

# 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.*

## **Crownpoint ISL Site**

### **Navajo AUM Eastern Region**

**Prepared by:**

**Weston Solutions, Inc.**

**Contract: W91238-06-F-0083**

**12767.063.496.1111**

**May 2009**

**Part I Site Identification, Location and Status**

**Site Names and ID numbers as applicable**

**Mine ID:** 1020

**Map ID:** E35

**CERCLIS:** NNN 000 908 704

**NAMLRP:** NOT ASSIGNED

**New Mexico Mining and Mineral Division ID:** NOT ASSIGNED

**New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources:** NOT ASSIGNED

**Local name / Aliases:** Crownpoint, Conoco Crownpoint

**Chapter and local area:** Crownpoint Chapter

**Lat/Long:** 35.6842373898 N / -108.168793645 W

**Nearby road and highway:** NM-371, Interstate 40  
NM

**Local Post Office:** Crownpoint,

**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 Indian Allotment, and Private land. Currently, Hydro Resources, Inc, occupies the property, although the facility is not presently active. The site was fenced in, and field personnel were unable to access the interior of the property (Photo 1, 2).

## 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:**

**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:** 3 churches were observed within 200 feet of the site property, to the north, along Church Drive (Photo 9, 10). Gamma radiation levels at the churches were found at less than 2 times background levels.

**200 feet to 0.25 mile:** None

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

- 3 churches north of site – measured at an approximate average of 9,500 cpm

**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:** A water tower was observed approximately 0.5 miles north of the site, field personnel were unable to access the tower, and were not able to identify the source of the water.

**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.**

Crownpoint ISL mine consists of an area of 320,530.77 square meters. Any historical information pertaining to mining operations and historical ownership of the mine site appeared to be unclear. Currently, Hydro Resources, Inc, a subsidiary of Uranium Resources, Inc, occupies the property. Approximately 9 large building structures, 3 large tanks, and 3 lined-ponds (Photos 2–7) were observed at the site, but are not actively in use. Field personnel was unable to access the property to observe actual operations. Several large tanks (possibly formerly removed underground storage tanks), were also present at the site.

### **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. Although buildings were present, operations are not currently active at the facility.

### **Part IV      Summary of radiological readings**

#### **Background Locations**

- #1 8,861 cpm
- #2 9,330 cpm
- #3 10,515 cpm

**Mine site:** Crownpoint ISL  
- See Figures 1 and 2

**Nearby Structure Perimeter** – N/A

#### **Describe any other radiological measurements:**

A total of 3,344 gamma radiation measurements were collected from mine sites, ranging from 6,248 cpm to 15,680 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):** Crownpoint ISL      **Chapter:** Crownpoint

**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 potential drinking water source?** N/A

**Summary of emergency response factors**

None

**Summary hazard ranking system factors**

Gamma radiation levels at the churches were found at an average of approximately 9,500 cpm, less than 2 times background levels. A water tower was observed approximately 0.5 miles north of the site, field personnel were unable to access the tower, and were not able to identify the source of the water. Crownpoint ISL mine consists of an area of 320,530.77 square meters. Currently, approximately 9 large building structures, 3 large tanks, and 3 lined-ponds (Photos 2–7) were observed at the site, but are not actively in use. Several large tanks (possibly formerly removed underground storage tanks), were also present at the site.

**Summary of reclamation factors**

No known reclamation

**Part VII      Photos**



Photo 1. Crownpoint ISL mine site, towards the southeast



Photo 2. Crownpoint ISL mine site, current business operating onsite – “Hydro Resources, Inc”, towards the south





Photo 3. Crownpoint ISL mine site, towards the south



Photo 4. Crownpoint ISL mine site lined ponds, towards the northwest



Photo 5. Crownpoint ISL mine site lined ponds and tanks, towards the northwest



Photo 6. Crownpoint ISL mine site tanks and Hydro Resources building, towards the north



Photo 7. Crownpoint ISL mine site and Hydro Resources building, towards the north



Photo 8. Water tower approximately 0.5 miles north/northeast of site, towards the northeast



Photo 9. New Life Fellowship Church, approximately 200 feet north of site, towards the north



Photo 10. Church at northeast corner of site, towards the northeast



**Part VIII      Contacts Reports and Information**

Name Hydro Resources, Inc

Title or official role (if any) Current Site Occupant

Telephone number 505-786-5845

Information provided Crownpoint Project – 828 Crownpoint Dr, Crownpoint NM

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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 General Background and Contact/Access Information

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Name Ms George Padilla

Title or official role (if any) Regional Environmental Scientist, BIA, Navajo Nation

Telephone number (505) 863-8434

Address PO Box 1060, Gallup, NM 87305

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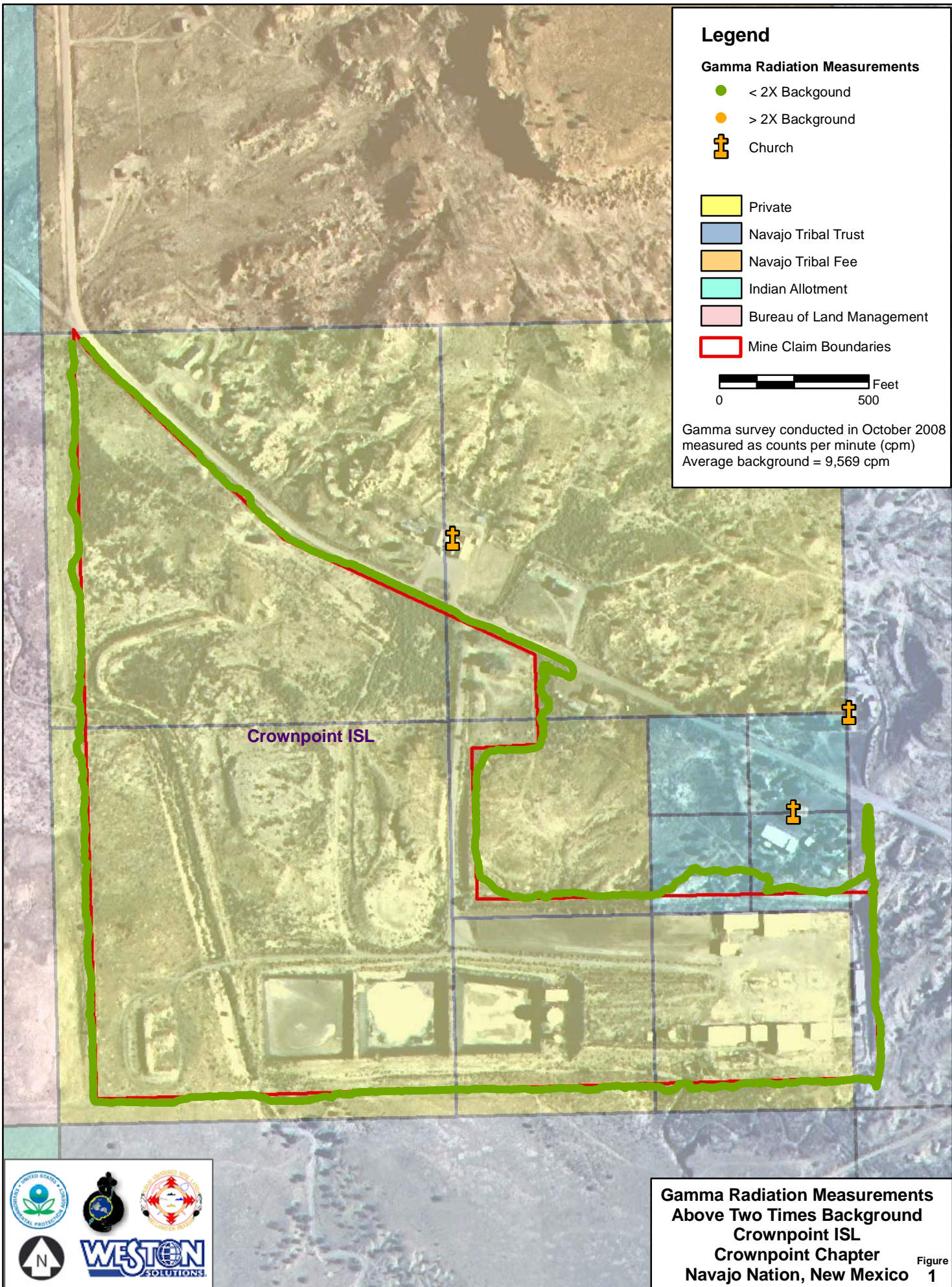
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title or official role (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

Information provided \_\_\_\_\_

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**Legend**

**Gamma Radiation Measurements**

- < 2X Background
- > 2X Background
- Church

- Private
- Navajo Tribal Trust
- Navajo Tribal Fee
- Indian Allotment
- Bureau of Land Management
- Mine Claim Boundaries

0 Feet  
500

Gamma survey conducted in October 2008  
measured as counts per minute (cpm)  
Average background = 9,569 cpm

Crownpoint ISL



**Gamma Radiation Measurements  
Above Two Times Background  
Crownpoint ISL  
Crownpoint Chapter  
Navajo Nation, New Mexico** Figure 1

