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.

Charles Huskon No. 17 AUM Site

Navajo AUM Western Region

Prepared by:

Weston Solutions, Inc.

Contract: W91238-06-F-0083

12767.063.599.1111

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Part I Site Identification, Location and Status

Site Names and ID numbers as applicable

Mine ID: 173

Map ID: W102

CERCLIS: NNN000909090

Navajo Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program: NA-0184

Local name / Aliases: Charles Huskon #17

Chapter and local area: Coalmine Mesa Chapter

County: Coconino State: Arizona

Lat/Long: 35.7201753733 N / -111.305559383 W

Nearby road and highway: Indian Route 6730 Local Post Office: Cameron, AZ

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. Historical documents showed the operator of the mine as the Arrowhead Uranium Corporation from 1954 to 1955, and the Rare Metals Corporation from 1956 to 1962. No additional 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: None

Part II Summary of radiological readings

Highest gamma radiation measurement:

27,045 counts per minute (cpm)

Describe any other radiological measurements:

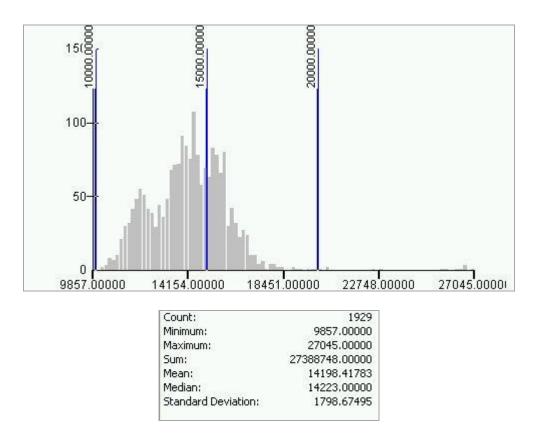
A total of 1,929 gamma radiation measurements were collected from the mine site, ranging from 9,857 cpm to 27,045 cpm. The measurements collected at the reclamation area were found at a maximum level of approximately 25,000 cpm. The measurements are represented in Figures 1 and 2.

Background Readings: 11,184 cpm; 11,818 cpm

Background Average: 11,501 cpm

Distribution Chart and Statistics:

The following chart and statistics were generated by ESRI ArcGIS 9.3.1, and show the general distribution of the site gamma radiation measurements. The horizontal X axis represents the gamma radiation reading levels in cpm (lowest levels to the left). The vertical Y axis represents the frequency of each gamma radiation level.



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 : Yes Waste Pile onsite : No

NAMLRP Project Number: NA-0184

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 None

Waste Piles None

Pits None

Shafts None

Other Debris and Mine Features

Some possible reclamation on E side of site, graded soil sloping downhill, evidence of reclamation markers and equipment (backhoe tooth)

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: Little Colorado River Basin approximately 0.25 mi W of the site

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.

Little Colorado River Basin approximately 0.25 mi W of the site, possible wetlands

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.

Charles Huskon No. 17 mine consists of an area of 72,668.81 m². The mine was identified as being operational from 1954 to 1962. Historical documents showed the operator of the mine as the Arrowhead Uranium Corporation from 1954 to 1955, and the Rare Metals Corporation from 1956 to 1962. While operational, the mine had a total production volume of 4869 tons. No other historical information or any additional ownership / lease information was identified in the EPA/AUM database.

Part V Response Action Summary

Summary of Evaluation Factors:

Accessibility:

Was the mine easily accessible to potential human activity? Yes

Radiological Measurements:

Were any gamma radiation measurements collected at the mine greater than two times the site-specific background levels? Yes

Waste Piles:

Were any unreclaimed waste piles observed at the mine with gamma radiation measurements greater than two times the site-specific background levels? No

Structures:

Were any structures observed within 200 feet of the mine? No

Potential Drinking Water Sources:

Were any potential drinking water sources observed within 4 miles of the mine? Yes

Reclamation:

Was the mine reported to be previously reclaimed, or did the mine appear to be reclaimed?

Yes (possible reclamation on east side)

Part VI Photos



Photo 1. Charles Huskon No. 17 mine site



Photo 2. Charles Huskon No. 17 mine site



Photo 3. Charles Huskon No. 17 mine site

Part VII Contacts Reports and Information

Name: <u>Stanley Edison (928) 871-6861</u>

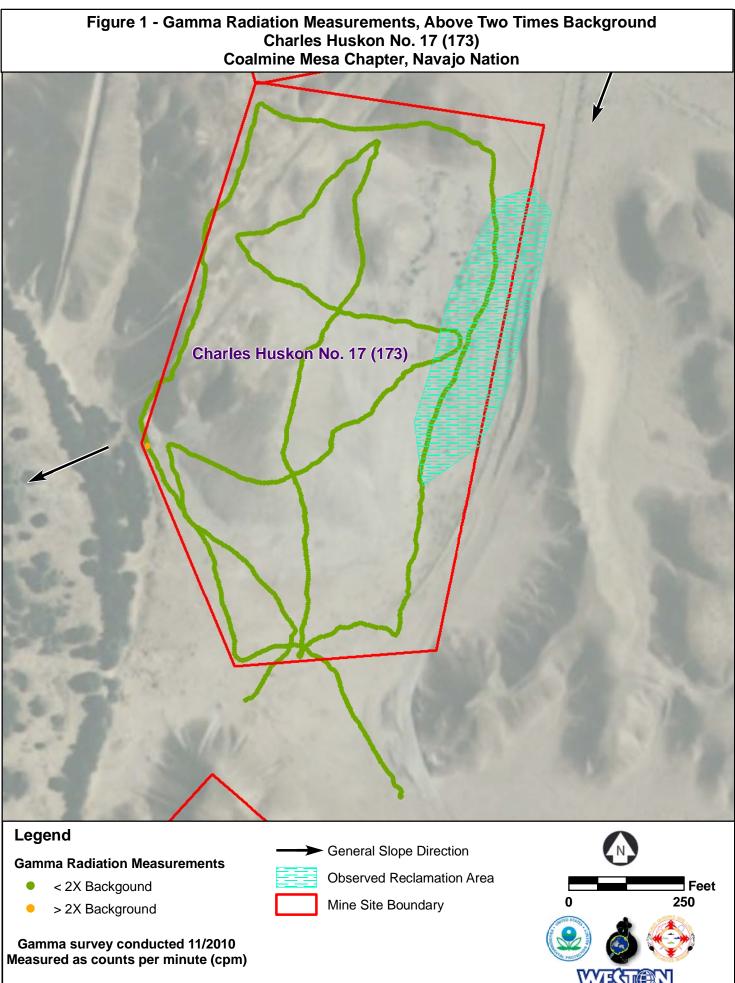
Eugene Esplain (928) 871-7331

Title or official role (if any) Navajo EPA Superfund Program

Address____PO Box 2946, Window Rock, AZ 86515

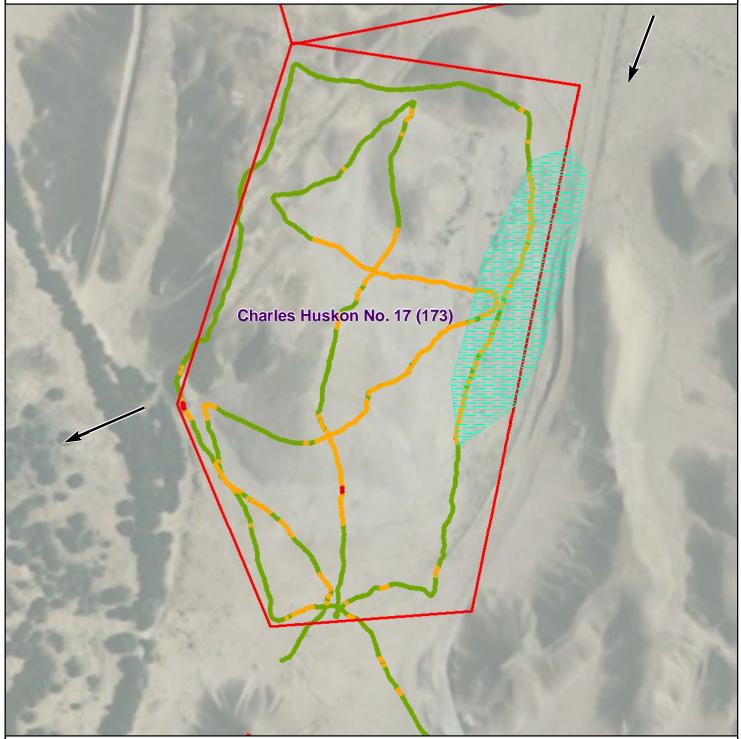
Information provided <u>Lead Regulatory Agency</u>

Name	
Title or official role (if any)	
Address	-
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	



Average background 11,501 cpm

Figure 2 - Gamma Radiation Measurements Charles Huskon No. 17 (173) Coalmine Mesa Chapter, Navajo Nation



Legend

Gamma Radiation Measurements

- 0 10,000
- 10,000 15,000
- 15,000 20,000
- 20,000 50,000
- 50,000 100,000
- > 100,000

- Observed Reclamation Area

General Slope Direction

Mine Site Boundary

Gamma survey conducted 11/2010 Measured as counts per minute (cpm)

Average background 11,501 cpm