



Five-Year Plan 2014 – 2018: Federal Actions to Address Impacts of Uranium Contamination on the Navajo Nation



Six federal agencies have drafted a Five-Year Plan (2014 – 2018) to address uranium contamination on the Navajo Nation. The Plan describes these major goals:

- Clean up contaminated structures
- Provide clean drinking water
- Assess abandon uranium mines
- Clean up Northeast Church Rock Mine and other high priority mines
- Remediation of groundwater at three former UMTRCA mill sites
- Conduct health studies
- Provide for workforce training and development
- Conduct coordinated outreach and education
- Clean up the Tuba City Dump

The 2014 – 2018 Five-Year Plan builds on the work of the first plan, makes adjustments based on information gained during this time, and describes the next steps in addressing the risks to human health and the environment. It is likely that the agencies will need to do more work beyond 2018 to fully address the legacy of uranium mining on the Navajo Nation.

Site Documents

You can access the 2008 – 2012 Five-Year Plan and the Progress Report issued in January 2013 at: <http://www.epa.gov/region9/superfund/navajo-nation/5-yr-plan-2008>

United States government agencies working on the Five-Year Plan:

- » Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- » Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
- » Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
- » Department of Energy (DOE)
- » Indian Health Service (IHS)
- » Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC)





History of the Five-Year Plan

In October of 2007 the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform asked five federal agencies to develop a coordinated Five-Year Plan (2008-2012) to begin to address uranium contamination on the Navajo Nation.

The first five-year effort focused on the most urgent risks of abandoned uranium mines to people living on the Navajo Nation. It was an important start, but much work remains. The 2014 – 2018 Five-Year Plan will continue the efforts.

History of Uranium Mining on the Navajo Nation

From 1944 to 1986, mine operators removed millions of tons of uranium ore that was high in demand after the development of atomic power and weapons at the close of World War II. As a result, the Navajo Nation was left with a legacy of abandoned uranium mines, groundwater containing uranium above safe levels, and structures that contain elevated levels of radiation, causing environmental and public health concerns.

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For more information about the multi-agency Five-Year Plan visit
<http://www.epa.gov/region9/superfund/navajo-nation/index.html>

