

Critical Minerals, the Uravan Mineral Belt and Western Slope Lands



The Mining Act of 1872 states that except as otherwise provided, all valuable mineral deposits in lands belonging to the United States, both surveyed and unsurveyed, shall be free and open to exploration and purchase by citizens of the United States and those who have declared their intention to become such, under regulations prescribed by law and according to local customs or rules of miners in the several mining districts, so far as the same are applicable and not inconsistent with the laws of the United States.



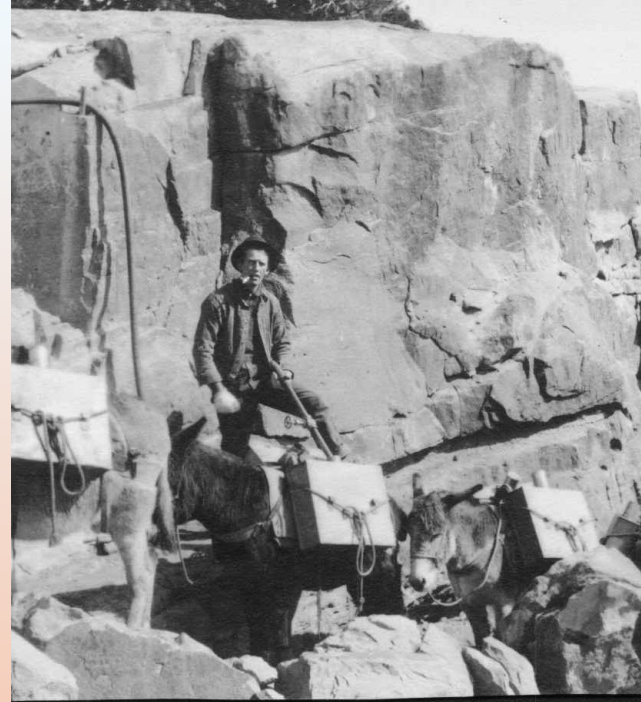
Critical Minerals Supply

Critical Minerals Executive Order 13817

*Federal Strategy to Ensure Secure and Reliable Supplies of
Critical Minerals*

*“to reduce the nations vulnerability
to disruptions in the supply of
critical minerals.”*

- **Vanadium** is one of the critical non-fuel materials.
- **Uranium** (fuel-material) was assessed for criticality under this methodology and should be included because of its risk due to foreign reliance.



Meeting Clean Energy and Carbon Goals

- ✓ At 2023 UN Climate Change Conference (COP28), the U.S. and 21 others pledged to triple nuclear power
- ✓ At 2023 World Economic Forum, U.S. Envoy Kerry emphasized the need for nuclear power in addressing the climate crisis.



DOE Sec. Granholm:

“So let me say it loud and clear: carbon-free nuclear power is an absolutely critical part of our decarbonization equation.”

"We really need to deploy, deploy, deploy those reactors here in the United States," (we) have a responsibility to ensure that access to clean and affordable energy includes "under-represented communities, under-represented nations". K. Huff, DOE

“To be pro-environment is to be pro-nuclear”



-General Rafael Mariano Grossi

2024 NUCLEAR ENERGY SUMMIT

“ We can't import our way to economic and national security; we have to establish that security literally from the ground up by using American-mined materials produced by American workers under world-leading environmental standards.

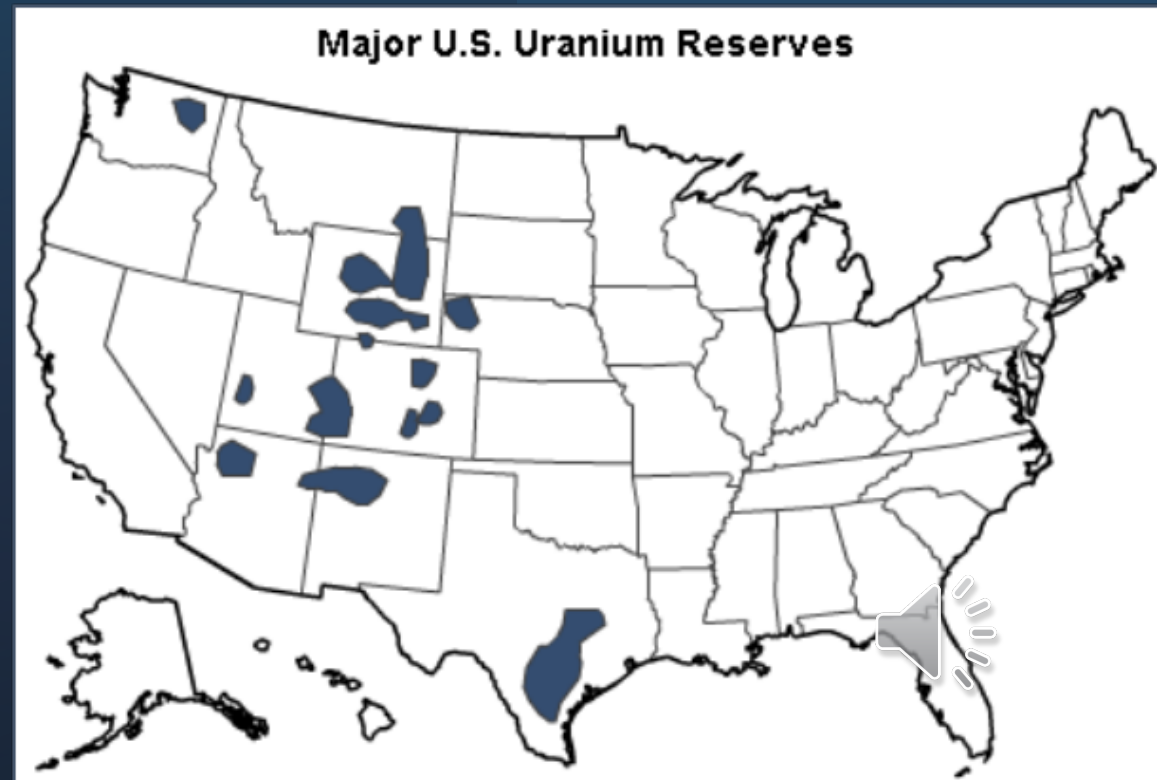
RICH NOLAN

PRESIDENT AND CEO | NATIONAL MINING ASSOCIATION

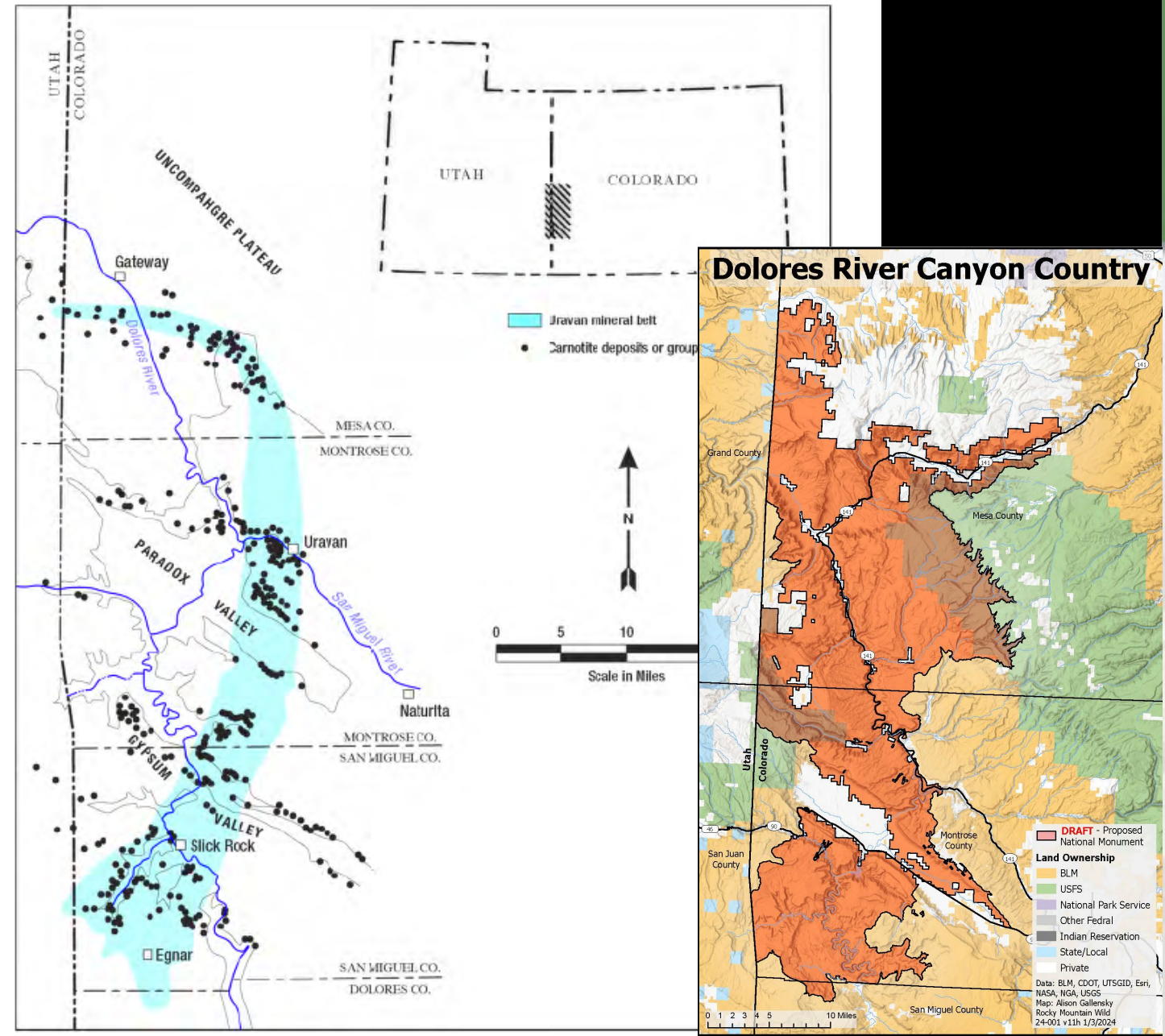
Last year the U.S. paid \$800 million to Russia's state-owned nuclear energy corporation.

Critical Minerals National Defense Authorization Act 2024

The United States depends on Russia for up to 24% of our uranium enrichment.



Sources: Based on U.S. Department of Energy, Grand Junction Project Office (GJPO). National Uranium Resources evaluation. Interim report (June 1979) Figure 3.2; and GJPO data files.



Summary: Final Uranium Leasing Program Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

DOE/EIS-0472
March 2014



FIGURE 3.3-4 Extent of the Urvan Mineral Belt in Relation to Known Uranium-Vanadium Deposits (modified from Fischer and Hilpert 1952)

Western Slope Public Lands

PROTECTED



Final ULP PEIS

Summary

COVER SHEET

Lead Agency: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

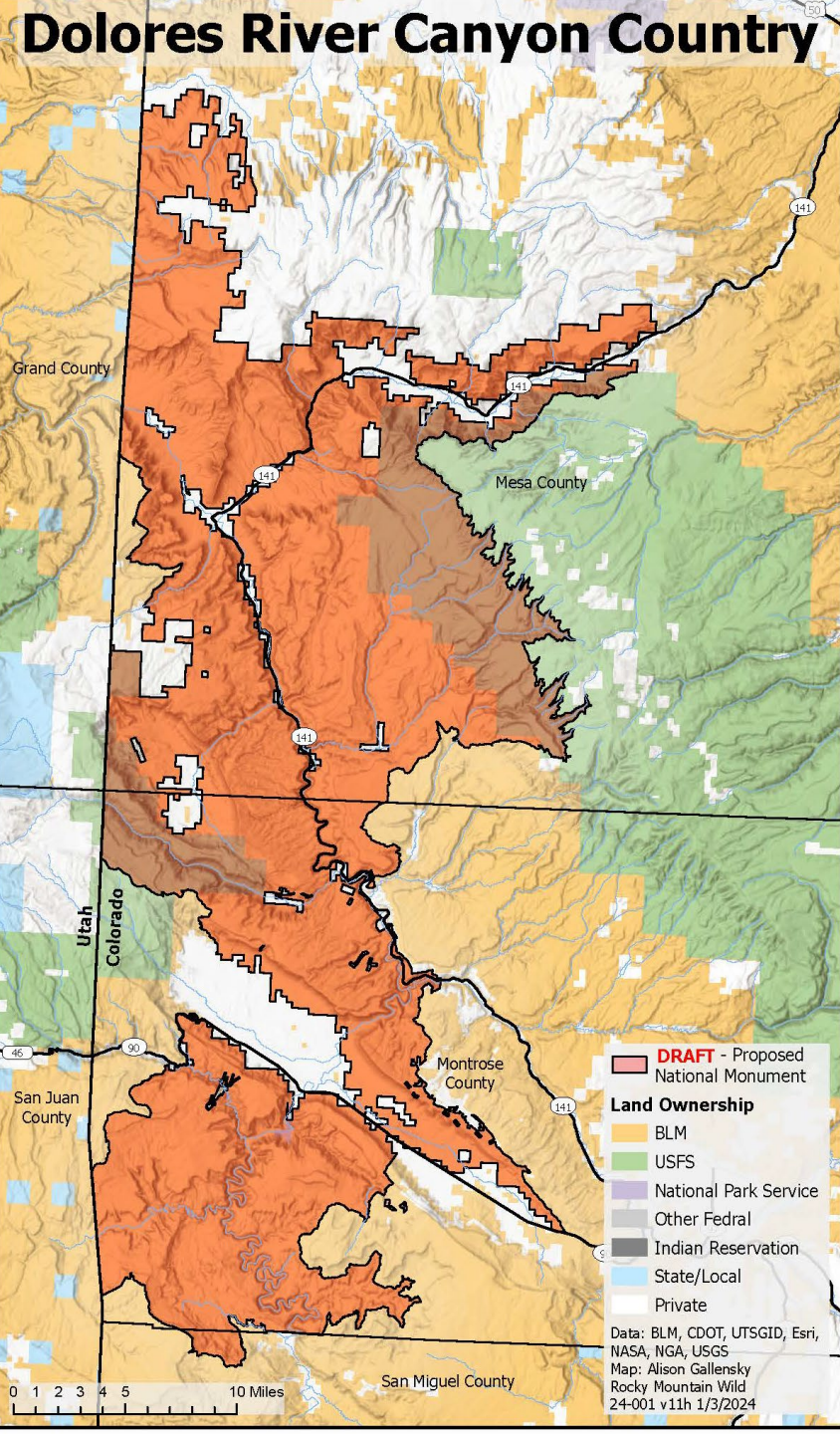
Cooperating Agencies: The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), Bureau of Land Management (BLM); U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT); Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (CDRMS); Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW); Mesa County Commission; Montrose County Commission; San Juan County Commission; San Miguel County Board of Commissioners; the Pueblo of Acoma; the Pueblo de Cochiti; the Pueblo de Isleta; the Navajo Nation; and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe

Western Slope Public Lands

NOT PROTECTED



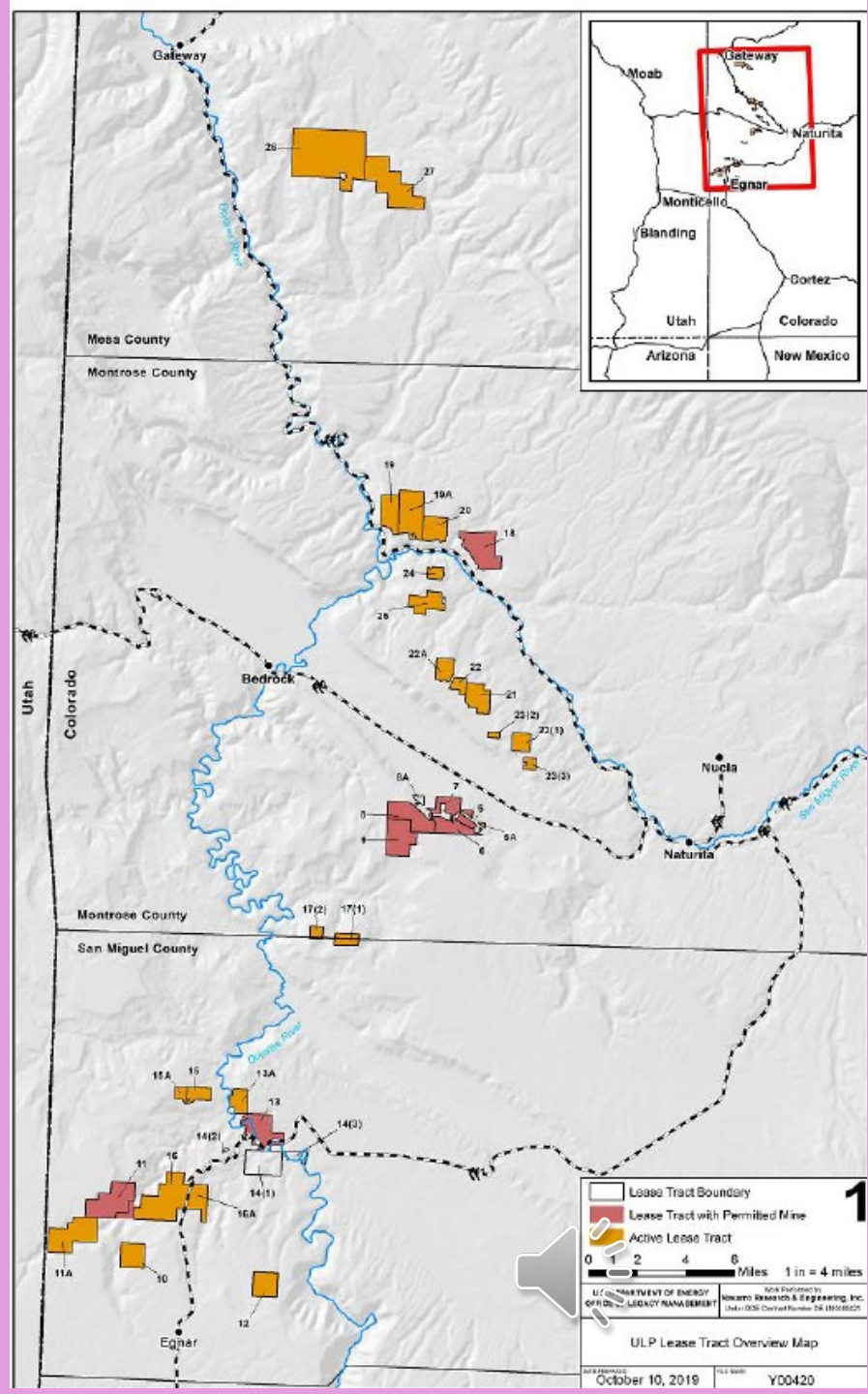
Dolores River Canyon Country



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

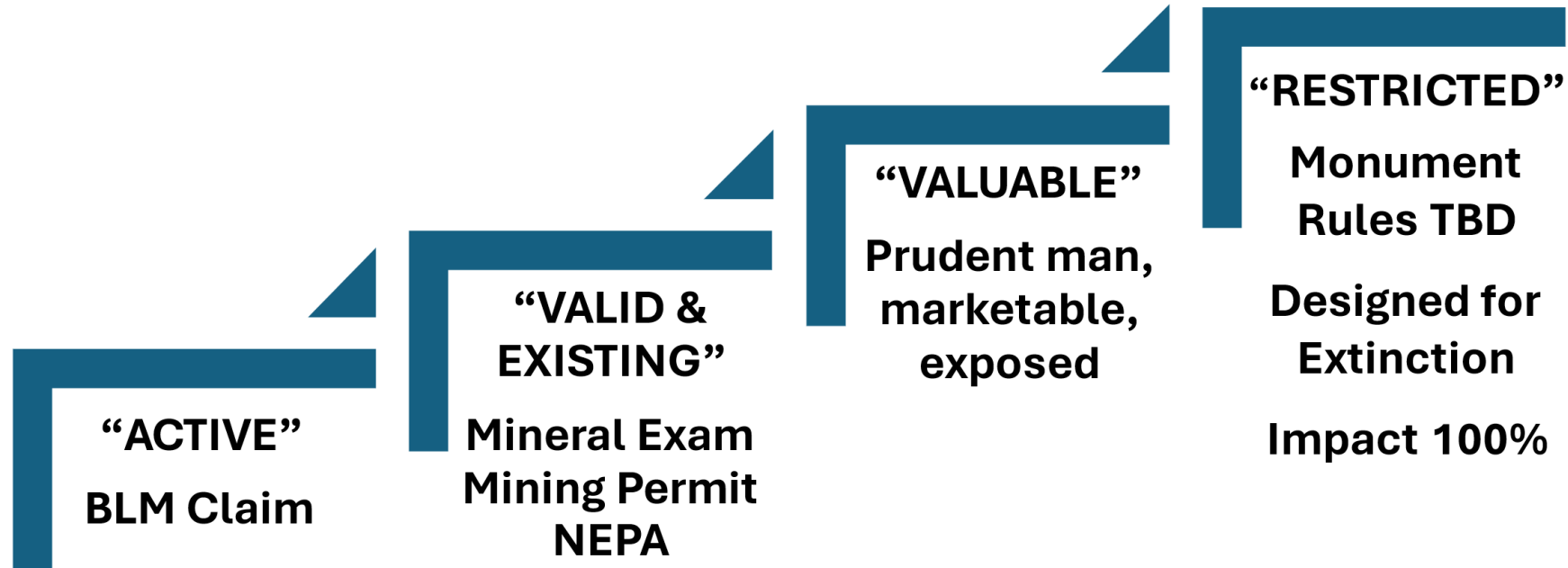
URANIUM LEASING PROGRAM

Significant reserves exist on the DOE *lease tracts*. The known reserves and the favorable geology for undiscovered potential resources are expected to result in the Uravan Mineral Belt as being a source of uranium and vanadium ore for many years to come.



95% Mining Not Impacted?? 100% Are Impacted.

Worse than suspect data, daunting gauntlet of \$\$ requirements



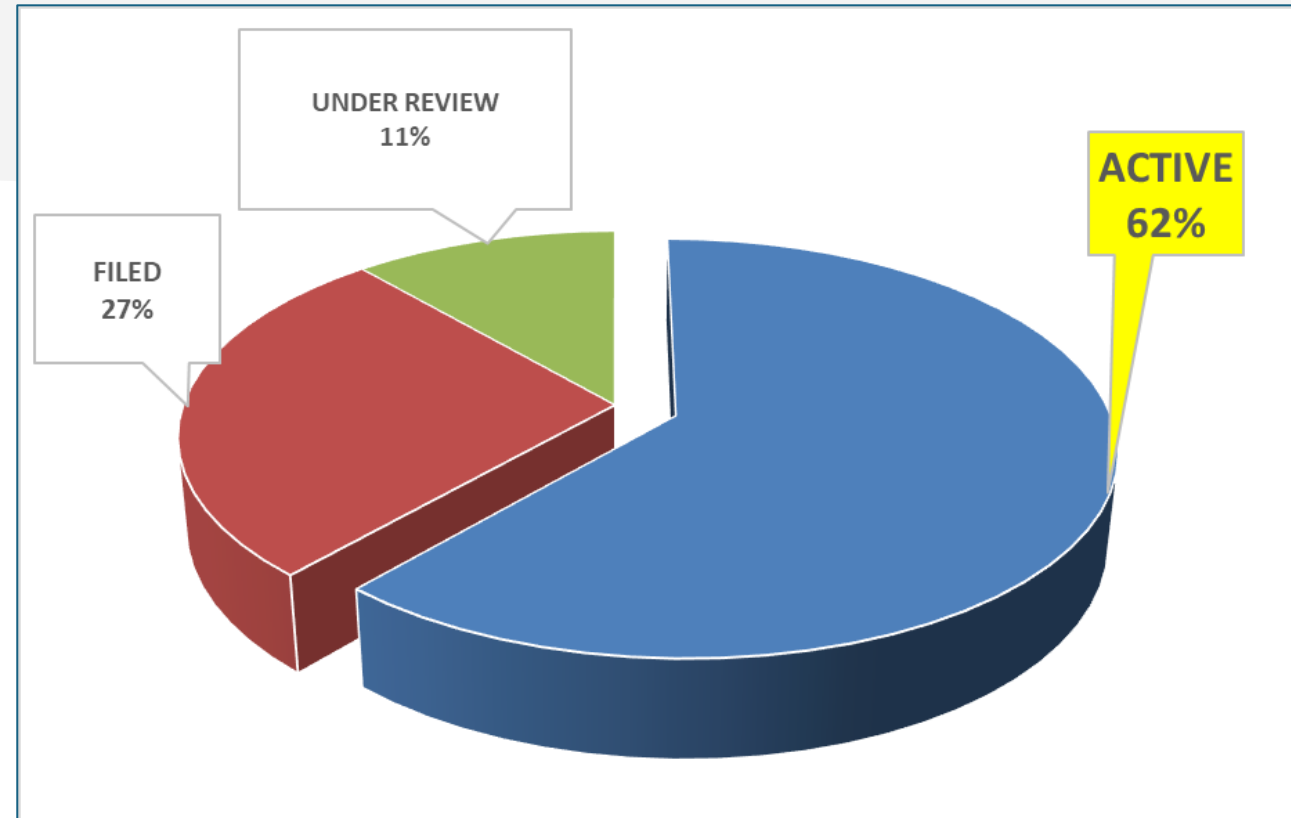
- Each hurdle increases costs without added economic benefit. Each hurdle increases the potential for multiyear litigation.
- “Everything all at once” front loads and adds costs contrary to geologic nature of deposits and the proven Uraivan mining method that utilized following ore bodies deposited in and along paleo stream channels.



95% Mining Not Impacted??

Data Known to be Suspect – e.g., 1 in 3 Open Claims in Process

- Colorado BLM State Office has fallen months to years behind processing claims due to new software, new claim identification scheme, COVID, relocation of State Office, activity increases, and significant turnover.




Only counting “ACTIVE” mining claims understates and eliminates numerous other categories of “OPEN” mining claims going through BLM review. BLM formally warns users of this exact limitation.

Important Note about Case Dispositions

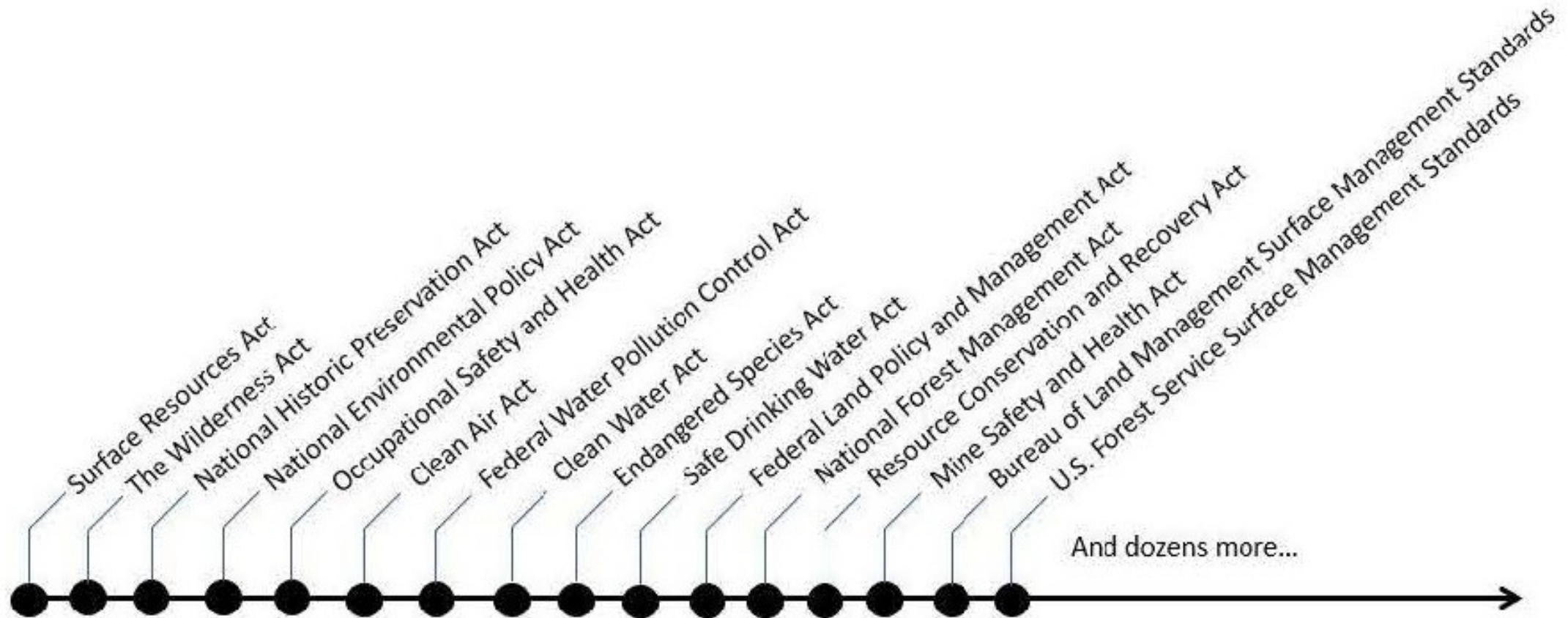
Note: Open (non-closed) claims are not confined only to the ACTIVE case disposition. Please broaden your search to other case dispositions as needed.

Active: A case that has been accepted in MLRS for recordation
Appeal-Stay Granted: A closed case where an appeal claim action has been submitted and accepted, a Stay was requested at the time of filing the notice of appeal, and IBLA has granted a Stay of BLM's decision
Closed: A case that has been abandoned, rejected, relinquished, or forfeited (missed annual payment or waiver)
Deleted: Does not apply to Mining Claims
Draft: A case that is not completed and not paid
Filed: A case for which most data entry is completed, payment has been submitted, and a BLM adjudicator has clicked on the File Claim Button to move the case through the adjudication process
On Appeal: A closed case where an appeal claim action has been submitted and accepted
Pending: Does not apply to Mining Claims
Submitted: A paper claim submission that has been paid but data entry is missing, and a BLM adjudicator has not yet clicked on the File Claim Button
Under Review: A case that is in the process of being adjudicated
Insufficient: Does not apply to Mining Claims



21st Century Mining Requirements

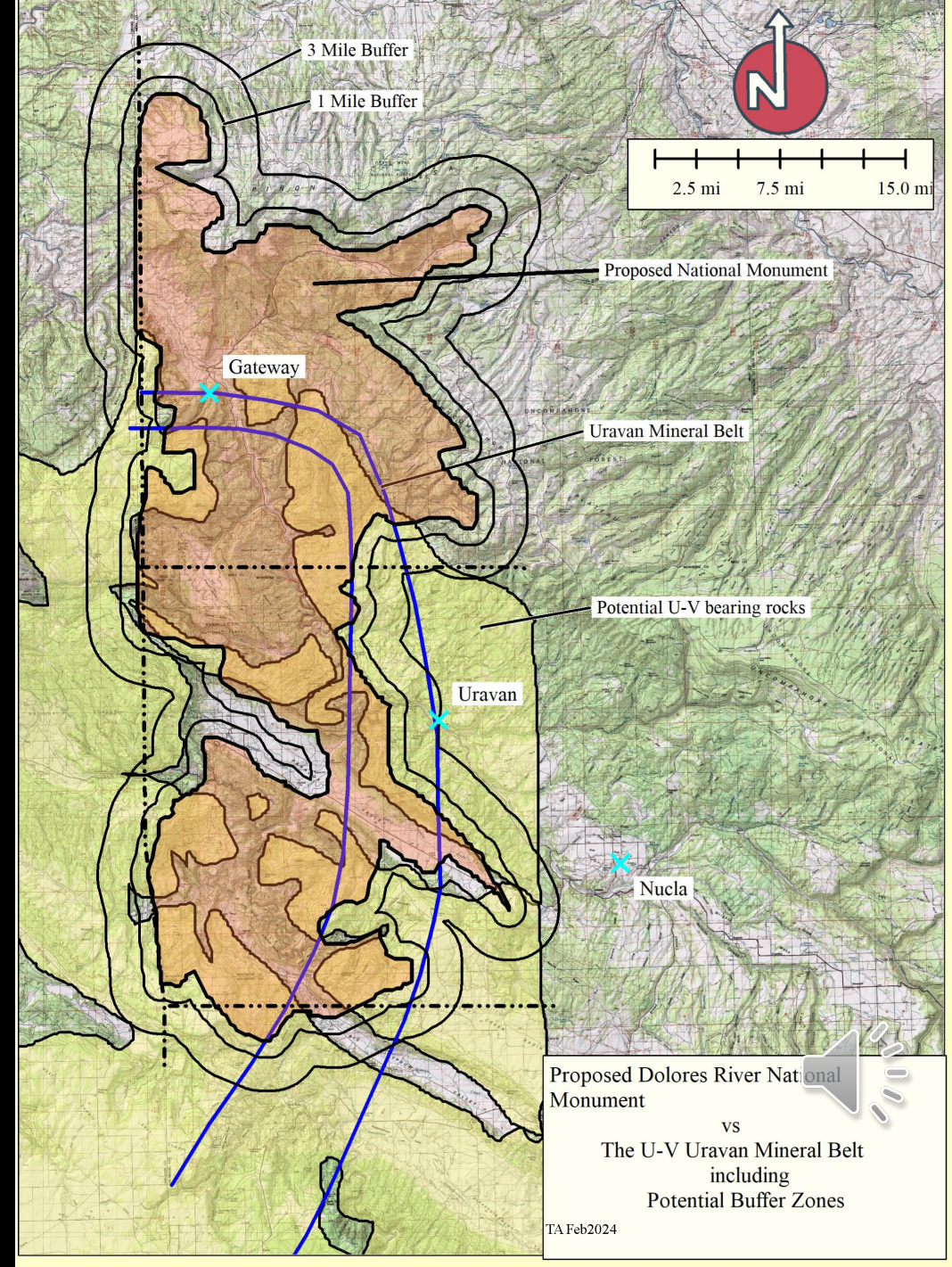
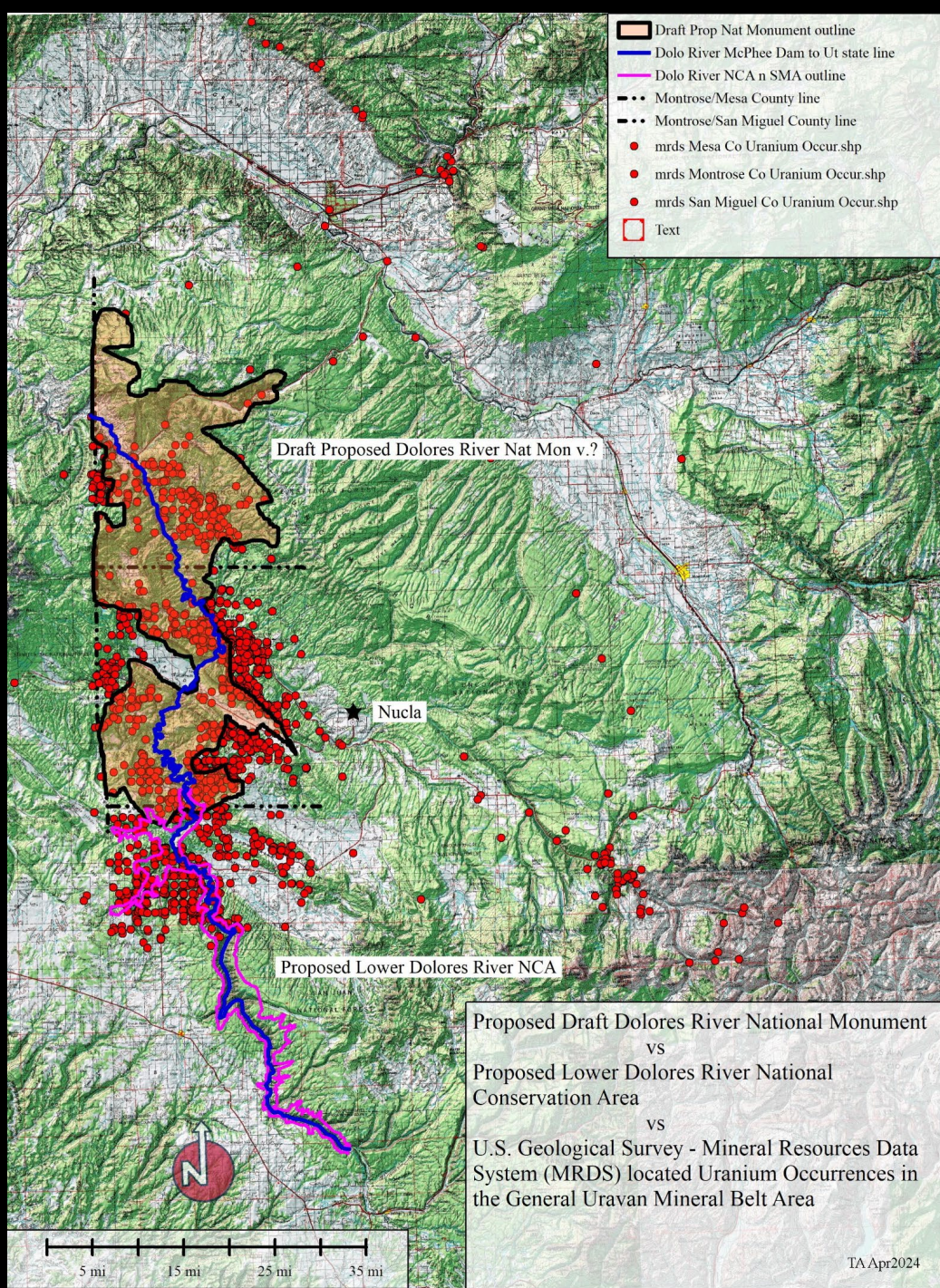
More than three dozen federal environmental laws and regulations govern the U.S. Mining Industry – In addition to laws at the state and local level



* www.nma.org

The National Academy of Sciences has concluded that the existing set of state and federal regulations are comprehensive and effective.





takings

A taking is when the government seizes private property for public use.

A taking can come in two forms. The taking may be physical, which means that the government literally takes the property from its owner). Or the taking may be constructive (also called a regulatory taking), which means that the government restricts the owner's rights so much that the governmental action becomes the functional equivalent of a physical seizure.

The power of the government through the use of eminent domain, to take private property and convert it into public use, is referred to as a taking.

The Fifth Amendment provides that the government may only exercise this power if they provide just compensation to the property owners. A taking may be the actual seizure of property by the government, or the taking may be in the form of a regulatory taking, which occurs when the government restricts a person's use of their property to the point of it constituting a taking.



Dolores Canyon!
There is a place in the west end,
And the Locals here have a message to send,
We live in this area a place special to us,
Pinions, cedars and a lot of sage brush,
This area is already a monument to most,
In the winter you freeze and summer you roast,
Those that remain after the mining crunch,
Wants all to know they are a hardy bunch.
This isn't a warning and not a threat,
But they are ready to fight this you can bet!

-Denny Erwin-

