



THE LEAGUE LINE

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF BLUE RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE LEAGUE



CARE-4-AIR LAUNCH CONTINUES

The BREDL Environmental Air Sampling Trailer (BEAST) has successfully completed its first deployment, and the BEAST will soon be headed to its second location. In this edition, we will share how the project has gone so far, and what the future of the program will look like. (Page 5)

RARE EARTH ELEMENTS, RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR CHANGE

Lou Zeller examines the history of Greenland and its vast mineral resources. He also shares three alternatives to expanding mining. (Page 8)



For more information on this story and others, visit our website!

<https://www.bredl.org>



Source: Pixabay

Director's Report
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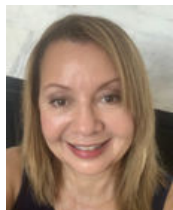
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BREDL CASE HEADS TO S.C. SUPREME COURT

BY: KATHY ANDREWS, BREDL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



BREDL has contested the fracked gas pipeline, River Neck to Kingsburg, proposed by Dominion Energy in Pamplico, South Carolina for nearly five years. Finally, the South Carolina Court of Appeals has referred the case to the South Carolina Supreme Court, where it will be heard on June 24th in Columbia.

This proposed pipeline would be located mainly in a poor predominantly Black community, already compromised with health problems like asthma, respiratory illness, and heart disease. Dominion Energy is known for targeting minority communities. The company also has a history of spills, leaks, gas explosions, and increasing utility bills.

BREDL was instrumental in defeating Dominion and Duke Energy with the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP), a 600 mile long proposed gas pipeline that was canceled after six years of opposition and protest. Like the ACP, the River Neck to Kingsburg pipeline would devastate land that is deeply valued and personal to the people who live near the Great Pee Dee River, where it would be located.

BREDL attorneys will press upon the court the need to uphold the Clean Water Act, the cornerstone of surface water quality protection in the US. This is extremely important as the Great Pee Dee River provides drinking water to Florence County citizens. The pipeline will impact 32 wetland areas and cross six named tributaries of the Great Pee Dee River. In addition, the Great Pee Dee River is a designated critical habitat for endangered fish like the Atlantic sturgeon and shortnose sturgeon.

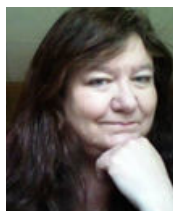
Dominion has already seized land by eminent domain, including heirs property and lands held by families for generations. This has already devastated the community. "They are basically destroying our way of life for an unnecessary pipeline," said Pamplico property owner, Therese Hyman. Reatha Jefferson, whose family has owned property in the area for over a century, said, "I don't want a pipeline on our property. I don't want the health problems that will come with this pipeline."

Property owners have reason to be concerned. Dominion Energy has a history of destroying property and contaminating the water supply. In 2018, a utility company in Spartanburg, SC had to buy bottled water for thousands of customers after Dominion failed to control sediment and contaminated the water supply.

BREDL is asking concerned citizens to come to Columbia during the court proceedings to protest the pipeline. A public outcry is needed in this case that will be heard by a conservative court in a time when environmental laws are being dismantled by the Trump administration. More than ever before, voices need to be heard.

CARE-4-AIR PROJECT: MEETING THE CHALLENGES

By: Therese Vick



In 2022, EPA awarded a grant to BREDL for conducting air monitoring at up to seven sites throughout the Southeast. Since then, there have been many twists, turns, and additional requirements added throughout the grant period -- which we have navigated well. But nothing compares to the potential cancellation of our grant. The new Administration has decided to cancel grants previously awarded across federal agencies. EPA staff have been forbidden to speak to grantees—meaning that we can't get technical help or answers to administrative questions. We have only received two emails from EPA since January, and an email requesting our grant status has gone unanswered.

The federal government has frozen funds for many programs; we have been unable to "draw down" funds twice. Since those two episodes we have been able to withdraw the awarded funds and hope to be able to continue to do so. However, we are unsure how long this might last.

The B.E.A.S.T. (BREDL Environmental Air Sampling Trailer) has been monitoring the air since November 2024 at the first site, which is in Hamlet, North Carolina. Project Co-Managers, Mark Barker and Therese Vick have been hard at work sorting through the data, looking for pollutant spikes, completeness of the data, and weather anomalies. There is also monthly maintenance which requires a trip to the site. In addition, quarterly reports must be prepared and sent to EPA, as well as other documentation. We are appreciative of our site hosts and chapter participants. We look forward to continuing this important project through completion.

THE QUEST FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE BILL IN GEORGIA

By: Renee Cail



The Georgia Coalition for Environmental Policy and Protection (GCEPP) worked tirelessly to get an environmental justice bill passed in Georgia during this 2025 legislative session. The quest for environmental justice continues in a shaken governmental climate, cancer clusters, broken policies, and what appears to be apathetic legislators.

The coalition worked on House Resolution 100, which called for the creation of a study committee to evaluate the cumulative impact of pollution on community health, property values, and Georgia's economic development. It supported investigations on how new and existing industrial facilities impact environmental quality and long-term economic opportunities for Georgia's communities. The economic implications of pollution undermine home ownership and lower property values. Employers and businesses hesitate to locate their businesses near industrial areas, which limits job growth and other opportunities for residents. Georgia is a major agricultural state, leading the nation in the production of peanuts, broilers (chickens), pecans, blueberries, and spring onions, and is also a top producer of cotton, watermelon, peaches, and eggs. The agricultural supply is jeopardized by air, water and soil pollution. House Resolution 100 was not given a hearing.

Senate Bill 94 Consumer Utility Counsel was introduced in the Senate and the House. The Consumer Utility Counsel (CUC) is essential for protecting utility customers, ensuring Georgians fairness in the regulatory process. It is a proven, cost effective solution empowering consumers and promoting accountability. The CUC represents ratepayer interests in utility regulatory proceedings. Sadly, this bill never made it out of committee.

Another piece of legislation that did not gain traction in the Georgia legislature was the Bad Actor legislation. The bill heightened oversight that is critical to safeguard Georgia's residents, our natural resources and economy. This legislation, if passed, would have ensured that only responsible, compliant businesses receive permits. This legislation would have required the Environmental Protection Division to investigate and consider the regulatory histories both in-state and out-of-state of companies applying for industrial waste permits. This piece of legislation did not move.

Ironically, HB351 is a partisan bill that will devastate communities. It relates to Solid Waste Management and modifies the powers of the Board of Natural Resources. It revises definitions to modify solid waste permitting, to remove certain restrictions on permits, and to revise provisions regarding public meetings. This horrific bill has sailed right through the Senate.

April 4, 2025 is the last day of the legislative session. It is my hope that we will see an environmental justice bill in Georgia in our near future. All Georgians deserve to live in an environment where profit is not placed over the well-being of the people.

HOW ONE COMMUNITY IS FIGHTING ENVIRONMENTAL DESTRUCTION IN N.C.

Episode 6: This week's podcast episode is out with Lib Hutchby, who is a member of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in the Triangle Branch, Raging Grannies, Frack Free UNC, and NC Environmental Network.

In Chapel Hill, NC, local residents are rallying against a coal-fired power plant owned by UNC Chapel Hill, as well as nearby Duke Energy gas build outs. Several community groups are also actively working to promote environmental sustainability by hosting events like World Water Day and attending public hearings.

Recently, UNC submitted a proposal to burn packaging materials and plastics, turning them into pellets to be used as fuel in their coal plant. While this 12-month trial period might reduce some emissions compared to the plant's current fuel, burning these pellets could also increase levels of nitrogen oxide and carbon monoxide. On top of that, the pellets contain small amounts of PFAS, or "forever chemicals," which are notoriously harmful. However, thanks in part to the efforts of Chapel Hill's local groups, UNC has withdrawn its application. This victory is a testament to the power of community action in protecting the environment.



Search for "In Our Backyard Podcast" on your podcast app or go to <https://anchor.fm/bredl>

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN GROWING OUR COMMUNITIES

By: Charles Utley



Our communities and organizations give thanks and honor to the outstanding leadership that was and still is being provided by Mr. Richard Colclough.

There are many communities that are in the city of Augusta and the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA). The CSRA encompasses 13 counties in eastern Georgia and 5 counties in western South Carolina, with Augusta, GA serving as the core of the region.

I was able to create an organization named The Brownfield Organization of the CSRA because I wanted to be able to assist communities in our area in dealing with contamination and environmental injustice. In building this organization I needed assistance from the city of Augusta to support my desires for the communities.

Through communication with those who were active in the city and willing to support what I wanted to achieve, I reached out to Mr. Richard Colclough, who was on the county commission at the time and worked with me in all activities that The Brownfield Organization was seeking to achieve. I also reached out to other organizations including Blue Ridge Environment Defense League (BREDL). BREDL's Executive Director, Lou Zeller joined with me to work on the issues of environmental justice and equal justice.

Our organizations who are active with us want it to be known that Mr. Richard Colclough is still active and participating with us. We are still seeking environmental justice and equal justice in our communities. We seek to continue the activities that were created by "The CSRA Brownfield Organization" in the Central Savannah River Area, which includes Burke County, Richmond County, Aiken County, and the Hyde Park Community. We plan to continue coordinating with Concerned Citizens of Shell Bluff, Richmond County Neighborhood Association, and BREDL.



HONORED: Former Commissioner Richard Colclough was honored with a plaque for his work assisting communities near Augusta, Georgia fighting environmental injustices.

We thank Mr. Richard Colclough and BREDL for your support and leadership that are still being provided. I seek to always give thanks to Jesus Christ the Son of God for the blessings that we have been blessed to receive.

WORLD WATER DAY IN CHAPEL HILL, NC

On March 22, 2025, residents of Chapel Hill and Carrboro, North Carolina celebrated International World Water Day with speakers, music, and environmental education. The theme of this year's event was Saving Our Glaciers.



TAKING ACTION: Carrboro Mayor, Barbara Foushee, discussed the town's lawsuit against Duke Energy.



MUSIC: The Raging Grannies and other musicians shared original environmental justice themed songs.



SPREADING THE WORD : BREDL and other groups shared how they are fighting climate change in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area.

CARE-4-AIR IS LAUNCHED

By: Ann Rogers

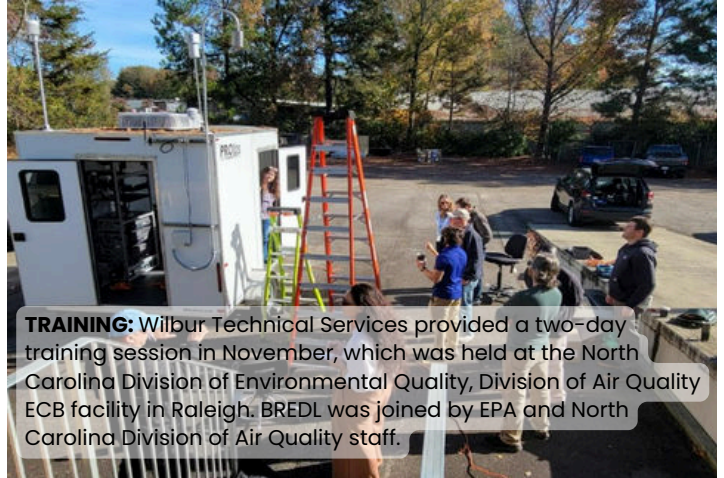


On October 31, 2022, BREDL received notification of an award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the amount of \$365,368 under the Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring for Communities program, which made approximately \$20,000,000 available for grants for community-based air quality monitoring.

BREDL's grant from the EPA provided funding to purchase very high quality air monitoring equipment from The J. J. Wilbur Co./Wilbur Technical Services, Raleigh, North Carolina. This equipment, which has been mounted securely on a covered trailer by Wilbur, is being driven to and parked at strategic locations in the southeastern U.S. where BREDL chapters have confirmed a need for air pollution monitoring and the commitment to provide a safe, secure location in which to park the trailer and conduct air monitoring. Air monitoring data as generated by this project will be used by BREDL chapters and staff in our ongoing environmental protection campaigns.

The project's name is CARE-4-AIR: BREDL Air Guardians.

BREDL's CARE-4-AIR mobile unit is monitoring for Nitrogen Oxides (NO, NO₂, NO_x), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀). The unit has been equipped with Federal Equivalent Method monitors from Teledyne API that are commonly used by state agencies across the country. Envidas Ultimate data logging software is used to perform weekly, automated calibration checks. This Envidas Ultimate software is currently being utilized by numerous state agencies as well as the EPA OAQPS group in Research Triangle Park, NC. Along with weekly automated calibration checks, Wilbur will also be programming email alerts for percent error failure of an automated check. Upon failure, Wilbur will perform a remote calibration of the equipment utilizing Numaview Remote program from Teledyne API. Wilbur successfully implemented and maintained a similar system for an ambient air monitoring site in Kabul, Afghanistan for the U.S. Army/Department of Defense.



TRAINING: Wilbur Technical Services provided a two-day training session in November, which was held at the North Carolina Division of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality ECB facility in Raleigh. BREDL was joined by EPA and North Carolina Division of Air Quality staff.



TRAILER IN PLACE : CARE-4-AIR trailer at the first monitoring site in Hamlet, North Carolina

BREDL's CARE-4-AIR Co-Managers, Therese Vick and Mark Barker review the data generated by the mobile unit on a daily basis and analyze it for indicators and patterns of air pollution.

In November, 2024, CARE-4-AIR began monitoring at our first site, where it is being deployed to gather air pollution data at the request of our chapter, Concerned Citizens of Richmond County, in Hamlet, North Carolina.

BREDL is currently conducting a fund raising campaign to raise \$87,306 in CARE-4-AIR costs not covered by the grant from EPA.

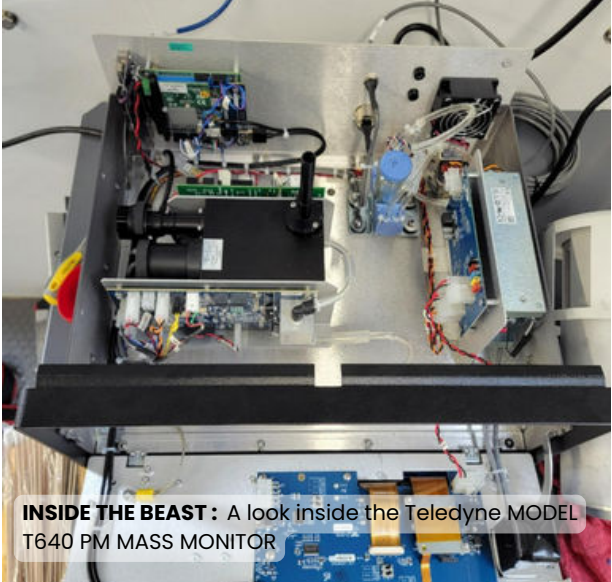
We are delighted to share some recent photos of the CARE-4-AIR monitoring system.



A VIEW FROM THE INSIDE: Panoramic view inside the CARE-4-AIR monitoring trailer



COLLOCATION : EPA and North Carolina Division of Air Quality assisted BREDL and Wilbur Technical Services with second day of training held at our collocation at the Triple Oak site in Morrisville, North Carolina. Collocation is a process required by EPA for confirming the accuracy of air quality data measurement systems via comparison with data generated by agency systems at the same location.



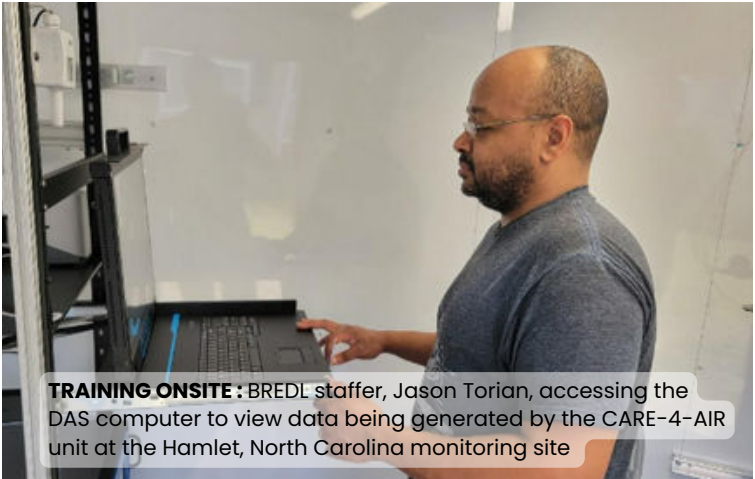
INSIDE THE BEAST : A look inside the Teledyne MODEL T640 PM MASS MONITOR



STAFF WALKTHROUGH : BREDL staffer, Therese Vick inside the trailer; view of top of trailer showing weather station on top left, heating and AC unit in top middle, and PM inlet and Calibration/NO2/VOC inlet on far right



MONTHLY CHECK-UP : BREDL staff, Mark Barker, checking the DFU filter inside the PM Mass Monitor, at the Hamlet, North Carolina monitoring site



TRAINING ONSITE : BREDL staffer, Jason Torian, accessing the DAS computer to view data being generated by the CARE-4-AIR unit at the Hamlet, North Carolina monitoring site



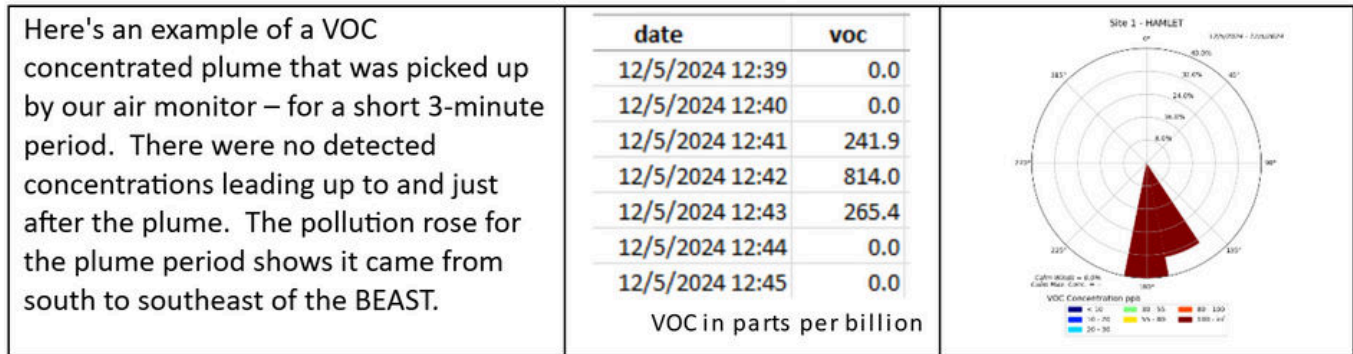
BEAST ON THE MOVE : BREDL contract driver prepares to move the trailer from our first day of training at the North Carolina Division of Environmental Quality ECB facility to our collocation site in Morrisville, North Carolina

BREDL AIR MONITORING PROGRAM UPDATE

BEAST COMPLETES SITE ONE DATA COLLECTION

By: CARE-4-AIR Team

BREDL has completed air quality monitoring at our first site in Hamlet, North Carolina. Our analysis examines minute and hourly averages for trends, spikes, reported events, and health standard exceedances, along with wind speed and direction. Preliminary data analysis reveals several brief – generally around 5 minutes – high spikes of volatile organic compounds (VOC), particulates, and nitrogen oxides. For the most part, these seem to be plumes that drifted in from outside the local area.



Nearby prescribed burns contributed to some of the most significant pollutant highs, especially particulates. For example, a March 7, 2025 afternoon spike in particulates was indicative of a nearby cluster of prescribed burns. Our BEAST – BREDL Environmental Air Sampling Trailer – data demonstrated that local readings were briefly over the health standard while regional agency monitors did not register these local health impacts.

After 3 p.m. on March 7, the BEAST PM 2.5 data ranged from 117 – 319 ug/m³ and the PM 10 ranged from 127 – 349 ug/m³. We applied the EPA Nowcast algorithm to our BEAST data to indicate hourly average data and Air Quality Index (AQI), as though the BEAST were on the EPA air monitoring network. Our Nowcast calculated readings showed that at 4 p.m. we had an AQI of 168 and at 5 p.m. an AQI of 160, both in the red, unhealthy range. Our data screened with EPA air monitors, located 30 – 50 miles away, indicated good to moderate air quality during this time period. Please visit www.airnow.gov/aqi/aqi-basics/ for details about AQI.

BREDL will publicly post information about the data on our website at bredl.org/beast once our quality control and analysis has been completed. We anticipate this will be within the next few weeks.

The BEAST was moved from our first site during early April. We are waiting to receive instruments that have been shipped for factory calibration before we locate to our second site. We hope to be at our second site by the end of April. We only identify the community we are monitoring once we leave that community. This is to preserve the integrity of the data and the security of the trailer.

BREDL Grassroots Mini Grant Program

The BREDL Grassroots Mini Grant Program (GMGP) is a grant being offered by BREDL to its chapter organizations and other grassroots groups who need cash for the purpose of developing, expanding, enhancing, promoting, or otherwise improving their campaigns to protect the environment in the communities where they live. The GMGP will be offered in amounts ranging from \$500 to \$2,500.

For more details, please contact Kathy Andrews (843-698-9816, kandrews@bredl.org) or Ann Rogers (540-312-3104, amelvin3@verizon.net).

RARE EARTH ELEMENTS, RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR CHANGE

By: Lou Zeller, BREDL Strategic Advisor



Greenland possesses vast reserves of mineral wealth, including rare earth elements (REE) which make it a global target for renewable energy industries. However, the history of mining and processing of industrial materials and their devastating impacts on human health and the environment cannot be ignored. Too many lives have been damaged or cut short. Therefore, these times call for resilience, innovation and an unbreakable commitment to human well-being in order to cut the Gordian Knot. So, if it can't be done well, it can't be done. This task begins with respect for indigenous people's rights and ends with a global movement to break with the past. It means an obligation to justice.

History of Greenland

The first humans in Greenland came via the now-Canadian island of Ellesmere four thousand years ago (around 2500 BCE). Thule ancestors of the modern Inuit came from Alaska and reached Greenland in the 11th Century. Around this time, European Norse settlers began establishing farm-based colonies on the island but abandoned the effort five centuries later. Danish interest began in the 18th Century with whalers and fur trappers. The political link to Denmark was formalized in 1814 with the Treaty of Kiel, also ending hostilities of the Napoleonic Wars. From 1814 to 1953, Greenland was directly controlled by Denmark. In 1953, the new Danish constitution made Greenland a province.



Greenland's relationship with Denmark is fraught. For example, although 70% of Greenlanders opposed joining the European Common Market in 1973, it was compelled to join as part of Denmark. And predictions that the customs union would lead to overfishing by foreign firms came true. In 1979, after years of negotiations and a vote to become autonomous, the Danish government granted the island home rule. Three years later, Greenlanders voted to leave the Common Market.

In 2008, Greenlanders voted for self-government by a 75% majority. In 2023, a commission presented a draft constitution for an independent Greenland. In February 2024, the island officially declared that independence is the goal for Greenland.¹

Today, the majority of Greenland's population are Greenlandic Inuit, also known as Kalaallit. They descend from the Thule culture who migrated from Canada to Greenland. Inuit people are indigenous to Arctic territories spanning Russia, Alaska, Canada as well as Greenland. Approximately 89 percent of Greenland's population of 57,695 is Greenlandic Inuit.

1. *Wall Street Journal* 11/26/24

Mining Uranium and Rare Earth Elements

In the 20th Century, Greenland became a resource for coal and uranium. And the Narsaq Valley in southern Greenland holds one of the world's biggest deposits of rare earth elements. It is also the site of a proposed mine planned by an Australian company, Greenland Minerals. However, a ban on uranium and rare earth mining enacted in 2021 halted development of Greenland's Kvanefjeld site near the village of Narsaq. Uranium and rare earth elements are normally found together.

Dr. Gordon Edwards, president of the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility, said, "If approved for mining the main commodity from Narsaq would be rare earths and the secondary commodity would be uranium. The economics of the project dictates marketing both."

There are seventeen rare earth elements, 15 listed as lanthanide elements on the Periodic Table with improbable names like promethium, samarium, europium, plus 2 more, scandium and yttrium. Rare earth elements are prized for the special properties they lend when alloyed with iron and other elements, especially in modern electrical devices; for example, super magnets and other uses.

Mining industry reports say that Kuannersuit, its name in Greenlandic Inuit (Kvanefjeld in Danish) is the site of one of the world's largest deposits of rare earth elements (REE), uranium, and other "specialty metals." The site is located on the southernmost tip of Greenland in close proximity and upstream from the village of Narsaq.

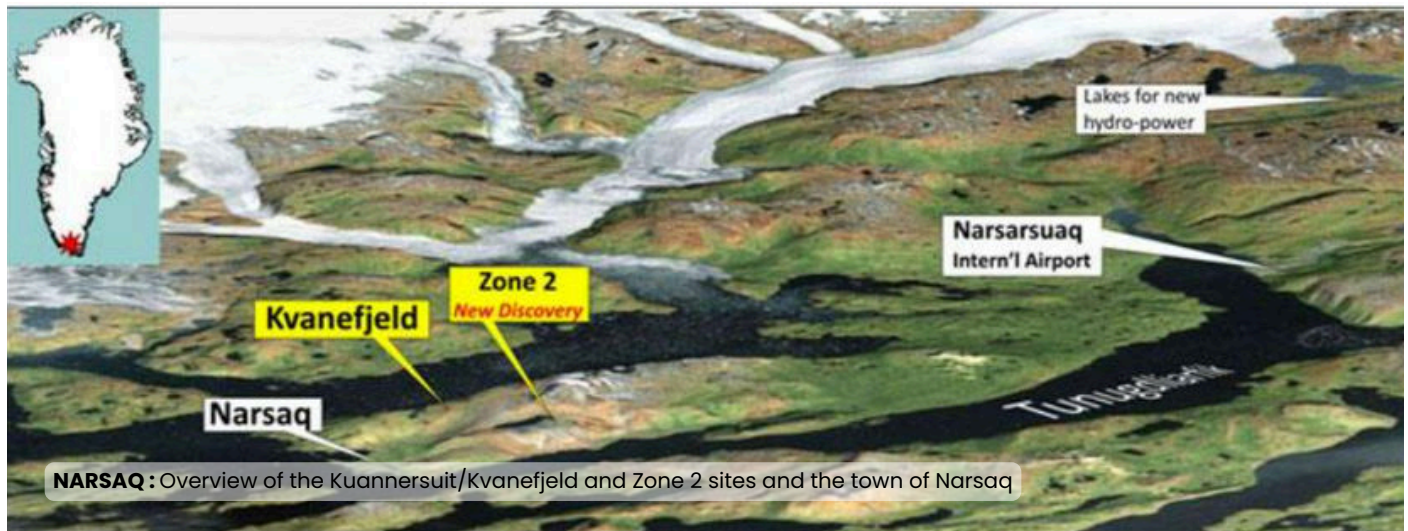


Image: "Greenland Minerals Ltd - Imaussaq Complex - Specialty Metals (Kvanefjeld)". Archived from the original on 2018-07-28. Retrieved 2025-04-05.

Dr. Edwards added that he was sent to Narsaq by the Canadian group Physicians for Global Survival to communicate some of the health-related concerns associated with uranium and thorium mining at the request of the IA (Inuit Ataqatigiit) political party. The ban was enacted a few years later. And on March 28, 2025, a coalition government was installed in Greenland which includes the IA party. The ban on uranium mining will likely be upheld and extended for the foreseeable future.

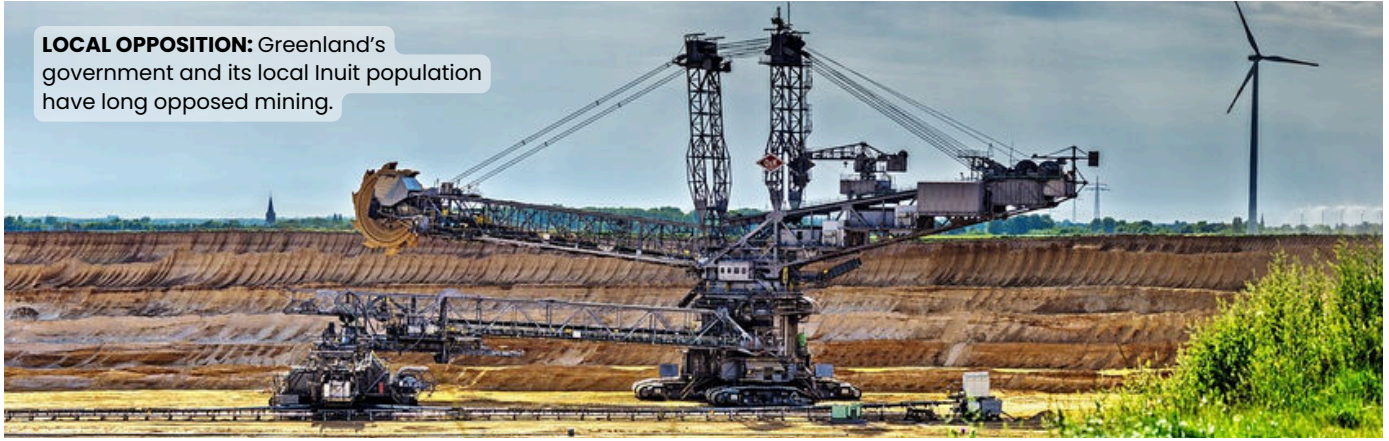
This does not bode well for the Kvanefjeld/Kuannersuit project, but where there is money to be made....

However, an industry news source, Rare Earth Exchanges, offered this assessment:

"Mining in Greenland is extremely difficult due to its harsh climate, lack of infrastructure, and logistical challenges. Political and social opposition from the Greenlandic government and local Inuit population adds another major hurdle to mining operations. The USA allies have all the rare earth deposits and processing we need."²

2. Rare Earth Exchanges, 3/30/2025, "Mining in Greenland: A wealth of Challenges and Waste of Time and Money" <https://rareearthexchanges.com>

LOCAL OPPOSITION: Greenland's government and its local Inuit population have long opposed mining.



Three Alternatives to New Mining: Bauxite Residue, Iron Nitride and REE-Free Design

REEs have unique electrical, magnetic, physical, and chemical properties that distinguish them from the rest of the periodic table. Their strange attributes give us foundational tools like permanent super magnets, laser technology, catalysts for chemical synthesis, and more.

ALTERNATIVES TO EXPANDING MINING

BAUXITE RESIDUE

Instead of finding full alternatives, researchers are looking to augment the existing REE supply by extracting REEs from aluminum manufacturing waste. Paradoxically, REEs are not actually “rare” – though difficult to find REE mines with economically viable quantities, these elements are distributed across the globe alongside other elements in low concentrations, notably in the ore used to manufacture aluminum known as bauxite. Bauxite Residue extraction has yet to be scaled to industrial quantities, but several chemical mechanisms are proven to extract the metals with high yields, providing an opportunity to both repurpose a waste product and bolster domestic REE production with no additional mining efforts.

IRON NITRIDE

Iron-nitride is a powerful magnetic material, being theoretically more than twice as strong as rare earth magnets. Built from two of the most common elements on Earth, iron and nitrogen, these magnets are also much cheaper than rare earth magnets. These advantages give iron nitride magnets a potent niche, as they are both more effective and cheaper than traditional solutions.

REE-FREE DESIGN

Not only can magnets be replaced by REE-free alternatives, but entire designs can be reworked to eliminate the need altogether. By innovating on existing technology and cutting out a dependency on REEs, manufacturers can lower demand and optimize their REE supply chains to more dependent application. MAHLE, one of the largest automotive parts manufacturers based in Germany, has developed a highly durable electric motor that can be built without REEs upon request with no drops in performance.

Source: <https://www.thomasnet.com/insights/what-are-alternatives-to-rare-earth-elements/>

Conclusion

Expanded rare earth element mining faces significant obstacles globally. Greenland's historic, environmental and political factors present a unique challenge. An island covered in ice governed by people with 4000+ year recall presents a turning point. The increased scarcity of a substance raising costs to the point of no return may presage the expanded use of less costly, better and safer alternatives. Make it so.

BREDL: WHO AND WHAT WE ARE

In March 1984, fifty citizens of Ashe and Watauga Counties met in the Mission House of Holy Trinity Church in Glendale Springs, North Carolina. Teachers and farmers, home-makers and merchants listened to the report of the Episcopal Church Women on the US Department of Energy's siting search for a high-level nuclear waste dump in the rain-rich east. Recognizing that the North Carolina mountains were a region at risk, the assembled group organized the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League (BREDL) to protect their own backyard and those of other threatened communities.

Since then, the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League has grown to be a regional community-based, nonprofit environmental organization. Our founding principles - earth stewardship, environmental democracy, social justice and community empowerment - still guide our work for social change. Our staff and volunteers put into practice the ideals of love of community and love of neighbor, which help us to serve the movement for environmental protection and progressive social change in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee.

THE LEAGUE LINE: A quarterly publication of
Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League (BREDL)

P.O. Box 2168

Boone, NC 28607

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**Does your chapter have a story to share in the League Line?
Submit your article to bredl@bredl.org!**

View archived newsletters at www.theleagueline.org

BREDL Credo

We believe in the practice of earth stewardship, not only by our league members, but by our government and the public as well. To foster stewardship, BREDL encourages government and citizen responsibility in conserving and protecting our natural resources. BREDL advocates grassroots involvement in order to empower whole communities in environmental issues. BREDL functions as a "watchdog" of the environment, monitoring issues and holding government officials accountable for their actions. BREDL networks with citizen groups and agencies, collecting and disseminating accurate, timely information. BREDL sets standards for environmental quality, and awards individuals and agencies who uphold these standards in practice

Grassroots Campaigns

Nothing creates hopefulness out of helplessness like a successful grassroots campaign -and our chapters have a history of winning. For over three decades Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League chapters have protected their communities by stopping dangerous facilities and promoting safe alternatives. In the 1980's and 1990's, BREDL prevented a multi-state ThermalKEM hazardous waste incinerator, a southeastern nuclear waste dump and a national nuclear waste dump. In the 2000's, our coordinated grassroots citizens' campaigns have had further victories. We won a legislative victory with the passage of the NC Solid Waste Act, effectively blocking at least four multi-state mega-dumps. Our Person County chapter convinced their Board of Commissioners to reject expansion of the Republic Services landfill. Our Cascade, Virginia, chapter shut down a huge hazardous waste incinerator. Our chapter in Roanoke and Franklin Counties, Virginia stopped an Interstate Highway. We eliminated mercury waste from the Stericycle incinerator, shut down a tire incinerator in Martinsville, won the landmark environmental justice court decision in Greene County, North Carolina. Further, with our chapters we have protected air quality by blocking scores of asphalt plants, four medical waste incinerators, a PVC plant and a lead smelter, and passage by local governments of eight polluting industries ordinances. Our work on nuclear power and coal plants laid the groundwork for our new Safe Energy Campaign. Victories over twenty-four mega-dumps have resulted in our affirmative Zero Waste Campaign. Guided by the principles of earth stewardship and environmental justice, we have learned that empowering whole communities with effective grassroots campaigns is the most effective strategy for lasting change.

BREDL
c/o Virginia Staton, CPA
PO Box 2168
Boone, NC 28607

Annual Membership is only \$20

Thank you for supporting Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League
It's easier than ever to **join, renew** and **donate** online.

Check out our secure online donation form and use your credit card at
www.BREDL.org

Or send your check to: BREDL, c/o Virginia Staton, CPA, PO Box 2168,
Boone, NC 28607

All donations are tax deductible.

Name _____

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**Janet Marsh Zeller
Honorary Fund**

The BREDL Board
of Directors
established this
fund to honor the
work of Janet



Marsh Zeller, who founded the Blue Ridge
Environmental Defense League and
served as its executive director for over
two decades.

**The honorary fund supports BREDL's
endowment and our long-term ability to
serve communities.** Individual gifts are
accepted throughout the year. All
donations to BREDL are tax deductible.
Contributions to the fund will benefit the
organization and honor the woman who
gave so much to make our world better,
one community at a time.