



# ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

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## in Southern Virginia

### News Release

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### Danville-Pittsylvania Citizens Strongly Support Continued Uranium Mining Ban

*New poll shows concerns for agriculture, water and property values*

Danville, VA, September 13 - Residents of the Danville-Pittsylvania county region strongly believe that uranium mining should not be allowed in the area, according to a poll released today by The Alliance for Progress in Southern Virginia. The overwhelming margin of support in opposition to the proposed uranium mine in Pittsylvania County was striking.

“By a majority of **53% to 29%**, area residents made their thoughts about uranium mining in their own backyard very clear. And it wasn’t even close,” according to Jay Poole, spokesman for The Alliance. The poll was conducted by Virginia Commonwealth University’s highly regarded Survey and Evaluation Laboratory during a two-week period in June/July 2012.

The survey’s findings also showed considerable concern for the impact that a uranium mining operation might have on the Region’s important production agriculture and wood products industry. Roughly **two-thirds (63%)** of those responding agree that cattle, dairy, crop prices and wood products would be negatively affected if uranium is mined near family farms and privately owned tree forests. “With a thriving \$200 million native industry like agriculture, which has so much to lose by the possible presence of a uranium mining site, why would you take the risk?” said Poole.

**Sixty- three percent (63%)** of those surveyed expressed concern about the impact that uranium mining and milling might have on water quality. This finding suggests that area residents realize how valuable water quality is to existing homes, farms and businesses, while understanding that water quality is also vital for economic and commercial development. By a similar majority, the survey also showed that over **60%** of the respondents believe that uranium mining would reduce property values in the Danville-Pittsylvania area and make it more difficult to sell property and houses.

Also significant is that slightly more than half of those interviewed (54%) believe that uranium mining might help the local economy. But, at the same time and by a very clear majority, they still did not want the ban on uranium mining in Virginia to be lifted. "It is very simple and it is not even close. People in Southern Virginia do not want to become the East Coast Capital of Uranium mining," Poole concluded.

A full copy of the survey and results can be found on The Alliance website: [allianceforprogressinsouthernva.com](http://allianceforprogressinsouthernva.com).

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*The Alliance for Progress in Southern Virginia is a pro-economic development coalition of businesses, farmers, community leaders, property owner and area residents representing the entire Southern Virginia region. We believe the statewide ban on uranium mining should not be lifted unless and until the safety and well-being of the Commonwealth, this region and our citizens can be assured.*

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