

Tribes, Mining and EJ

EPA's Office of Environmental Justice & External Civil Rights (OEJECR)

EJ Webinar Series for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples - June 26, 2024

*Hosted by Andy Bessler –
OEJECR Tribal Stakeholder
Coalition Coordinator*



Webinar Agenda

- 1. Welcome & Introductions**
- 2. Mindful Moment, Christy Draper, Mindful EPA**
- 3. Patty McGrath, Senior Mining Advisor, Office of Policy, U.S. EPA**
- 4. Ben Simes and Jacob Phillips, Office of Mountains, Deserts and Plains and R9, U.S. EPA**
- 5. Rose Yazzie and Carl Atcitty, Black Mesa United, Navajo Nation**
- 6. Nicole Horseherder, To' Nizhóní Aní' (Beautiful Water Speaks), Navajo Nation**
- 7. Q & A with Presenters**
- 8. OEJECR Updates (as time permits)**



Mindful Moment

With Christy Draper

Christy Draper is a Quality Assurance Manager for the EPA Gulf Ecology Measurement and Modeling Division located in Gulf Breeze, Florida. She is also a meditation facilitator for Mindful EPA.





EJ Best Practices and Mining

EPA EJ Webinar Series for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples

June 26, 2024

Agenda

- Potential impacts from mining operations on Tribes and Tribal resources
- Best practices for addressing EJ and Tribal issues
 - New proposed mines and existing mines
 - Abandoned mines



Mining Impacts on Tribes

- Mining footprint unavoidable during operations
 - If inadequately managed, environmental contamination can occur, be broad in scope and difficult to remedy
 - Noise, transportation, etc. can impact wildlife and movement patterns
 - Can result in significant impacts on Tribes and Tribal resources
 - Mining can have negative or beneficial social and economic impacts
-
- Best practice to avoid and minimize impacts – robust mine plans and regulatory processes and meaningful Tribal involvement

Mine Operating and Reclamation Plans

- Proposed and active mining operations must have a mine plan of operations
- These plans specify:
 - How mining and processing will occur
 - Waste rock, tailings, and water management
 - Monitoring
 - Interim closure
 - Final reclamation & closure
- Financial assurance for reclamation & closure
- Plans are updated as needed



Regulatory Context for New & Existing Mines

- Mine operation & reclamation plans
 - Developed and implemented by mining companies
 - Approved and overseen by Federal land management agencies (e.g., BLM and US Forest Service) and/or State agencies
- Environmental permits
 - Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, etc.
 - Issued and overseen by authorized states, US Army Corps, EPA
- Federal consultations
 - Tribal, and if applicable (Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, etc.)
- State-specific permits
 - Waste management, tailings dam safety, water rights, etc.
 - Issued and overseen by state environmental and land/natural resource agencies
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
 - May be developed by BLM, US Forest Service, or US Army Corps
 - EISs reviewed by EPA

Mining - Tribal and EJ Challenges Summary

- Potential for environmental and social impacts which can be disproportionate for Tribes
- Engaging in the NEPA and permitting process is challenging
- During mine operations and closure there can be a lack of transparency about the mining operation (plans can change), environmental impacts, and compliance
- And now - additional domestic mining is anticipated to respond to critical minerals needs

Critical Minerals

- Executive Order 14017 – called on Federal agencies to strengthen the resilience of critical minerals and electric vehicle (EV) supply chains
- Whole-of-government actions
 - Recycling
 - International trade
 - More domestic mining
 - Review mining laws and policies

Critical minerals (USGS 2022): aluminium, antimony, arsenic, barite, beryllium, bismuth, cerium, cesium, chromium, cobalt, dysprosium, erbium, europium, fluorspar, gadolinium, gallium, graphite, hafnium, holmium, indium, lanthanum, lithium, lutetium, magnesium, manganese, neodymium, nickel, niobium, palladium, platinum, praseodymium, rhodium, rubidium, samarium, scandium, tantalum, tellurium, terbium, thulium, tin, titanium, vanadium, ytterbium, yttrium, zinc, zirconium

Green = EV battery minerals

Yellow = rare earth elements



Best Practices – Meaningful Engagement and Consultation

- Early and sustained engagement on mine plan reviews, EISs, and permits
- Cooperating agency in EIS development
- Sharing of information
- Meetings, advisory groups, etc.
- Consultation with Tribal governments



Best Practices – Indigenous Knowledge (IK)

- Collection and use of IK
 - EIS and permitting
 - Baseline data
 - Identification of sensitive areas/resources to inform analysis of alternatives to the proposed mine plan and mitigations
 - Decision-making
 - Future land use to inform the reclamation plan and closure
 - Monitoring during mining and reclamation



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

November 30, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: Arati Prabhakar, Ph.D. *Arati Prabhakar*
Assistant to the President and Director
Office of Science and Technology Policy

Brenda Mallory *Brenda Mallory*
Chair, Council on Environmental Quality

SUBJECT: Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Indigenous Knowledge

I. Introduction

The Federal Government recognizes the valuable contributions of the Indigenous Knowledge¹ that Tribal Nations² and Indigenous Peoples³ have gained and passed down from generation to generation and the critical importance of ensuring that Federal departments and agencies' (Agencies) consideration and inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge is guided by respect for the sovereignty and self-determination of Tribal Nations; the Nation-to-Nation relationship between the United States and Tribal Nations and the United States' trust responsibility; and the need for the consent of and honest engagement with Tribal Nations and Indigenous Peoples. The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) issue this guidance to assist Agencies in (1) understanding Indigenous Knowledge, (2) growing and maintaining the mutually beneficial relationships with Tribal Nations and Indigenous Peoples needed to appropriately include Indigenous Knowledge, and (3) considering, including, and applying Indigenous Knowledge in Federal research, policies, and

Best Practices – Capacity Building

- Funding, training or other resources for:
 - Participation in engagement & consultation on the mine permitting and EIS process
 - Monitoring during operations & reclamation
- Funding opportunities
 - Federal agencies
 - States
 - Mining companies – benefit agreements

EPA Resources for Tribes

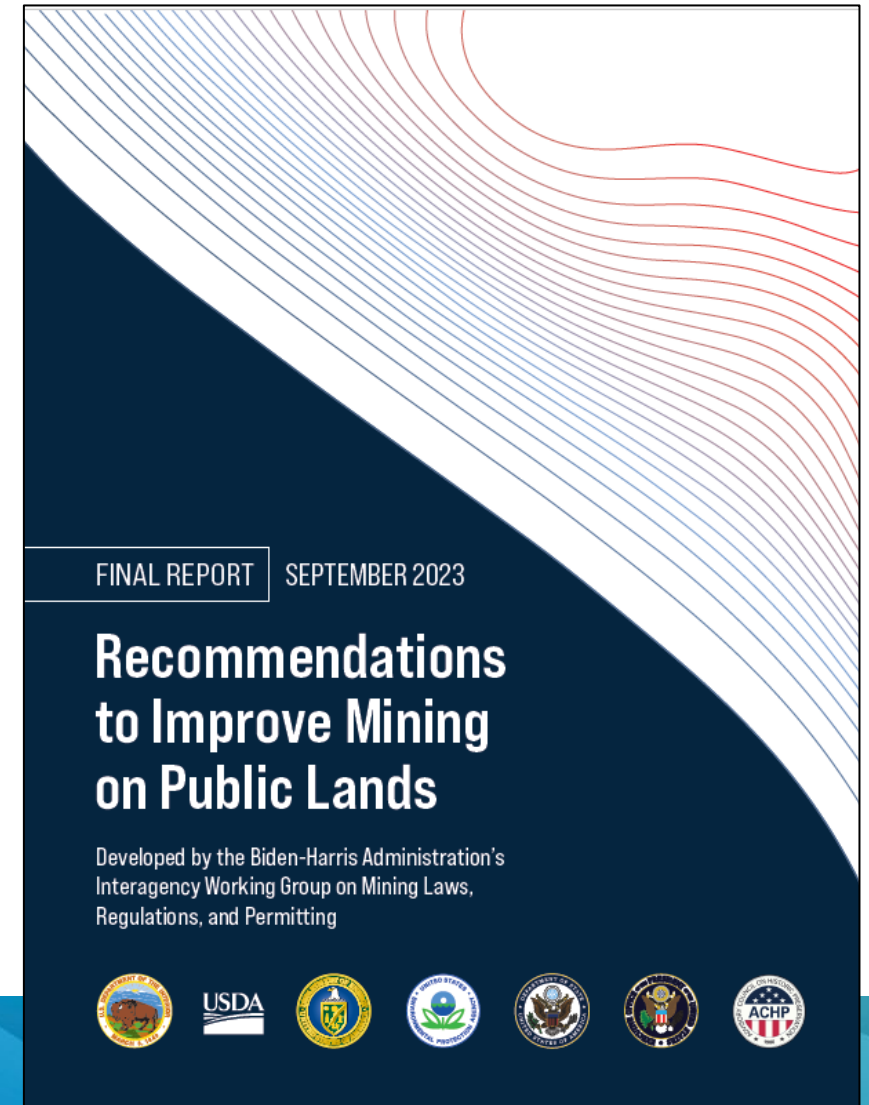
- Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (GAP):
<https://www.epa.gov/general-assistance-program-gap>
- Environmental Justice Grants:
<https://www.epa.gov/environmental-justice/environmental-justice-grants-funding-and-technical-assistance>

Mining and Tribal Solutions

- Mine and reclamation plan developed through consensus building
- Tribes have capacity to be meaningfully engaged during EIS and permitting
- Tribal engagement continues after mine plan approval
 - Tribes made aware of and have opportunities for involvement if there are significant changes
- Tribes offered a role in monitoring, advisory committees, and co-stewardship (depending on future land use)
- Benefit agreements with mine operator

Federal Interagency Actions – Mining & Tribes

- Federal Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Mining Laws, Regulations & Permitting
 - Led by DOI
 - Reviewed mining laws, regulations and permitting
 - Tribal engagement and consultation
 - Final report (2023) = 65 recommendations
- White House Council on Native American Affairs - Critical Minerals Working Group
 - Led by DOE and DOI
 - Hear from Tribes to determine priority Mining IWG Report recommendations to implement and other actions to support Tribes



Mining IWG Report Recommendations

- Recommendations to improve Tribal engagement and protections and EJ
 - Transparency (plans, monitoring, compliance)
 - Include Tribal governments in mine plan submittal meetings
 - Consult on reclamation plans & financial assurance
 - Additional efforts to include Tribal governments as NEPA-EIS cooperating agencies
 - Additional protections for tribal cultural sites and resources
 - Incorporate IK
 - Increase engagement
 - Provide funding for engagement in reviews of mining proposal and shared monitoring

<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/departments-interior-agriculture-advance-mining-reforms-aimed-protecting-and>
<https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/mriwg-report-final-508.pdf>



Contact Info:

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Legacy Mining Tribal Best Practices



Superfund National Radiation Meeting
Benjamin Simes, OMDP and Jacob Phipps, R9
June 2024

Topics

- EPA Acknowledgement
- Superfund Program – Community Outreach
- Engagement
- Risk Communication
- Indigenous Knowledge in Risk Assessments –Navajo Nation Abandoned Uranium Mines Calculator Case Study

The views of the author of this presentation are those of the author and do not represent Agency policy or endorsement.

Engagement

- No one size fits all approach
- Meetings should be tailored to local community
- Meaningful
- Early and often
- In person

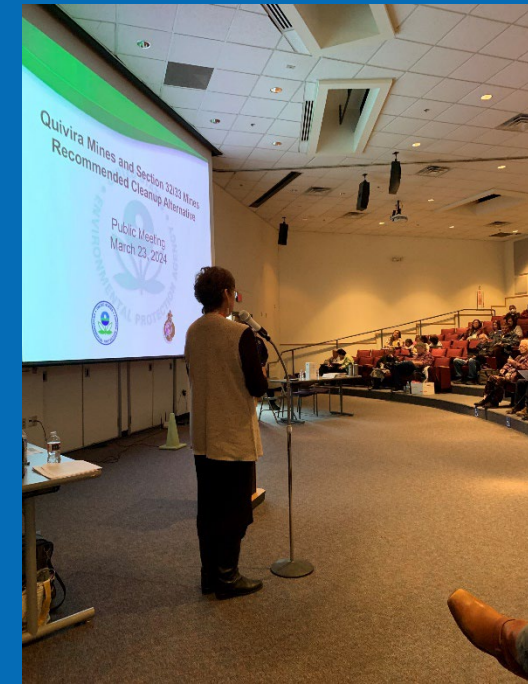


Pictures from Navajo Nation EPA and U.S. EPA Listening Session: Tuba City, AZ




Engagement, cont...

- Outreach Strategy
 - Online/Social Media/Twitter
 - Radio
 - Newspaper
 - Community Bulletin Boards/Flyers
 - Translated Materials



Quivira Mines Community Meeting, University of New Mexico, Gallup.



Leetsoh Hadasgeed T'ó Bik'ih honoo dzoodígíí
 Leezh Leetsoh bil hadasgeedígíí léyah Bikáá' dóo nahjí' kó daalne'
 doo gi' lists'áá' bee Álah Alech doo
 T'áá Chil naadiin dóo naadiin dimííí dóo naadiin dóo' yihah go
 Kisáanii Bitsás K'eh Báhoohan di, Tónaneesdizi di

Baa nida'azhnish gi baa ná háne':
 Kináhalgai Náhat'íi bil ha hoodzohígíí k'ad leetsoh nahdeé' Diné bikéyah bikáá' góo hadasgeed yééh heit'égo nahgóo kó da doolnííí gi nah yik'ih yálti', díí b'aaq náá hwiit'áá' bil álah nida'ale' bee Hazáanii CERCLA wólyé bii' yisdzoh dóo bik'eh gi' áho doolnííí gi yeehasá. Office of Land and Emergency Management (OLEM)/Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains (OMDP) dóo da'iniish dóo Kináhalgai EPA Kéyah Yik'ih Deezi'ígíí 'ígíí yikéé' yizj' díí leetsoh bee' anáhwíit éhígíí t'áá'á'yisíí ndtsaa go anáhwíit' ééh biniinaa Kíáhalgia dóo alah déé' wáashin doon dóo Bikáagi Yishtizhii da'iniishígíí yíí da'ahii tsood dóo nálaa di bilá'ashla'ii bee bich'í anáhwíit téhígíí yégo bil adcezhnish díí jíí di.

Bina'áant'áan ts'ósi táá' yolkát, naaki dimííí dóo naadiin táá' yihah dáá' Kináhalgai déé' (EPA) Kéyah Yik'ih Deezi'ígíí dóo da'iniish dóo Office of Land and Emergency Management dóo Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA) dóo EPA Hástáah bil haahoodzoh dóo Náhas t'éí bil ha hoodzoh déé' da'iniishígíí B'é'édíííí simíí, Yootó haahoodzoh jíí alah siljí', índa t'áá' ákooh kéédahat' íngíí, dóo Bikáagi Yishtizhii alah Diné' é dóo Hótsaa hadahasdzoh jíí díí yílnishígíí da'ákwii Diné bikéyah bikáá' dóo Leetsoh leezh bil hadasgeed yééh Diné bikéyah bikáá' dóo nahgóo ko doolníííí ha'nínií go baa'álah áleehígíí baa hadesdzih daa níí go 'ákwe' é yaa' álah siljí'.



Engagement, cont...

- Variations of standard meetings
 - Refreshments
 - Incorporate local traditions
 - Time/Location/Accessibility
 - Translators
 - Facilitators
 - Site Tours



Pictures from Navajo Nation EPA and U.S. EPA Listening Session Field Trip, Cameron, AZ



Risk Communication

- Communities primarily rely on Regional Community Involvement Coordinators (CIC) and Remedial Project Managers (RPM)
- CIC members reside in the community and are critical to engagement and community involvement
- Past Efforts

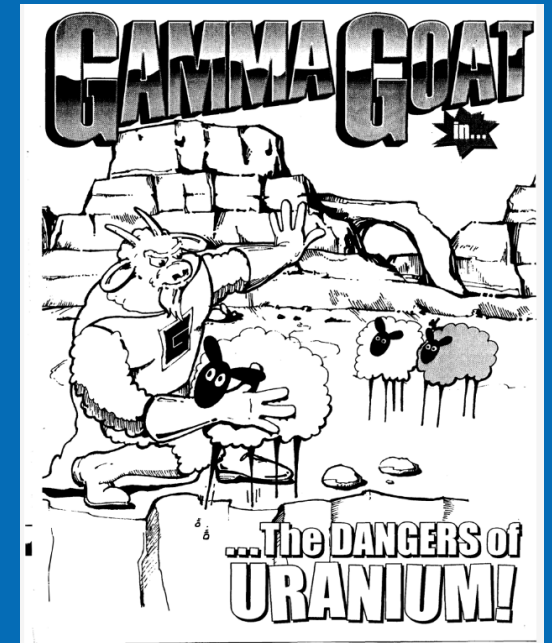
Fact Sheets

Trainings

Community Outreach Networks

Gamma Goat – Comic

Resource List



Pictures from EPA Navajo Nation Uranium Cleanup
Web address:
<https://www.epa.gov/navajo-nation-uranium-cleanup>



Risk Communication

- Current and Future Efforts

The need for more EFFECTIVE risk communication

- Alternative ideas other than fact sheets and trainings
- Animations of legacy and current exposure
- Videos of risks associated with response activities
- Supplemental media – artwork, paintings, graphics, 3-D Models, and comics
- Partnering with Superfund Research Centers – University of Arizona and University of New Mexico
- Other local universities and schools

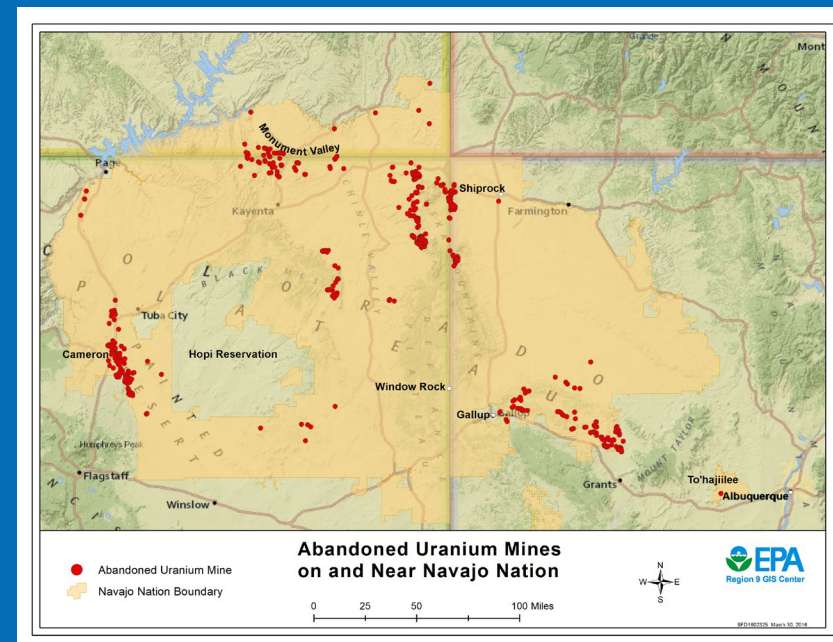
Indigenous Knowledge in Risk Assessments – Case Study

NNEPA raised concerns to USEPA regarding risk assessments for the more than 500 Navajo Abandoned Uranium Mines (NAUMs):

- USEPA defaults do not address Navajo lifeways
- Significant inconsistency when Navajo lifeways were considered

In response, USEPA R9 offered to work jointly with NNEPA to:

- Incorporate tribal lifeways into site risk assessments
- Build a single approach across the NAUM program



EPA generated map

Indigenous Knowledge in Risk Assessments

Goal: Develop Navajo-specific parameters that fit within the RSL and PRG calculator framework

Five-person group met regularly over 2 years

NNEPA in lead role: Developing numerical risk assessment approaches and parameters based on tribal lifeways

USEPA in technical support role: Provided expertise/advice to NNEPA in risk assessment, toxicology, and health physics, etc.

Examples of Specific Risk Assessment Input Parameters and Information Sources

Recognition of missing parameters:

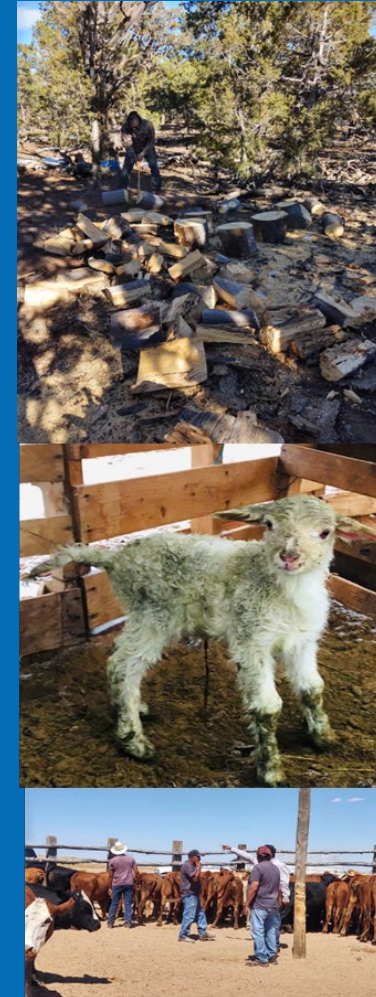
- Exposure duration of a resident
- Addressing Navajo ceremonial and spiritual activities etc.
- Special Inhalation, Ingestion, and Dermal Pathways

NNEPA engaged Navajo elders, communities, and tribal government:

- Meetings with Dine Medicine Men Association
- Discussions with community members in historic mining districts
- Use of Navajo government information sources: Navajo Housing Authority research, Navajo DOJ homesite/grazing leases, etc.
- Based in Dine Fundamental Law

USEPA provided technical support as NNEPA used this information to develop scenarios and numerical values:

- Examples from existing tribal and other risk assessments
- Supporting research on physical/chemical/biological limits
- USEPA risk assessment guidance and HQ policy



Dust
Inhalation
Examples

Work Products

- Five Default Land Use Scenarios: Starting point for NAUM risk assessments
- Developed Values for Parameters in Each Scenario:
 - Used pathways from PRG and RSL Calculators
 - Built new-but-similar approaches for some lifeways not covered
- Navajo Risk Calculator: Allows NAUM stakeholders to easily use these scenarios at their sites

	Water supply	Slope	Accessibility
kee'da'whíí tééh (Residential)	Constant water supply or steady source of water	At least 0.5 acres of contiguous area with less than 35% slope	fully accessible
Kq̄q̄ bí t'íí nakaí (Sheep Camp)	Water supply through trucking it in (i.e. 1 mile from a road)	At least 0.5 acres of contiguous area with less than 35% slope	Seasonally accessible
Kq̄q̄ eí nahaazáh (Easy Access)	Does not have a constant supply of water	Has a slope greater than 35% and difficult accessibility	Physically accessible by walking
Kq̄q̄ eí doo nahaazáh dah (Difficult Access)	Does not have a constant supply of water	Has a slope greater than 35% and difficult accessibility	Physically accessible by strenuous hiking/climbing
Ch'íí dah wiíh t'eezh (Drainages and Washes)	connected to a stream or part of a water drainage system	not applicable	physically accessible by walking or hiking



A Just Transition for Navajos living within the Peabody Western Coal Company (PWCC) Leasehold Area

**By: Rose Yazzie, BMU President
Carl Etsitty, BMU Secretary**

EJ and Mining: Advancing EJ through Tribal Solutions and Reclaiming Mined Lands

EPA EJ Webinar Series for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

2:30 PM ET – 4:00 PM ET

Black Mesa United, Inc.



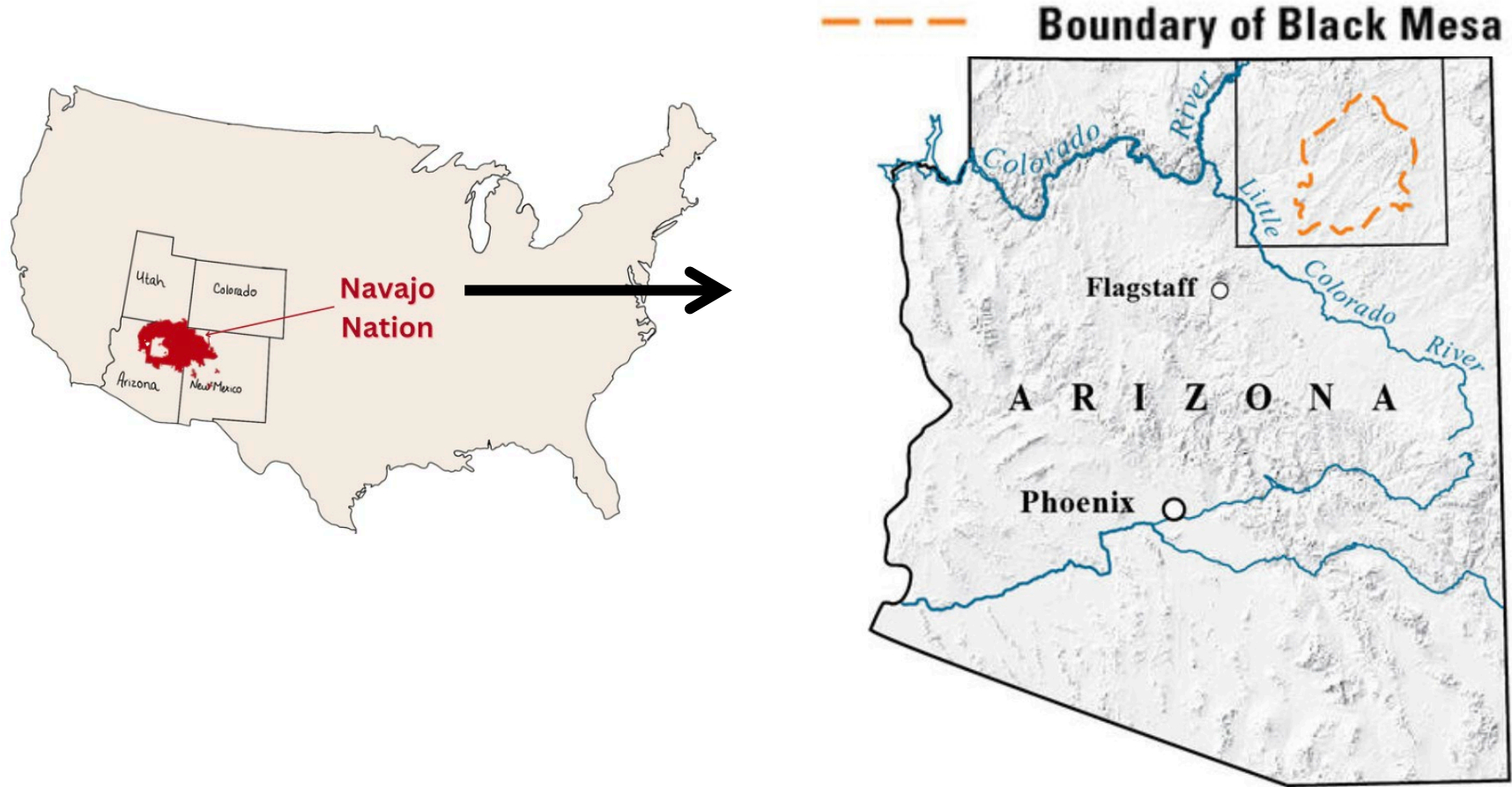
Rose Yazzie, Pres



Carl Etsitty,
Secretary



Location of Black Mesa, AZ

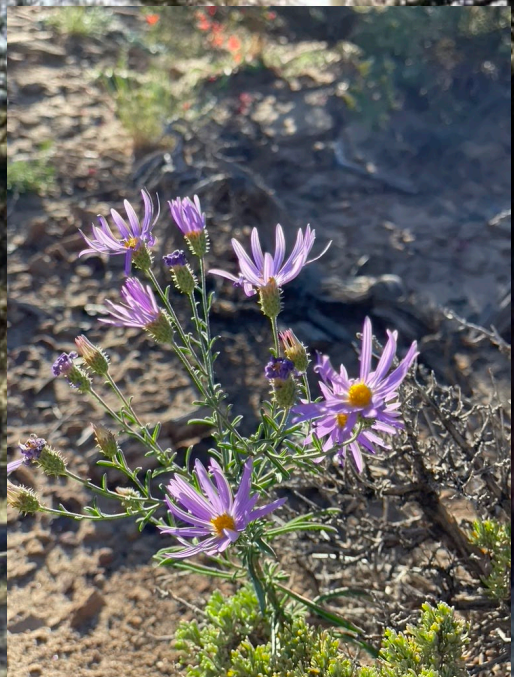


Location of Black Mesa, AZ





Black Mesa United
Ziiljiiin Bee'Áhóta'





sa United
tee'Áhóta'






Black Mesa United
Ziiljiiin Bee'Áhóta'



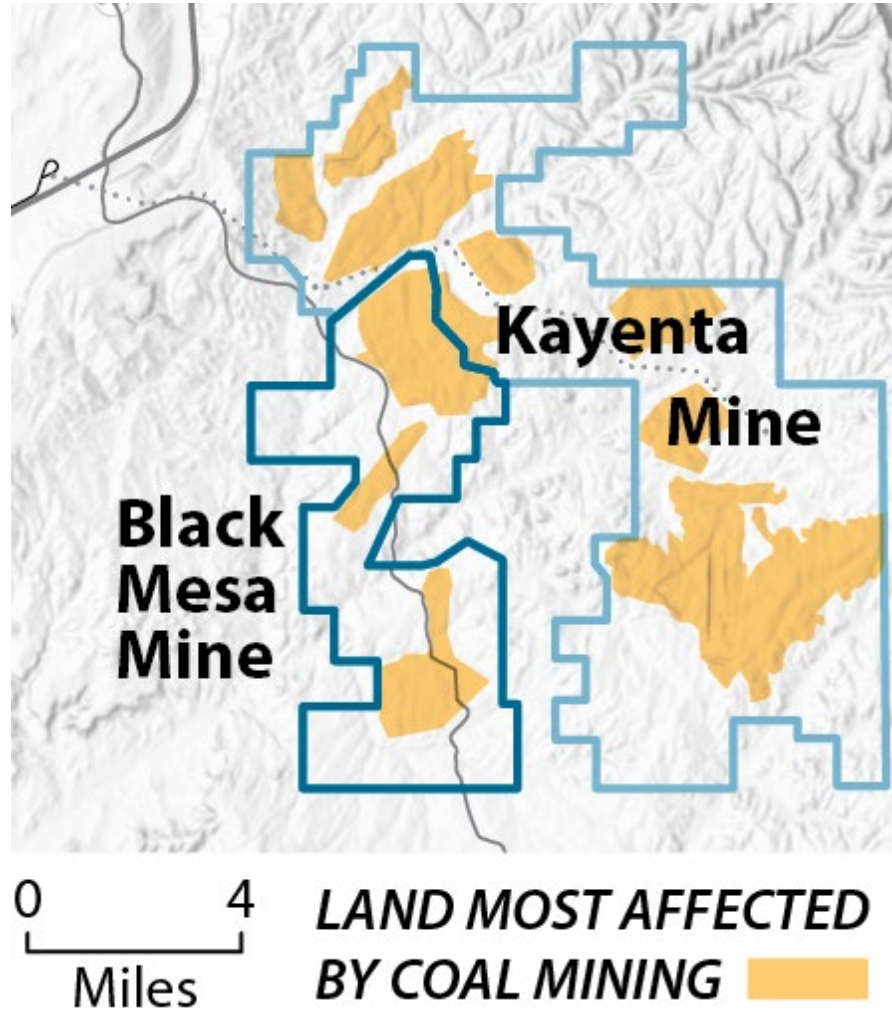


1964 Peabody Coal Mine Lease



Source: esri.com

Current OSMRE standards are insufficient to ensure coal communities are properly compensated for environmental impacts of coal mining



EARTH

March 1993
76 cents



Forced Relocation. No just compensation.



Negative Health Impacts

- Cancer clusters
- Respiratory diseases (asthma, black lung, silicosis, etc)
- Stomach cancer, skin irritation
- Bioaccumulation in livestock and plants
- Air pollution, smog, dust
- Elders, women, and children are most vulnerable



Photo 1: Air pollution consisting of particulates stemming from mining activities are visibly seen on a daily basis within the Black Mesa leasehold areas (Credit: Norman Benally).

Environmental Impacts

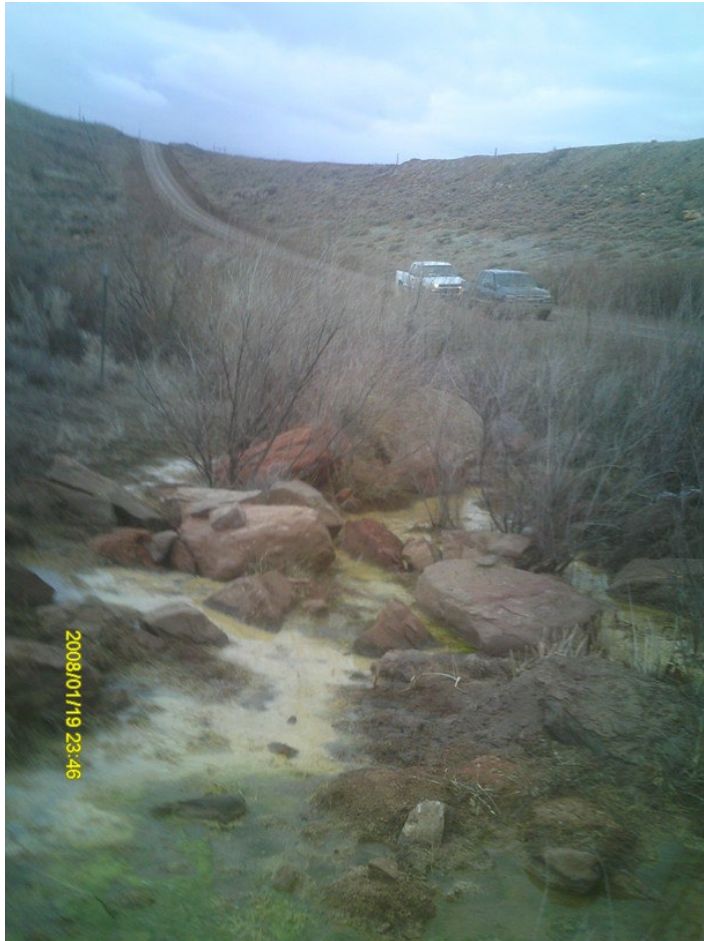


Photo 2: Discolored water in the seepages below Peabody's sediment ponds (Credit: Norman Benally).



Electricity for Vegas, Phx, CA



Norman Benally, a member of the Navajo Nation, at his home near the closed Black Mesa Mine in Kayenta, September 7, 2010 | *Scott D.W. Smith/The New York Times via Redux*

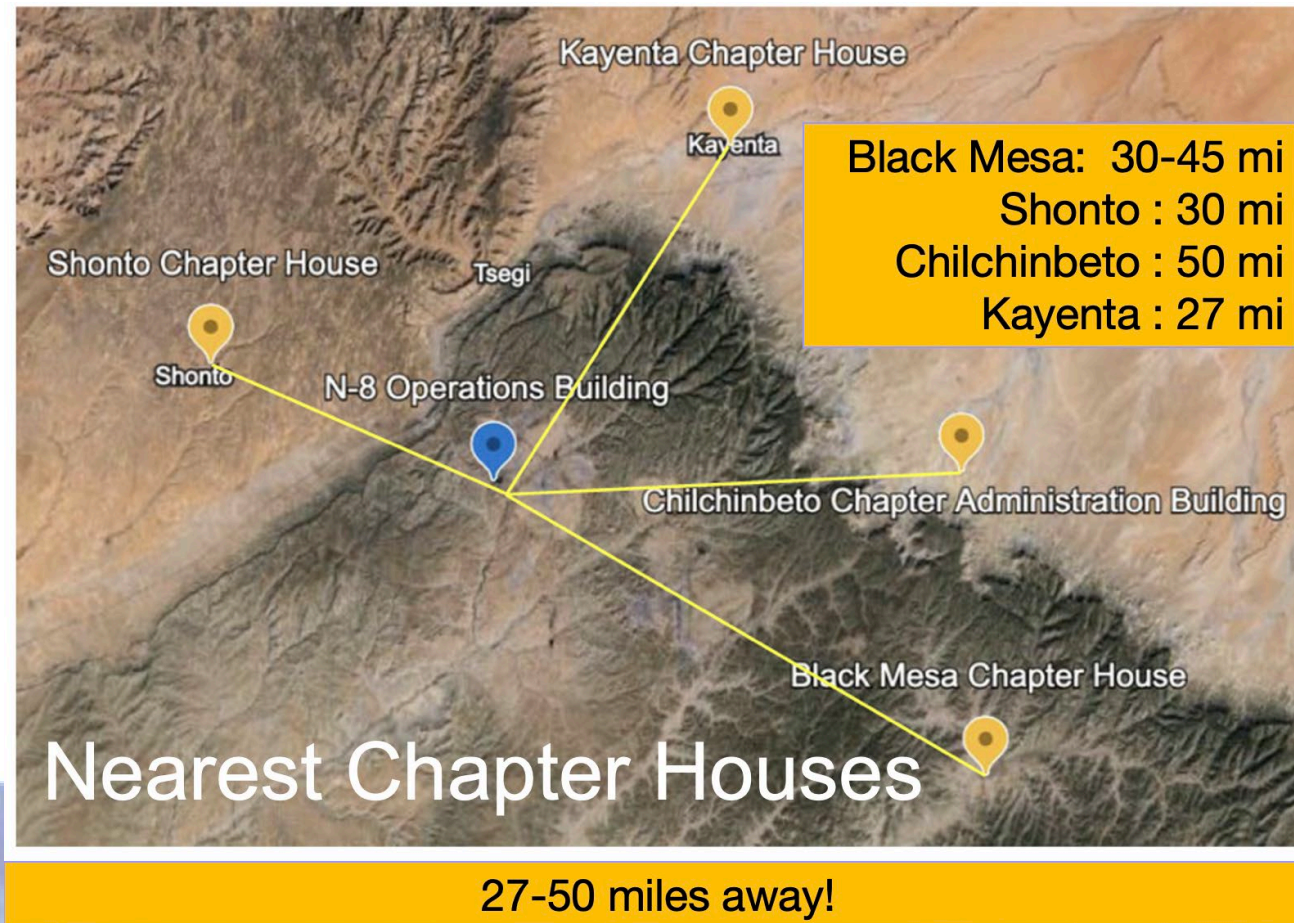
Lack of electricity, running water

- 0% have running water
- 6 of 10 residents have no electricity
- Hauling water 5-30 miles

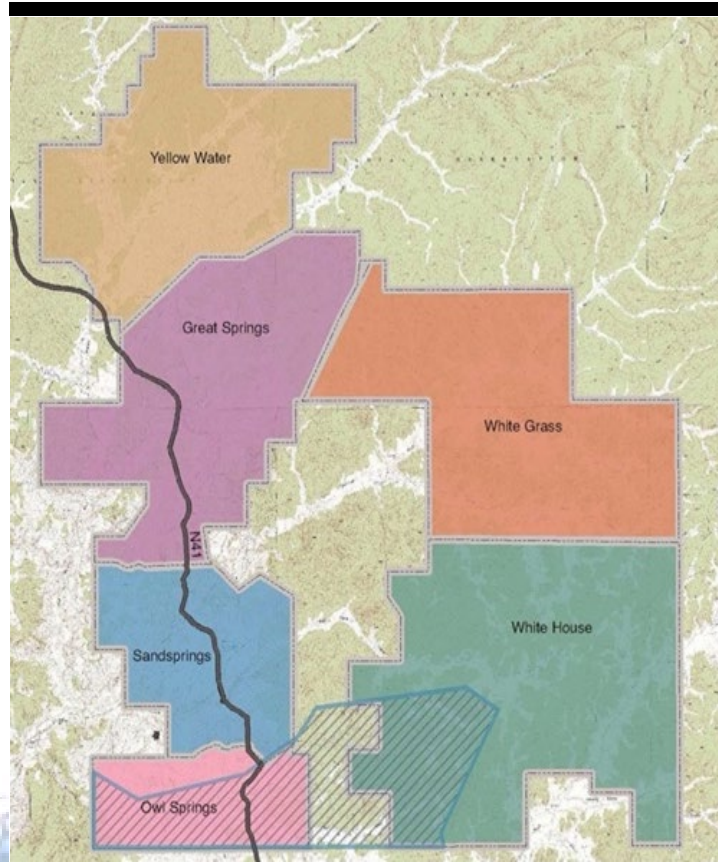


Ineffectiveness of Navajo Chapters & lack of representation

- Fragmented among several chapters that are 27-50 miles away
- Chapters do not understand needs of coal impacted residents



Black Mesa United- Dzilijiin Bee Ahota, Inc.



- Navajos on Black Mesa who live within Peabody Leasehold Area
- Affiliated with 6 sectors in the leasehold area
 1. Great Springs
 2. Sagebrush Springs
 3. Sand Springs
 4. Yellow Water
 5. White Grass
 6. White House





Why do we exist?

- To support a Just Transition Post-Coal mining
- To promote the economic, social, and educational advancement of residents

Closure of Peabody 2005, 2019



A crowd gathers as the smokestacks of the Navajo Generating Station come down in December outside Page, Arizona. [Cassidy Araiza/High Country News](#)



Institute for Energy Economics
and Financial Analysis

The U.S. Department of the Interior has failed to hold Peabody Western Coal Company responsible for the effects of its decades-long mining activities in the Black Mesa region of Arizona.

Despite the recent release of reclamation bonds, neither Peabody nor OSMRE have addressed the critical issue of Peabody's overuse of groundwater in the region.

The validity of the data produced by the USGS and Peabody is questionable, and the DOI should require the completion of a valid, unbiased hydrological study of the Black Mesa.

OSMRE decisions may have been fair decades ago—when the impact of climate change was not so severe—but the standards and expectations of reclamation plans made in the 1990s are unsuitable for the reality of 2023.



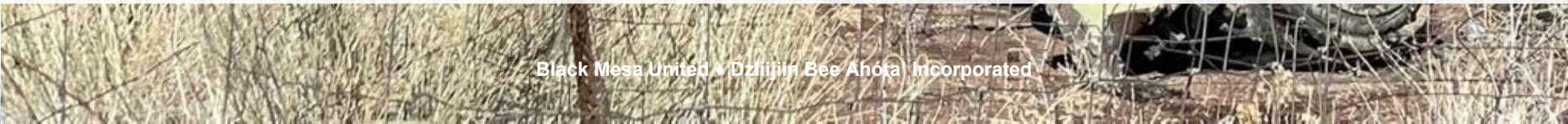
Reclamation & Release of bonds



Bond Release Inspection Area



What is Peabody leaving for Black Mesa?





Black Mesa United
Dziljiin Bee'Áhóta'

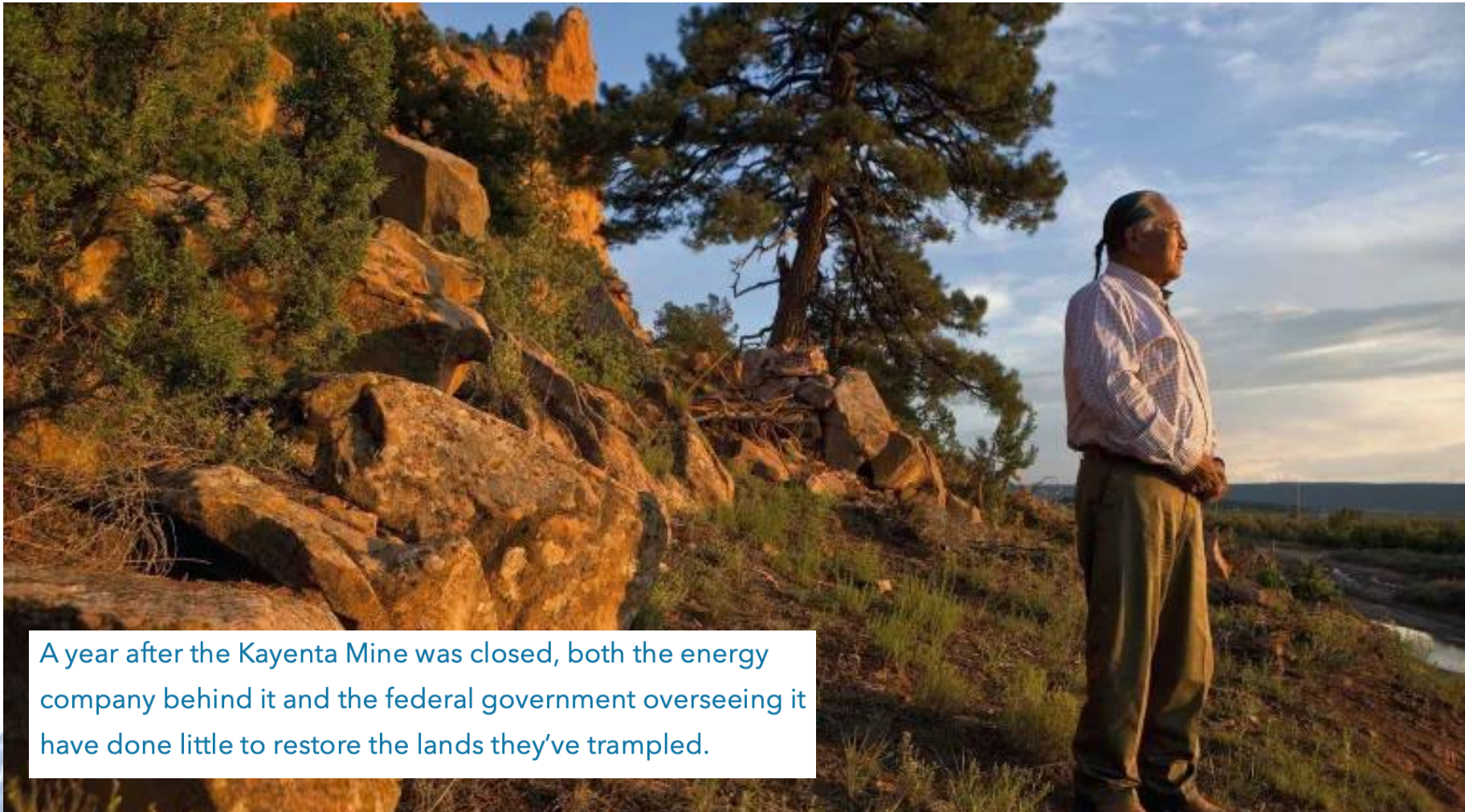


Can we retain infrastructure for the benefit of the people?



Dispatch

After the Local Coal Mine Shuts Down, These Navajo and Hopi Communities Seek a Just Transition



A year after the Kayenta Mine was closed, both the energy company behind it and the federal government overseeing it have done little to restore the lands they've trampled.

Just transition Plan



Letter of Support
from NN Pres. Bu
Nygren
March 19, 2024



“I am committed to just transition for the Navajo residents living in and around the PWCC Leasehold area on Black Mesa.”

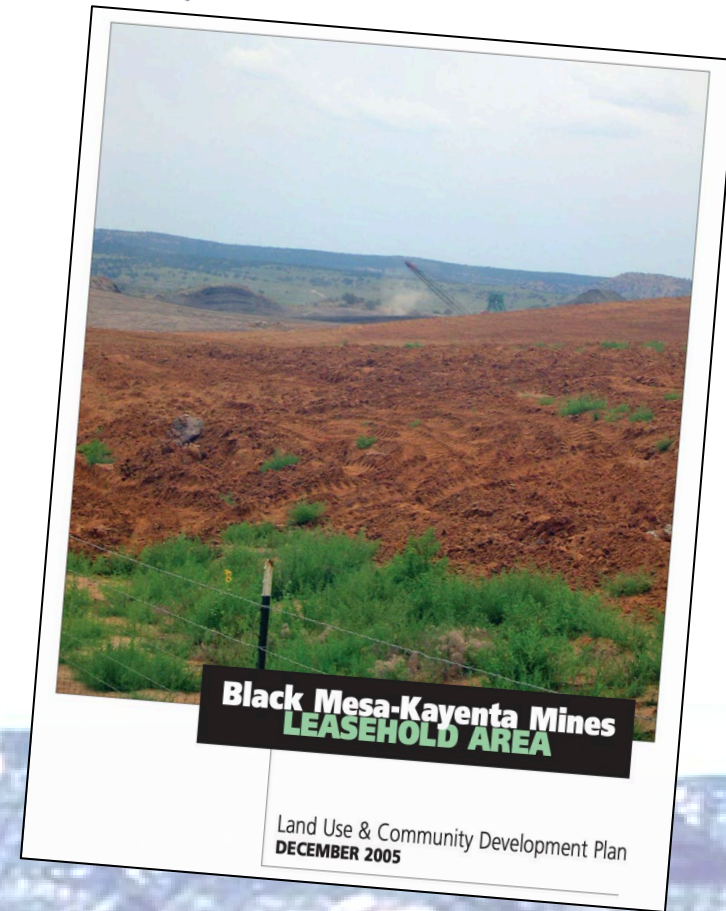


GRAND CANYON
TRUST



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
ARIZONA INSTITUTE FOR RESILIENCE

Indigenous
Resilience Center



Black Mesa Community Hub



- No place for the community to convene
- Lack of access to internet & electricity
- Lack of access to business and educational services
- Convert PWCC building into a community hub



N-8 Operations Building

Time for Questions and/or Comments!



Updates:

U.S. EPA Office of Environmental Justice & External Civil Rights

With Amanda Cronin
Program Analyst, EPA OEJECR





REGISTER & STAY TUNED:

epa.gov/community-equity-resiliency/regional-roadshows

Regional Roadshows

- **Recent:**
 - **Region 1:** Burlington, VT
- **Upcoming:**
 - **Region 10:** Anchorage, AK: Jun 26, 9AM – 3PM
 - **Region 5:** Milwaukee, WI: Aug 15, 2 – 6PM
- **TBA:**
 - **Region 3:** Baltimore, MD
 - **Region 7:** Salt Lake City, UT

EPA's Office of Environmental Justice & External Civil Rights

- **The White House is offering consultation opportunities for Tribal Nations to provide feedback on Executive Order 14112. To learn more, go [here!](#)**
 - *Tribal Consultation for feedback on E.O. 14112, "Reforming Federal Funding and Support for Tribal Nations To Better Embrace Our Trust Responsibilities and Promote the Next Era of Tribal Self Determination."*
 - *Informational Webinar for Tribes only is set for July 8, 2024, at 3:30pm ET*
- **EJ Webinar Series for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples**
 - **On or near the last Wednesday of every month at 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM ET. Features OEJECR Updates, Best EJ Practices, and Tribal Presenters**
 - **Don't miss the next webinar on August 28th on IK, EJ and water!**
 - **What topics would like to see on future webinars?**



EPA's Office of Environmental Justice & External Civil Rights

- **Reminder of OEJECR Web Resources**
 - **Environmental Justice Clearinghouse**
 - **EPA External Civil Rights Docket**
 - **The Environmental Justice Scorecard**
 - **Resources to Help Communities webpage**



HISTORIC EJ Grants for Tribes and Indigenous Peoples

- **Tribal and Territory Grants: Diesel Emissions Reduction Act**
- **Clean Heavy Duty Vehicles Grant Program (Closes July 25, 2024)**
- **Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmakers Program (EJ TCGM)**
- **Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program (EJ CCG)**





Office of Environmental Justice &
External Civil Rights



**COMMUNITY
CHANGE GRANTS**

Environmental and Climate Justice

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Program Overview

Community Change Grants (CCG)

EPA received \$3 billion (b.) through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to fund environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities.

- \$2.8 b. for grants including \$2 b. for the Community Change Grants Program (CCGP).
- \$200 m. for technical assistance related to the grants.
- \$300 m. (estimated) for Target Investment Area (TIA) B for projects benefitting Tribes outside Alaska-Section II.B of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
- \$150 m. for Alaskan Tribes/NGO/CBO's.
- Grants cannot exceed three years (no extensions).
- All grants must be awarded by September 30, 2026.
- **Applications are due November 21, 2024**




Final Thoughts




Find partners and build coalition



Identify meaningful transformative projects to address environmental and climate justice concerns that can be completed within 3 years  (Track I)



Identify governmental policies and programs that can be improved with community voices  (Track II)



Register on **SAM.gov** and **Grants.gov** *now* (this process can take up to a month)



You can follow up with questions at **CCGP@epa.gov**



Stay up to date on webinars by signing up for EPA EJ listserv by sending a blank email to **join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov**



IRA FUNDED GRANTMAKERS

- CHECK OUT THE [GRANTMAKERS FAQ PAGE](#) THAT IS UPDATED REGULARLY!



Environmental Justice
Thriving Communities
Grantmaking Program
(EJ TCGM)

Regional & National
Grantmakers

GRANTS FOR TRIBES AND
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

EJ TCGM FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Approximately \$600 m. to be awarded to 11 Grantmakers

- 9 Regional and 3 National Grantmakers to provide 1000s of subgrants nationwide
- 80% of each \$50 million Regional Grantmaker award will be redistributed in Thriving Community Subgrants [\$40million]
- Tier 1-3 Competitive subgrants available for Assessment, Planning, and Project Development activities ranging from \$150,000 to \$350,000
- Non-competitive awards up to \$75,000 provided to severely capacity-constrained CBO

□ Project Timeline

- 11 cooperative **Agreements** with substantial EPA involvement & oversight
- Grantmakers awarded in **Spring 2024**, subgrant applications open in **Summer 2024**
- **Project Period is 3 years**, funds available until 2027 depending on award date

11 GRANTMAKERS



9 REGIONAL

3 NATIONAL

Proposed Geographic Area	Legal Business Name	Submitter's State	Grant Office
Region 1	Health Resources in Action	MA	Region 1
Region 2	Fordham University	NY	Region 2
Region 3	Green & Healthy Homes Initiative Inc.	MD	Region 3
Region 4	**Research Triangle Institute	NC	Headquarters
Region 5	The Minneapolis Foundation	MN	Region 5
Region 6	*Texas Southern University	TX	Region 6
Region 7	Reference Central National GM		NA
Region 8	JSI Research and Training Institute, Inc.	CO	Region 8
Region 9	Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs (SEE), Inc.	CA	Region 9
Region 10	Philanthropy Northwest	WA	Region 10
National GM East [Regions 1-3]	*Institute for Sustainable Communities	VT	Headquarters
National GM West [Region 8-10]	Climate Justice Alliance	CA	Headquarters
National GM Central [Region 4-7]	**Research Triangle Institute	NC	Headquarters

*RTI will serve as both the Region 4 Grantmaker as well as one of three National Grantmakers

*TCTAC or TCTAC partner

HISTORIC EJ Grants Through the Inflation Reduction Act

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund:

- **\$27 b. for clean energy projects funding and grants for low-income communities**
- **Solar for All provided \$7 b. to 60 awardees, including 6 Tribal awardees**
- **National Clean Investment Fund awarded \$14 b. to 3 entities to create clean financing institutions**
- **\$6 b. for a Clean Communities Investment Accelerator for 5 awardees including the Native CDFI Network (\$400 million award), a nonprofit that serves 60+ U.S. Treasury-certified Native CDFIs, which have a presence in 27 states across rural reservation communities as well as urban communities and have a mission to address capital access challenges in Native communities.**



EPA's Historic Funding & Technical Assistance Opportunities

- **Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (EJ TCTAC) Program available over the next 5 years from 3 national and 14 regional TCTAC's.**
- **EPA's EJ TCTAC Program is part of the Federal Thriving Communities Network Initiative that is working towards a holistic government-wide framework for providing technical assistance.**

EPA
Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs)

In partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy, EPA's TCTAC program is a network of technical assistance centers designed to remove barriers and improve accessibility to environmental and energy justice grant opportunities for communities that are underserved and overburdened.

18 TCTACs
140+ Partners

TCTACs will help communities that are underserved and overburdened to:

- Identify** grant opportunities.
- Prepare** grant applications and **manage** grant funding.
- Build capacity** to effectively engage with decisionmakers.
- Develop** collaborative community-based partnerships.

For more information, please visit
The Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers Program | US EPA

Contact Us!

- To sign up for more OEJECR updates send a blank email to: join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov
- For any questions/concerns, please contact Andy Bessler, OEJECR Tribal Stakeholder Coalition Coordination, at: Bessler.andy@epa.gov
- To register for future webinars and learn more, visit [this page!](#)

