US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT





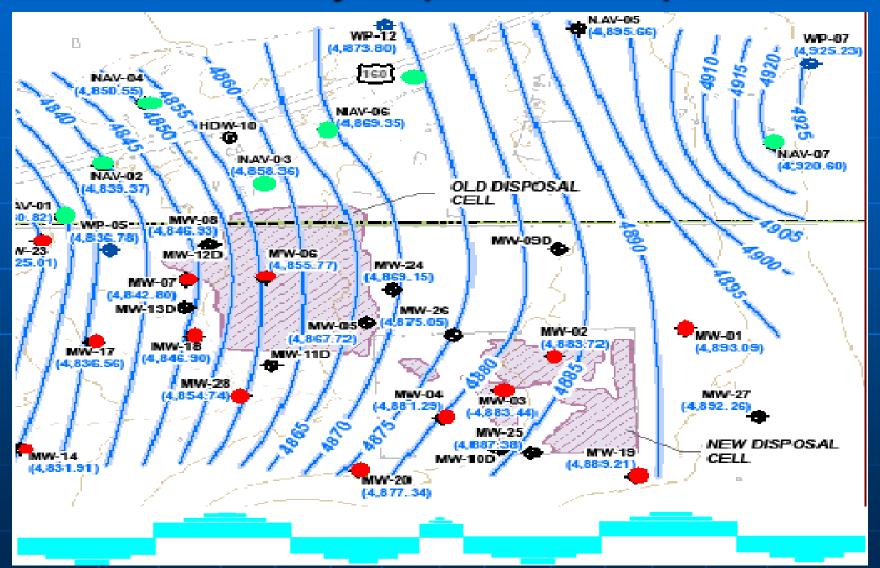
The Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency

www.navajonationepa.org

Tuba City Open Dumpsite, Arizona

By Cassandra Bloedel, NNEPA-RCRP 11/04/2009

Tuba City Open Dumpsite



Navajo EPA Involvement for the People of the Navajo Nation

- 1960s to 1998, Navajo Regional Office BIA opened the dumpsite, and continued providing earth work at the site until an administrative order to close the site was issued by U. S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- May 1999, the Hopi Tribe released a report by their contractor Daniel B. Stephens who investigated the TCOD with monitoring wells. Discovered uranium and other constituents exceeding U. S. Environmental Protection Agency primary drinking water standards.
- October 2001, Navajo EPA began meetings with federal agencies and Hopi Tribe for the TCOD. Meetings continue to present. BIA Western Regional Office is overseeing site due to duel Tribal lands. Navajo EPA continues to monitor the TCOD.
- February 2002, sampling for a nearby Navajo resident indicated uranium in their hand-dug well that the family stopped using. The level exceeded MCs of the USEPA Standards.

Navajo EPA Involvement for the People of the Navajo Nation

- February 2002, To'Nanees'Dizi Chapter passed a resolution to request the clean closure of the TCOD by the federal agencies. Continued updates to To'Nanees'Dizi Chapter to present.
- March 2002, Radiological scanning and Radon gas testing by NNEPA Superfund program for nearby residents.
- June 2003, the Highway 160 Site was discovered with assistance of local residents.
- November 2003, the TCOD and Highway 160 site was presented to the U. S. Department of Energy in Durango, Colorado.
- February 2004, Navajo EPA presented the TCOD and the 160 Site to U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in San Francisco, California at Region 9 Headquarters.
- May 2004, TCOD checked by U. S. EPA for surface radiation, and none detected while the Highway 160 Site indicated levels of radiation.
- 2006, Western Regional BIA undertakes RIFS for TCOD.

Navajo EPA Involvement for the People of the Navajo Nation

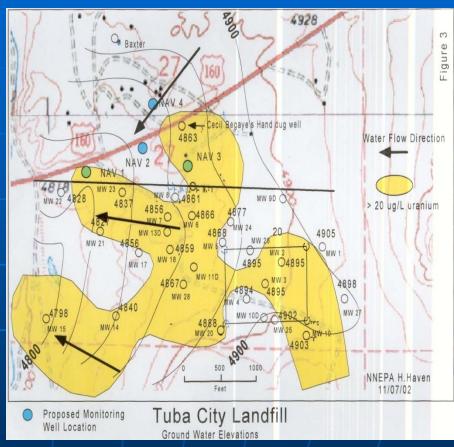
- June 2004 to 2006, TCOD and Highway 160 Site video produced.
- September 2004, Uranium Roundtable meeting, Washington DC. Presentation to Congressman Renzi, Udall, and Matherson for the TCOD and Highway 160 Site. Beginning implementation of monitoring wells for Navajo Nation at TCOD
- October 2007, Waxman Hearing, Washington DC. Navajo EPA presented the TCOD and Highway 160 Site to oversight committee. Federal agencies tasked to provide 5-year plans for Uranium Legacy sites in Navajo Nation to include the TCOD and 160 Site.
- March 2009, \$5 million was appropriated under Public Law 111-8 for the Highway 160 Site.
- June to July 2009, NNEPA TCOD Core Drilling Project
- October 2009, Waxman committee meeting update, Washington DC, and USEPA Source Characterization Project at TCOD

Tuba City Open Dumpsite



Continued Meetings for TCOD





Henry Haven Jr., Geologist for Navajo EPA modeled the uranium plume in November 2002 showing the plume moving toward a tributary of the Moenkopi Wash. Mr. Haven has recently presented his findings to continued Waxman Committee updates in Washington DC.

Moenkopi Wash has the plume moving in its direction.



Tuba City and the Upper and Lower Villages of Moenkopi, Arizona



Thirty-five drinking water wells service the immediate area from the Navajo Aquifer that lies directly under the TCOD.

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