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.

Swt018 AUM Site

Navajo AUM Northern Region

Prepared by:

Weston Solutions, Inc.

Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

12767.063.496.1111

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Part I Site Identification, Location and Status

Site Names and ID numbers as applicable

Mine ID:	436
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Map ID: N97

CERCLIS: NNN000909014

Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program: None

Local name / Aliases: None

Chapter and local area: Sweetwater Chapter

County: Apache State: Arizona

Lat/Long: 36.734758301 N / -109.299973316 W

Nearby road and highway: Highway 160 Local Post Office: Teec Nos Pos

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. No other historical 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: Unknown

Part II Summary of radiological readings

Highest gamma radiation measurement:

None

Describe any other radiological measurements:

Weston was unable to access the site; all known paths to the site were impassible. A site map is represented in Figure 1.

Background Locations

Average background = None

None

Distribution Chart and Statistics:

None

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 : No Waste Pile onsite : Yes

NAMLRP Project Number: None

NAMLRP Mine features: 1 Rim Strip / Pit

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 Unknown

Waste Piles Unknown

Pits Unknown

Shafts Unknown

Other Debris and Mine Features

The site was inaccessible, therefore no other mine features were observed during the site visit.

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: 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

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.

Swt018 mine consists of an area of 20,095.74 m². The mine was not identified as ever being operational. No other historical information or any additional ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA/AUM database.

Part V Response Action Summary

Site Name(s): Swt018 Chapter: Sweetwater

Decision Criteria

Is there an unreclaimed waste pile at the site? Unknown

At what distance from the waste pile is the nearest residential structure located? None

At what distances from the waste pile are there potential drinking water sources? None

Is there a reclamation cap or sealed adit in place at the site? Unknown

Is the cap/seal functionally intact? None

Is the cap/seal sufficiently degraded to create a concern about releases? No

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic structure located? None

At what distance from the cap/seal is the nearest domestic drinking water source? None

Summary of emergency response factors

None

Summary hazard ranking system factors

None

Summary of reclamation factors

Unknown

Part VI Photos



Photo 1. Locked gate leading towards site

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, San Francisco

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

Figure 1 - Site Inaccessible Swt018 (436) Sweetwater Chapter, Navajo Nation

