# Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mine Site Screen Report

This form is for use at the site of abandoned uranium mines (AUM) located on Navajo Nation lands. Applicable sites include all mine and mine features that have or have not undergone reclamation by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program, including features, adits and pits. Applicable sites also include all AUM sites listed in the USEPA CERCLIS database, all sites listed in the 2008 AUM GIS Report issued by USACOE and USEPA, all AUM sites on allotment lands associated with the Navajo Nation, and any and all AUM sites lands not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands but that are or may be impacting Navajo lands will need to be coordinated with the authorities appropriate to those lands.

The purpose of the form is to ascertain the status and location of the identified AUM site, to record all immediate site information associated with the mine site and to document the recommendation and/or decision on what additional steps, if any, are needed at the site.

**Westwater #1 AUM Site** 

Navajo AUM Eastern Region

Prepared by:

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Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

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# Part I **Site Identification, Location and Status** Site Names and ID numbers as applicable Mine ID: 311 Map ID: E28 **CERCLIS:** NNN 000 908 754 NAMLRP: **NOT ASSIGNED New Mexico Mining and Mineral Division ID**: NM0107 New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources: NMMK0341 Local name / Aliases: Westwater, Green Hornet, Westwater No. 1 Chapter and local area: Inyabito **Lat/Long:** 35.5546127267 N / -108.499535182 W Local Post Office: Church Rock, **Nearby road and highway:** NM-566, Interstate 40 NM Land Status: check one or more and provide ownership and contact information below **Tribal Trust Land Tribal Fee Land Allotment** Fee land **Public lands Private Bureau of Land Mgmt** State

#### Ownership and contact information:

No ownership was identified. The mine site property is classified as State of New Mexico land.

#### Part II Site Observations

Observed Structures: list number of and describe human habitation status of structures at the following distances from mine:

**0 to 200 feet:** None **200 feet to 0.25 mile:** None

Observed Public or commercial structure: list and describe all schools, clinics, Chapter Houses, places of business and any other structure used by members of the community at the following distances:

0 to 200 feet: None 200 feet to 0.25 mile: None

Levels measured around the perimeter(s) of the identified structure(s):

None

Observed water sources: list the number and type of wells and surface water sources that are potentially used for human consumption at the following distances from the mine:

0 to 0.25 miles: None 0.25 miles to 4 miles: None

Sensitive environments: note and describe all sensitive environments located within visible range of the mine site, including: wetlands, endangered species habitats and approximate locations of sites that may be under protection of the government of the Navajo Nation.

None observed

Known Site History: include information from interviews with Chapter officials and residents.

Note information on mine ownership, period of operation, and type of mining operation.

Westwater #1 mine consists of a surface area of 20,640.17 square meters with approximately 12,730.52 square meters of underground workings. Any historical information pertaining to mining operations and historical ownership of the mine site appeared to be unclear.

## Part III Type, number and reclamation status of mine features

Provide description and reclamation status of all mine sites and features at site. Include all waste piles, adits, pits and other features, and indicate whether they are open, closed, covered, capped, buried or unreclaimed. Indicate approximate size, shape and extent, including description of any reclamation caps. Note condition of all reclamation caps.

Reclamation status of the mine site is currently unknown. No visible signs of reclamation were observed. A monitoring well was observed within the northern portion of the site. One adit / shaft entrance was observed in the center of the site (Photo 4). No waste piles, or other mine features were observed during the site visit. Due to steep grades, the only accessible portion of the site was a narrow pass running through the center of the site.

# Part IV Summary of radiological readings

### **Background Locations**

#1 13,548 cpm #2 13,400 cpm

Mine site: Westwater #1
- See Figures 1 and 2

**Nearby Structure Perimeter** – None

#### Describe any other radiological measurements:

A total of 445 gamma radiation measurements were collected from mine sites, ranging from 10,119 cpm to 39,985 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

Part V Site sketch of all mine features and readings, including locations of all structures, sources of drinking water and any other important features and radiological readings.

Presented in Figures 1 and 2

Part VI **Response Action Summary** 

**Site Name(s):** Westwater #1 **Chapter:** Inyabito

**Decision Criteria** 

Is there an unreclaimed waste pile at the site? No

At what distance from the waste pile is the nearest residential structure located? N/A

At what distances from the waste pile are there potential drinking water sources? N/A

Is there a reclamation cap or sealed adit in place at the site? No

Is the cap/seal functionally intact? N/A

Is the cap/seal sufficiently degraded to create a concern about releases? N/A

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic structure located? N/A

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic drinking water source? N/A

**Summary of emergency response factors** 

None

**Summary hazard ranking system factors** 

None

**Summary of reclamation factors** 

No known reclamation

# Part VII Photos



Photo 1. Westwater # 1 mine site, towards the southwest



Photo 2. Westwater # 1 mine site ridge down-slope, east of cliff area, towards the southwest

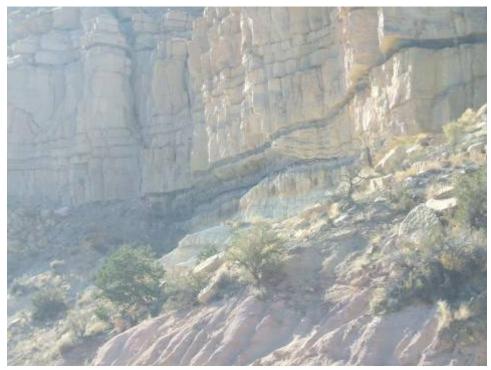


Photo 3. Westwater # 1 mine site cliff face, towards the south



Photo 4. Westwater # 1 mine site shaft/adit along cliff face, towards the northwest

# **Part VIII** Contacts Reports and Information

| Name_Stanley Edison   |
|---|
| Title or official role (if any) Navajo EPA Superfund Program                  |
| Address PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515                                    |
| Telephone number 928- 871-6861  |
| Information provided <u>General Background and Contact/Access Information</u> |
|   |
| Name  |
| Title or official role (if any)   |
| Telephone number  |
| Information provided  |
|   |
| Name  |
| Title or official role (if any)   |
| Telephone number  |
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