and contaminating wastewater. The problem? Gas development in the Marcellus is proceeding without full understanding of the impacts of hydraulic fracturing, or adequate regulations in place to address them.

Of greatest concern in the Marcellus region are the rivers, reservoirs, and aquifers that provide drinking water for residents and support farming and tourism. If current conditions prevail, thousands of natural gas wells will be drilled, and



*Drilling rig in Dimock, Pennsylvania.*

land and mineral owners, communities, and watersheds will suffer the consequences.

EARTHWORKS officially launched the Marcellus OGAP project in April to work with the growing movement of landowners, concerned citizens, and environmental organizations to help reform state oil and gas regulations, and educate and support impacted communities.

## EARTHWORKS launches Texas OGAP By Sharon Wilson

Texas is known as the state with the most drilling and the worst regulation, but Texans are working to change all that.

For decades, drillers have had Carte Blanche in Texas and drilling in the Barnett Shale was well established before Texans called on the Oil and Gas Accountability Project. In fall of 2008, members of OGAP traveled to North Texas to assess the damage and strategize a path toward cleaner air, safe water, and rights for landowners.

Working with OGAP, Texans formed a steering committee, and members began researching and developing a best practices document, *Drill-Right Texas: Best Oil and Gas Development Practices for Texas*. Drill-Right was released in February 2010, with the formal launch of Texas Oil and Gas Accountability Project. At a recent Denton County Commissioner's Court, Commissioner Andy Eads called Drill-Right Texas a "great framework" for the drilling task force to follow.

Texas OGAP is busy helping new groups form and organize all across the Barnett Shale area. These groups have collected signatures on petitions, attended City and Town Council Meetings, and organized peaceful demonstrations. Several cities have established moratoriums on new permits until drilling ordinances are updated, using the best practices set forth in Drill-Right Texas.

Texas OGAP is gearing up to be a powerful force in the next Texas Legislative session in January!

**TEXAS  
OGAP**  
OIL & GAS ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT



# Tar Sands invasion

By Alan Septoff

**We've told you about the danger of tar sands oil (EARTHWORKS Journal, Fall 2009).** This May, along with Corporate Ethics International, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Sierra Club, we wrote the book (ok, report) on this developing threat: *Tar Sands Invasion: How Dirty and Expensive Oil from Canada Threatens America's New Energy Economy*. As part of the dirtyoilsands.org network, EARTHWORKS will make sure that members of Congress, the Obama administration, and state and local decision makers all get a copy (to get your own copy, see the end of this article).

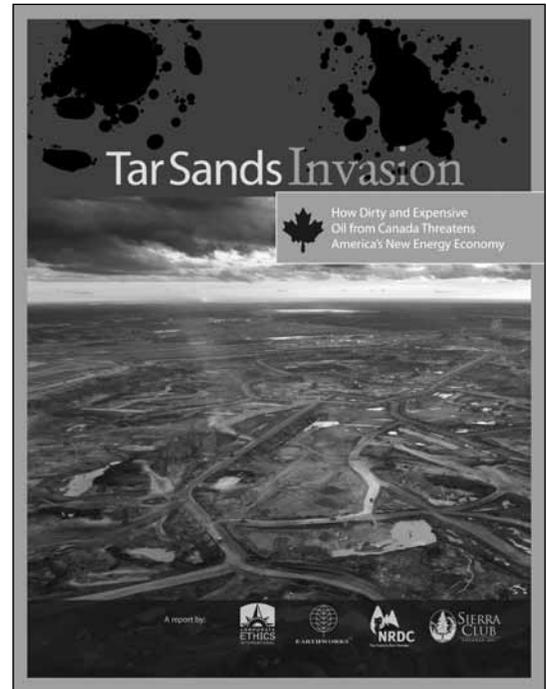
From the preface:

Unlike conventional oil, tar sands oil comes from a hydrocarbon called bitumen found under the largest remaining ecosystem: the Boreal Forest. The oil industry strip mines and drills pristine forests and wetlands to get at the bitumen, which lies under the trees. Already an area the size of Florida has been condemned to become a wasteland...

While the tar sands oil development represents a major environmental disaster in Canada, it also directly threatens U.S. communities. The infrastructure needed for tar sands in the United States requires a network of pipelines and refineries crisscrossing the Northern Plains and Midwest that will affect farmers, ranchers, Native Americans, and the residents of industrial areas. Oil spills, frequent toxic emissions, and other environmental threats to the Great Lakes are all part of the dirty panorama of the tar sands industry.

Tar sands are a global disaster as well, because they will all but guarantee the failure of efforts to combat global warming. One of the world's leading climate scientists, James Hansen has written that "[t]he tar sands of Canada constitute one of our planet's greatest threats. They are a double-barreled threat. First, producing oil from tar sands emits two to three times the global warming pollution of conventional oil. But the process also diminishes one of the best carbon reduction tools on the planet - Canada's Boreal Forest."

Tar Sands Invasion: How Dirty and Expensive Oil from Canada Threatens America's New Energy Economy is available online at [dirtyoilsands.org](http://dirtyoilsands.org) and at [earthworksaction.org](http://earthworksaction.org)





# Uranium and natural gas in the climate debate

By Cathy Carlson

**The Senate is moving forward with legislation to address the Nation's climate and energy policy.** The release of a "discussion draft" in May 2010 by sponsors John Kerry (D-MA) and Joe Lieberman (I-CT) will kick off a series of debates in the Senate regarding our use of energy and its climate impacts. Given the disaster continuing to unfold in the Gulf of Mexico with the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon well and the oil swirling across the Gulf, this debate takes on new urgency. Congress needs to act swiftly to ensure that we are on a path to a cleaner, safer energy future.

The Kerry-Lieberman climate bill contains several significant reforms that would shift our energy supply to cleaner sources of energy, including amending the federal Clean Air Act to establish decreasing limits on carbon emissions from major polluters.

The bill creates a system of "allowances" or credits that can be used to increase energy efficiency by utility companies, incentivizing electric and natural gas powered vehicles, and supporting climate change adaptation.

Thanks to the efforts of several Senators, including Udall and Bennet of Colorado, Udall of New Mexico, Begich of Alaska and Specter of Pennsylvania, the Kerry-Lieberman bill includes language that would require oil and gas companies to disclose the chemicals used in their gas drilling operations. Energy companies use a mixture of chemicals, sand, and water to break up rocks containing natural gas, in a process known as hydraulic fracturing. The public and local health officials have little information on the chemicals used in this process, despite growing concern that these chemicals are getting into water supplies and spilling into waterways. The disclosure of the chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing of gas wells is a critical first step in figuring out the public health risks for communities dealing with gas development.

The Kerry-Lieberman proposal also contains an emphasis on nuclear power generation by creating broad new incentives for the development of nuclear facilities. These incentives include excessive subsidies for nuclear power plant construction and a weakening of safety and environmental safeguards at nuclear facilities. EARTHWORKS is concerned about the impact of a nuclear resurgence on communities and the environment where uranium is mined. We continue to deal with the legacy of radiation poisoning and water pollution from uranium mining, particularly in the Four Corners region. Any renewed interest in uranium development to meet the demand for nuclear power should be coupled with reforms that limit where uranium mining can take place and ensure adequate regulations for the air and water pollution associated with uranium mining and milling.

*Right before the Oscars, the dirtyoilsands.org network placed this advertisement in Variety (Hollywood's periodical of record). It caused a news splash and directed quite a bit of friendly attention to the developing Tar Sands Invasion.*

**JAMES CAMERON & AVATAR... YOU HAVE OUR VOTE!**

**CANADA'S AVATAR SANDS**

... Where Indigenous Peoples in Canada are endangered by toxic pollution and future oil spills.  
 ... Where Shell, BP, Exxon and other Sky People are destroying a huge ancient forest.  
 ... Where giant Hell trucks are used to mine the most polluting, expensive unobotanium oil to feed America's addiction.

James Cameron, a Canadian born and raised near the majestic boreal forest, has shined a light on a dark reality. Help us stop tar sands development and the pipelines that will lock us into 30 more years of tar sands oil instead of transitioning to a clean energy future.

**JAMES CAMERON, WE SEE YOU. Go to: [dirtyoilsands.org](http://dirtyoilsands.org)**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brock Ould, US</li> <li>Black Social Environmental Foundation, Canada</li> <li>Debra Ould, Canada</li> <li>State of Eric Sprock, Canada</li> <li>Greenpeace (USA), Canada</li> <li>World Wildlife Fund, Canada</li> <li>Corporate Ethics Campaign, US</li> <li>Dequined Alliance, US</li> <li>Public Information Network, US</li> <li>Calumet Project, US</li> <li>Environmental Rights, US</li> <li>Earthworks, US</li> <li>Dequined Alliance, Canada</li> <li>Frontier Centre of Mexico</li> <li>Nature for Ecology and Action</li> <li>Anthropology, Germany</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Campaign for Responsibility</li> <li>Nature, US</li> <li>NAWIS, Canada</li> <li>Friends of the Earth - Europe</li> <li>Center for Health, Environment and Justice, US</li> <li>People &amp; Planet, UK</li> <li>World Environmental Movement, UK</li> <li>Environmental Defense, Canada</li> <li>National Wildlife Federation, US</li> <li>Bank Track, Netherlands</li> <li>Blackburn Justice Network, US</li> <li>ForestEthics, US</li> <li>Let's Not Buy It, France</li> <li>Platform, London, UK</li> <li>Global Consumer Market, US</li> <li>Climate Action Network, Canada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pacific Environment, US</li> <li>Palma Institute, Canada</li> <li>Network of the Americas, Canada</li> <li>International League of Conservation</li> <li>Phosphorus, US</li> <li>Canadian Petroleum Tar Barrels</li> <li>California, Canada</li> <li>submerged Environmental Network, US</li> <li>Urgewald, Germany</li> <li>World Council Environmental Fund, Canada</li> <li>CommonCore Anti-Corporate Film Festival, US</li> <li>Sierra Green, Canada</li> <li>Seaweed Generation Fund for Indian</li> <li>Development, US</li> <li>Nature Conservation Foundation, Canada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living Streams Society, Canada</li> <li>Cultural Survival, US</li> <li>Brown Lake Cree Nation, Canada</li> <li>Friends of the Earth, US</li> <li>CDMA, USA</li> <li>Germany</li> <li>Organizing Committee/Gerard, Germany</li> <li>CountUs, US</li> <li>Health For Nations, Canada</li> <li>Canadian First Nations, Canada</li> <li>EarthJustice, US</li> <li>Health For Earth, US</li> <li>CPAWS Network Alliance, Canada</li> <li>Environment America, US</li> </ul>
---	---	---	---

NO DIRTY ENERGY



# Uranium-impacted communities call on the nation's leaders to protect our air, water and public health

By Lauren Pagel

**In May, fifteen residents and experts from uranium-impacted communities flew into DC to discuss the serious issues affecting the places where uranium is mined. Citizens from Alaska, Arizona,**

**Colorado, New Mexico, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming came to talk to Congressional staffers, members of Congress, and Senators to raise awareness of the serious environmental impacts and public health concerns that occur as a consequence of uranium mining.**

The global warming and energy debate has led to an increased interest in nuclear power as a source of energy. The problem that many nuclear advocates may not consider is the push for a revival of nuclear power could be potentially destructive to rural communities in the western United States, where most uranium mining occurs. The impacts of the transition to nuclear power can already been felt, as uranium mining and exploration are on the rise.

Uranium is highly toxic. When mined, other radioactive decay elements such as radium and thorium are produced. Lung cancer, skin cancer, bone cancer, leukemia, kidney damage, and birth defects are all linked to exposure from these radioactive elements.

Uranium was heavily mined in the United States from the 1940's to 1980's to fuel the last big push for nuclear material during the Cold War arms race. This boom in uranium mining created a toxic legacy for impacted communities and left behind major environmental damage. The EPA estimates there are at least 4,000 abandoned, highly toxic uranium mines in 14 western states, mostly in Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, and Wyoming. With this latest nuclear push, 60 uranium mines are now permitted, and at least 26 mines are in the permitting process throughout the United States.

EARTHWORKS & COMMUNITIES

Photo courtesy of Nadine Padilla

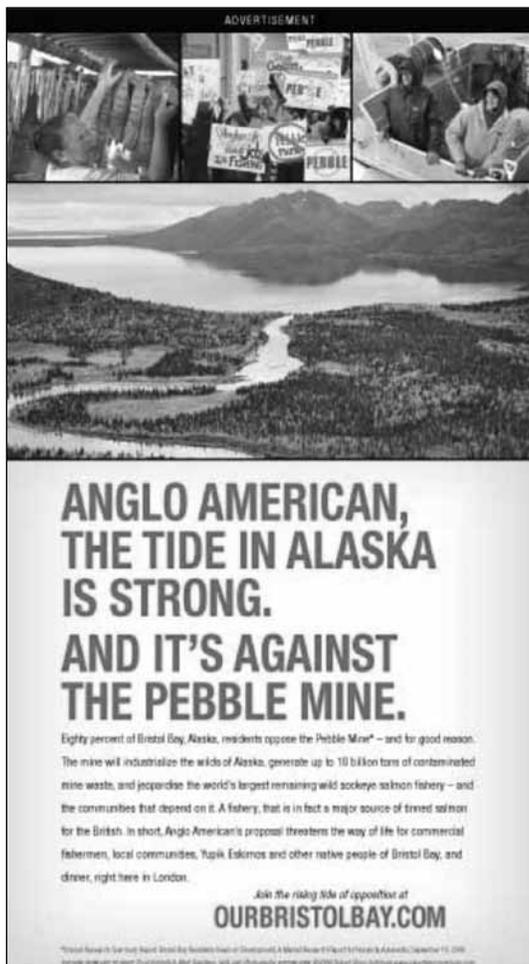


*Linda Evers of Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environment and Nadine Padilla of MASE lobby on Capitol Hill.*

# Will Anglo American's CEO honor its promise?

By Bonnie Gestring

**A promise is a promise. Or is it?** Last year, EARTHWORKS and a delegation of Alaska Native Leaders and commercial fishermen travelled to London to meet with the leadership of Anglo American, the U.K.-based mining company behind the proposal to develop the Pebble Mine in Bristol Bay Alaska. At the meeting and in subsequent interviews, CEO Cynthia Carroll promised that the company wouldn't develop the mine if it does not have the support of local communities. It doesn't. A recent survey – the most comprehensive ever done in Bristol Bay – shows that 80% of the Bristol Bay residents oppose the mine.



guardian.co.uk

**Anglo American under fire for prospecting in the Alaskan wilderness**  
Alaskan tribal leaders say open-pit mine will endanger valuable salmon habitat

Herald.ie

**Appeal to halt mine works in Alaska**

The Bristol Bay Times

**Alaskans heading to London to confront Anglo American**

abc NEWS

**Pebble Mine Opponent Addresses Shareholder Meeting**  
Pebble Mine opponent tells company's shareholders in London to rethink plans in Alaska

This spring, EARTHWORKS and Alaskan leaders were scheduled to travel to London to meet with the company once again, but the eruption of the Iceland volcano prevented all but one person from making it. Not to be outdone by a volcano, the alliance placed a large advertisement in the London Times on the day of the company's annual shareholder meeting, calling on the CEO to uphold her promise.

Alaska native leaders Bobby Andrew and George Wilson also challenged the CEO on her promise in a recent opinion piece in the Anchorage Daily News, "A year ago, Ms. Carroll made a promise to us. The public sentiment she claims to respect is clear. But Anglo American has remained silent and its subordinates keep pushing the Pebble Mine project forward. The promises we make or break can leave consequences for generations. It's long past time for Ms. Carroll to follow through on hers."

Given the international significance of the Bristol Bay fishery, the whole world will be watching to see whether Anglo American keeps its word.

**"I will not go where people don't want us. I just won't. We've got enough on our plate without having communities against us."**

—Anglo American CEO Cynthia Carroll in Fast Company online magazine

AK TO UK



## Sign the pledge.

"I support the No Dirty Gold campaign to end destructive gold mining practices. I call on retailers and manufacturers of gold jewelry, electronics, and other goods to work to ensure that the gold in their products was not produced at the expense of local communities, workers, and the environment. I demand that the global mining industry provide retailers and consumers an alternative to dirty gold."

# No Dirty Gold has 70 jewelry company supporters —and holds them to their word

By Scott Cardiff

**Just before Mother's Day this year, the No Dirty Gold campaign had four new jewelry companies sign on to say "no!" to destructive mining.** This brought the campaign up to a total of 70 jewelry companies, representing over \$14 billion in sales, that have promised to work to source their precious metals from recycled metals and less irresponsible mining operations.

The companies who signed the Golden Rules for responsible sourcing of precious metals have committed to sources that respect human rights; do not fuel conflict, respect communities' right to say "no" to mining and to not be displaced; protect workers' health and safety and organizing rights; do not harm important ecological areas; do not contaminate water ways with acid drainage and heavy metals; and do not dump mine waste in water bodies.

Of course, we can't just let the jewelry companies sign the Golden Rules without checking on their actual activities. In February, 2010 our report *Tarnished Gold—Assessing the Jewelry Industry's Progress on Ethical Sourcing of Metals*, we investigated if companies had taken steps such as auditing their supply, informing their suppliers of their Golden Rules commitment, and increasing their recycled gold content.

A number of small jewelry companies have taken major steps and are a great help to the effort to limit the impacts of gold mining. Other jewelry companies actually seemed to have signed off on the Golden Rules and then did not do the follow-up work. Thanks to the bad grades that we gave those lagging jewelers, a number of them have since taken further action and pushed the jewelry supply chain for greater responsibility. Some, like Zales, even signed a pledge to protect Bristol Bay from the planned Pebble mine.



You can find out about the rankings of various jewelry companies in the Tarnished Gold report available on [www.nodirtygold.org](http://www.nodirtygold.org). In the report you can also read more about recycled precious metals, more responsible small-scale mining, and certification efforts for more responsible large-scale mining.

- |                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Alberto Parada                  | Ingle & Rhode                |
| Americus Diamond                | Intergold                    |
| April Doubleday                 | JamesAllen.com               |
| Arlanch                         | JCPenney                     |
| Avasarah                        | Jewelry Days.com             |
| Bario Neal                      | Jostens                      |
| Beaverbrooks                    | Krikawa Jewelry Designs      |
| Ben Bridge Jeweler              | Leber Jeweler                |
| Birks & Mayors                  | Lena Marie Echelle Designs   |
| Blair Lauren Brown              | Mappin and Webb*             |
| Blue Nile                       | Meghan Connolly Haupt        |
| Boscov's                        | Michaels Jewelers            |
| Boucheron                       | Nature's Candy Designs, Ltd. |
| Brilliant Earth                 | Open Source Minerals         |
| Cartier                         | Oria Jewellery               |
| Chocolate Couture               | Piaget                       |
| Commemorative Brands            | QVC                          |
| Cred Jewellery                  | Real Jewels                  |
| Day's Jewelers                  | Reflective Images            |
| D.NEA                           | Rideau Recognition Solutions |
| Eight Centuries                 | Robbins Brothers             |
| Fair Trade in Gems and Jewelry  | Sears Holdings Corp.         |
| Fey & Co. Jewelers              | Security Jewelers            |
| F. Hinds                        | Signet Group                 |
| Fifi Bijoux                     | Stephen Fortner              |
| Fraser Hart                     | Stuart Berger                |
| Fred Meyer and Littman Jewelers | The Clarity Project          |
| Goldsmiths                      | Tiffany & Co.                |
| Green Diva Jewelry              | Toby Pomeroy                 |
| Hacker Jewelers                 | Ultra Stores                 |
| Hamilton Jewelers               | Van Cleef & Arpels           |
| Helzberg Diamonds               | Van Gundy                    |
| Henrich & Denzel GmbH           | Wal-Mart                     |
| Herff Jones                     | Warren James                 |
|                                 | Watches of Switzerland       |
|                                 | Zale Corp.                   |

Cut along dotted line and mail to Earthworks. Thanks for your support!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like to receive email action alerts from the No Dirty Gold campaign.
- I would like to receive email action alerts from EARTHWORKS.



# A wave of new jewelers pledge support for protecting Bristol Bay

By Bonnie Gestring

**Throughout the world, many wild salmon stocks are in drastic decline, yet the Bristol Bay watershed of southwest Alaska, with its high-quality waters and intact landscape, continues to support millions upon millions of wild salmon.**

This spring, EARTHWORKS announced a wave of new jeweler support for protecting the Bristol Bay watershed from the proposed Pebble mine – a massive gold and copper mine proposed at the headwaters. These new jewelers, which include the nation’s 2nd largest jewelry retailer Zales, join dozens of other jewelers who have stated their opposition to the proposed gold and copper mine.

Jewelers are an important voice in the battle to protect this tremendous ecosystem because over 80% of gold demand globally is for jewelry. Altogether, over 20 prominent jewelers representing more than \$6 billion in sales have expressed their support for protecting Bristol Bay, vowing not to source gold from the proposed mine.

The Bristol Bay fishery is one of the few sockeye salmon fisheries that has been certified as sustainable by the Marine Stewardship Council. It is the backbone of the Bristol Bay economy, generating thousands of jobs and supplying roughly

half of the world’s commercial supply of wild sockeye salmon. It is also vital to the communities in the region, who rely on these salmon as their primary source of food.

“All the other river systems that supported huge salmon runs — the Columbia, the Sacramento, the Fraser — have collapsed”, said Bob Waldrop of the Bristol Bay Regional Seafood Development Association. “This one stands alone.”

Photo by Erin McKittrick, Ground Truth Trekking



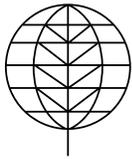
*Frying Pan Lake sits at what would be the center of the mine site, and stands to be engulfed in a tailings pond.*

For a full list of signatories, see [www.nodirtygold.org](http://www.nodirtygold.org)

For more information about the efforts to protect Bristol Bay, see [www.ourbristolbay.com](http://www.ourbristolbay.com)

**“Zale is committed to sourcing gold and other precious metals in a responsible manner. We believe gold should be mined and refined in a manner that protects both the environment and its inhabitants. Therefore, Zale is happy to support, alongside other jewelers, the pledge to protect the Bristol Bay Fishery Reserve from large-scale metals mining.”**

—Gil Hollander, Executive Vice President of Zale Corporation, which has 1,930 stores in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico



**EARTHWORKS**

1612 K Street, NW, Ste 808  
Washington, DC 20006  
**tel** 202.887.1872  
**fax** 202.887.1875  
**email** info@earthworksaction.org

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 3541  
Washington, DC

Address Service Requested

 CARBON NEUTRAL Printed digitally on processed chlorine free paper produced using 100% wind power in a carbon neutral process.

# Court tosses out Rock Creek Mine permit!

By Bonnie Gestring

*Here is some great news for our ongoing effort to protect Montana's Cabinet Mountains Wilderness Area and threatened bull trout and grizzly bear populations from the proposed Rock Creek Mine.*

*On May 5, 2010, the federal court tossed out the mine permit, saying it fails to minimize impacts to water quality and fisheries. This is the third time that the court has ruled against this project. The mine must now go back to the drawing board to develop a revised plan.*



In northwest Montana, the Canadian company Revett Minerals is proposing to excavate a massive copper silver mine called the Rock Creek Mine. The company plans to blast three miles of tunnels directly underneath the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness. Mine waste - 100 million tons of it - will be permanently stored in an unlined 346-acre impoundment next to the Clark Fork River. If it is developed it will:

### **Pollute the Clark Fork River:**

- Discharge up to 3 million gallons of wastewater into the Clark Fork River every single day.
- Leak arsenic from the unlined tailings impoundment into groundwater destined for the Clark Fork River.
- Continue discharging polluted water for decades or centuries after the mine closes; Montana DEQ says the pollution could continue forever.

### **Harm important fish and wildlife populations:**

- Deplete an important stronghold of threatened bull trout in Rock Creek by dewatering the stream and choking it with sediment.
- Jeopardize the imperiled Cabinet-Yaak grizzly bear population—an estimated 25-30 remaining bears by destroying key habitat.
- Create a high risk of draining or contaminating the overlying alpine Wilderness lakes.

EARTHWORKS & COMMUNITIES