

ISCORS NORM SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

PUBLIC MEETING
OCTOBER 1, 2008



ISCORS NORM SUBCOMMITTEE

- No meetings of the Subcommittee were held during the last 2 quarters of FY 2008
- Activities reported concern uranium and water TENORM



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- **Uranium:**

- **As of September 22, spot market price of uranium had dropped to \$58/lb, though some long term contracts were up to \$80**
- **NRC draft GEIS on ISL uranium milling facilities released for public comment 7/08**
- **NRC proposed uranium ISL groundwater protection rule in development**
- **EPA preparing to review uranium CAA implementing regulations 40 CFR 61, Subpart W for active tailings impoundments; UMTRCA implementing radiation and environmental protection regulations 40 CFR 192**



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- **Uranium**

- EPA, DOE, NRC, Indian Health Service, and Bureau of Indian Affairs developed joint program to assist Navajo Nation on health and environmental issues related to uranium hazards on their Tribal lands. Five year plan issued June 2008

<http://oversight.house.gov/documents/20080616090759.pdf>



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- **Uranium cont.**
 - Navajo Uranium Contamination Stakeholder Workshop held in Gallup, NM Aug. 13, 2008
 - Discussions on five year plan implementation, attended by ~150 people, Tribal, Federal, State agency personnel, members of public
 - Contaminated water wells
 - Church Rock site cleanup
 - Tuba City offsite disposal area cleanup
 - Contaminated homes identification/cleanup
 - Remediation of abandoned uranium mines
 - Health assessments of Navajo Tribal members
 - Mills and mining permits



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- Uranium cont.
 - Navajo contaminated wells project:
 - EPA, Navajo EPA, CDC sampling and identification of uranium/radium/metals contaminated wells
 - Posting of signs at contaminated wells
 - Outreach effort to advise Navajo citizens not to use water from contaminated sources of water



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**WATER FROM
THIS WELL
IS NOT SAFE
TO DRINK**

This water has been tested and found to exceed Navajo EPA and U.S.EPA human drinking water standards for uranium or other contaminants.

Navajo Nation policy is that livestock-use-only wells are not to be used for human drinking water.

WATER NOT SAFE TO DRINK

The following *unregulated wells* were tested by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Navajo Nation EPA (NN EPA), or the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and found to contain **unsafe levels of Uranium**

People **should not drink** water from these wells

Wells listed by location east to west

Well ID	Chapter	Well ID	Chapter
16B-38 (CCC-E-9)	Baca, NM	8A-179	Dennehotso, AZ
16T-521 – Platero Well	Baca, NM	08A-180	Dennehotso, AZ
16T-519 – Largo Corral Well	Smith Lake, NM	10R-51 B	Tselani, AZ
16-4-10–Lime Ridge/Pine Tree Well	Church Rock, NM	17M-99 (ID not on well)	Cornfields, AZ
12-7-12 – Ellison Dug Well	Cove, AZ	17T-559 Lower Greasewood	Lower Greasewood, AZ
9Y-12	Red Mesa, AZ	8K-433 – Old Number 8A-299	Kayenta, AZ
9Y-32	Red Mesa, AZ	Monument Pass Well	Oljato, UT
9T-550	Sweetwater, AZ	Badger Spring (Black Falls)	Cameron, AZ
9T-586	Sweetwater, AZ	Paddock Well (Black Falls)	Cameron, AZ
10T-241A	Many Farms, AZ	3A-155–Tohatchi Spring (Black Falls)	Cameron, AZ
17M – 66 (Ganado)	Ganado, AZ	5M-74 – Box Springs (Black Falls)	Leupp, AZ

Other contaminants that are harmful to humans have been frequently found in livestock wells. Navajo Nation policy is that livestock-use-only wells are not to be used for human drinking water.

For more information about livestock well sampling results and regulated sources of safe drinking water, please contact:

Navajo Public Water System Supervision Program
(928) 871-7715

www.navajopublicwater.org

This message brought to you by:



LOOK FOR THESE SIGNS TO IDENTIFY URANIUM CONTAMINATED WATER SOURCES:

At the Well:



In the Chapter House:



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- **Drinking water treatment plants processing source water with radium/uranium**
 - EPA issuance of radiation health and safety brochure for water plant employees
 - Conference papers on EPA radiation survey results given in 2008
 - Demonstration grant for community water system expected to be completed 2008
 - Radiation health and safety training for Navajo community water systems personnel in 2009



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- **Upcoming meetings:**
- **IAEA EMRAS II, organizational meeting, January 19-23, 2009 Vienna, Austria**
- **Keystone Global Uranium Symposium, May 9-13, 2009 Keystone, CO**
- **IAEA Symposium on Uranium Material for Nuclear Fuel Cycle: Exploration, Mining, Production, Supply and Demand, Economics and Environmental Issues June 22-26, 2009 Vienna, Austria**

