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, pits and waste piles. 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 not listed in any database located on Navajo lands. Reconnaissance of any sites located on lands adjacent to Navajo lands that 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, and record all immediate site information associated with the mine site. Decisions and recommendations on what additional steps are needed will be provided on a separate document.

Emmett Lee No. 1 AUM Site

Navajo AUM Western Region

Prepared by:

Weston Solutions, Inc.

Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

12767.063.599.1111

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Part I Site Identification, Location and Status

Site Names and ID numbers as applicable

Mine ID: 550

Map ID: W111

CERCLIS: NNN000909127

Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program: NA-0194

Local name / Aliases: Emmet Lee #1; E. Lee #1

Chapter and local area: Coalmine Mesa Chapter

County: Coconino State: Arizona

Lat/Long: 35.6533372424 N / -111.303352926 W

Nearby road and highway: Indian Route 6730 Local Post Office: Cameron, AZ

Surface Land Status: check one or more and provide ownership and contact information below

Tribal Trust Land	\bowtie	Public lands
Private		Tribal Fee Land
Bureau of Land Mgmt		Allotment
State		Fee land

Subsurface Mineral Rights:

No information on subsurface mineral rights ownership was found in the EPA/AUM Database.

Claim and operator information:

The mine site surface land status is classified as Tribal Trust Land. Historical documents showed the operator of the mine as the Utah Southern Oil Company from 1956 to 1958. No additional ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA/AUM database.

Number of residential structures within 200 feet of mine: None

Estimated volume of mine waste onsite: None

Part II Summary of radiological readings

Highest gamma radiation measurement:

22,671 counts per minute (cpm)

Describe any other radiological measurements:

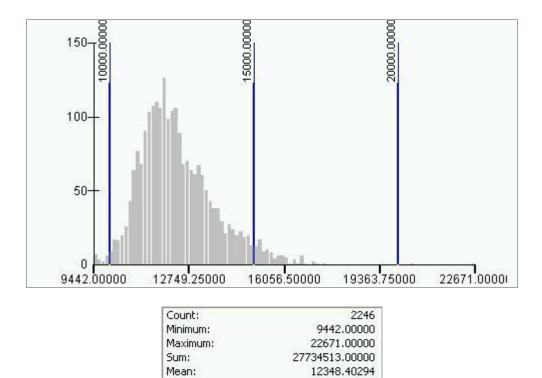
A total of 2,246 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 9,442 cpm to 22,671 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

Background Readings: 9,513 cpm; 9,768 cpm

Background Average: 9,641 cpm

Distribution Chart and Statistics:

The following chart and statistics were generated by ESRI ArcGIS 9.3.1, and show the general distribution of the site gamma radiation measurements. The horizontal X axis represents the gamma radiation reading levels in cpm (lowest levels to the left). The vertical Y axis represents the frequency of each gamma radiation level.



12115.00000

1312.26714

Median:

Standard Deviation:

Part III Status of Reclamation and Mine Waste

The following information was obtained from the Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program (NAMLRP) Point Features Database:

NAMLRP Status of the mine site: Reclaimed : Yes Waste Pile onsite : No

NAMLRP Project Number: NA-0194

NAMLRP Mine features: None

The following information was obtained from field observations collected during the 2010 site screening:

Provide description and 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 caps.

Observed reclamation work and status:

Adits None

Waste Piles None

Pits None

Shafts None

Other Debris and Mine Features

Series of reclamation berms, over area identified on old topo maps as "tailings", berms cover the corner area between sites 159, 549, 550, and 1041, breached in the southwest

Part IV

Site observations and Environs

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: Little Colorado River Basin approximately 1 mi W of the site

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, type of mining operation, period of operation, known amount of production, and any other information as provided.

Emmett Lee No. 1 mine consists of an area of 84,037.01 m². The mine was identified as being operational from 1956 to 1958. Historical documents showed the operator of the mine as the Utah Southern Oil Company from 1956 to 1958. While operational, the mine had a total production volume of 840 tons. The Emmett Lee No. 1, Julius Chee No. 3 (549), and Julius Chee No. 4 (159) sites reportedly mined from a single common pit. No other historical information or any additional ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA/AUM database.

Part V Response Action Summary

Summary of Evaluation Factors:

Accessibility:

Was the mine easily accessible to potential human activity? Yes

Radiological Measurements:

Were any gamma radiation measurements collected at the mine greater than two times the site-specific background levels? Yes

Waste Piles:

Were any unreclaimed waste piles observed at the mine with gamma radiation measurements greater than two times the site-specific background levels? No

Structures:

Were any structures observed within 200 feet of the mine? No

Potential Drinking Water Sources:

Were any potential drinking water sources observed within 4 miles of the mine? Yes

Reclamation:

Was the mine reported to be previously reclaimed, or did the mine appear to be reclaimed?

Yes (reclamation berms)

Part VI Photos



Photo 1. Emmett Lee No. 1 mine site



Photo 2. Emmett Lee No. 1 mine site, berm area



Photo 3. Emmett Lee No. 1 mine site, berm area

Part VII Contacts Reports and Information

Name: <u>Stanley Edison (928) 871-6861</u>

Eugene Esplain (928) 871-7331

Title or official role (if any) Navajo EPA Superfund Program

Address____PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515

Information provided <u>Lead Regulatory Agency</u>

Name	
Title or official role (if any)	
Address	-
Telephone number	
Information provided	-
Name	
Title or official role (if any)	
Telephone number	
Information provided	
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Information provided	

