

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Removal Action Information
Skyline Abandoned Uranium Mine (AUM)
June 2011

**Kin Náhlgaidéé' Ni'asdzaán Yik'ihdéézíjí' Bił Hazáa
Ni'káágoo Hasht'éehlnééhgí Baahane'
Skyline leetsoh Haagéed Nt'é'ęęgi
Ya'iishjáashchilí Naakidimíl dóó bi'aan La'ts'áádah Yihah**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Region 9 is working to protect residents of Oljato Chapter by cleaning up hazardous waste from the Skyline Abandoned Uranium Mine (AUM).

**Kin Náhlgaidéé' Ni'asdzaán Yik'ihdéézíjí' Bił Hazáa (U.S. EPA) Náhást'éí
Hahoodzohdéé' éí' Ooljéé'tó Táá Sinilíjí kéedahat'ínígi Skyline nahdéé' leetsoh
leezh bił haagee'hééh leh ni degeehgo hasht'énálnééh Diné baa hágáhasinigi bąąh.**

The wastes are left over from the uranium mining that occurred throughout the Navajo Nation from the 1940s to the 1980s.

**Díí leezhígíí' éí leetsoh bił haageedééh t'ah ba'át'e' hóló t'ah nahdéé' náhást'éí
ts'áadah dóó dízdiin dóó náhást'éí ts'áadah dóó tseebídiin yihahédáąą Diné bikéyah
bikáá'góó hadasgeedígíí' át'é.**

At the Skyline site, uranium tailings are still located on the edge and at the foot of the mesa.

**Skyline di ha'agéed nít'é'ęęhdi' éí t'ahdii leetsoh leezh bił hadahasgeed yééh
t'áá'ákóph tsé ní'ahígíí bikáá'di dóó tsé níts'i'hígíí bitsíjídi naazhjaa'.**

The tailings are a potential health threat to people who come into contact with it or breathe it.

**Díí leezh leetsoh bił hadasgeedééh éí t'ahdii bá'át'e' hóló diné bits'is bąąh siljígo dóó
yil sídzíí'go.**

The U.S. EPA Region 9 Superfund Emergency Response Section will conduct a time-critical removal action to mitigate the health threat posed by uncontrolled uranium mine waste at the site.

**Kin Náhlgaidéé' Ni'asdzaán Yik'ihdéézíjí' Bił Hazáa Náhást'éí Hahoodzohdóó
Superfund Emergency Response Deilyíííshdóó t'áá tsjlgo t'áadoo bił hoolzhishí díí
leetsoh bił haageedééh leeh nidoogéł ákó doo t'ó nahgóó ba'át'é nilígíí
naaná'oogohgo' ąąhdahda'oolah dah.**

Location – Bił Hazáadi

The Skyline AUM is located on top of Oljato Mesa, approximately 1.5 miles northwest of Goulding's Lodge in Monument Valley, San Juan County, Utah (longitude: 37° 01' 13.99" N, Longitude 110° 13' 50.97" W).

Skyline AUM éí Ooljee'tó wolyéego Tsé nít'sí'igii bikáádi ts'ídá t'áála'í dóó ná'álníi tsin sitá náhookosji'go' éí Goulding Lodge bił hazánídóó Tsé Bii' Nidzisgai, San Juan bił Hahoodzohígíí bii', Yódah-Utahjí hahoodzohígíí. Ts'ídá kwii (longitude: 37° 01' 13.99" N, Longitude 110° 13' 50.97" W).

Actions to Date – La'daadzahígíí

-With input from the Oljato Chapter, EPA has determined that the most suitable place to safely keep the uranium tailings is near the former Skyline Mine on top of Oljato Mesa.

Díí leezh leetsoh bił haageed yéch bá hahwiidoogol dóó tó doo bidéélníí bii'nidoolkáł índa biní' doolt'ih diné dóó naaldlooshii doo yii'ji' naagháda doo biniyé.

-An Interim repository with a plastic liner will be constructed to create a barrier around the uranium tailings to protect humans and the environment.

Díí leezh leetsoh bił haageed yéch bá hahwiidoogol dóó tó doo bidéélníí bii'nidoolkáł índa biní' doolt'ih diné dóó naaldlooshii doo yii'ji' naagháda doo biniyé.

-Work to build the repository began March 28, 2011.

Woozhch'íjd naadiin tseebíí naakidimííl dóó bi'aan la'ts'áádah bii'di' éíí naanish hadoot'ih.

-The excavation of the repository foundation area was completed on May 6, 2011.

Tájatsoh hastáhgóó yolkááljí' naaki dimííl dóó la'ts'áádah yihah gi altso leezh hadoogoł.

-Installation of the plastic liner over the repository foundation and replacement of the soil liner cover was completed on May 31, 2011.

Tájatsoh táádiin dóó bi'an láá'ii naakidimííl dóó bi'an la'ts'áádah yihah bii'di' éí hahwiisgeedígi' tó doo bidéélníí bii' niilkaad dóó leezh dó' bii' nijaa'go' altsoh.

-Residents of home sites near work areas in the valley below the mesa have been provided with temporary lodging.

Da'íníísh bihánígi dabighanígíí' éí t'ó hónizáhíjí' bighan bits'áhwiiázádi nídbiilkááhgo' dó' ályaa altso nida'aznishjí'.

-Excavation of waste from the slope below the mine opening and in the Arroyo area at the foot of the mesa has begun.

Niléí tsé yíchíí' bidahdi dóó chashk'ehgóó' éí k'ad leezhígíí t'áálahíjí' nááhádzíid nahgóó kódoolnííl bniyé.

Current Activities/Next Steps—Binááda’doonishígíí

-Uranium tailings from the slope below the mine and the foot of the mesa will be moved into the repository, starting in late May/early June.

-T’ágtsoh dóó Ya’iishjáashchilí bii’ éí leezh leetsoh bił haageed yééh tsé ní’áh bitsjídóó hahidookál dóó hahwisgeed yéé bii’ jj’ ninááhidookál.

-A high-line yarder, like the old Skyline, will be used to transport the tailings up to the top of the mesa.

Béésh tsí’áá’ beeha’iha’iikahí t’ah nahdékéé’ beenida’aznishiééh nahalingo bee leezh hanáhidoolch’íl wódahjjí’.

-Water will be used to control dust and make sure the uranium tailings don’t spread from the site. Tó chiidoo’íl leezh beenááltlohgó leezh leetsoh bił haageedyééh doo nahgóó nítasaazda. Air sampling will be conducted around the work areas to check for any radioactive dust. Leezhígíí nida’anish binaagóó’ éí ninálkáhdoo níláhgóó bił danítsaaz doohígíí.

-Once all the tailings have been placed in the repository, another plastic liner will be installed over the top.

Leezh leetsoh bił haageedyééh altosh báhahwiisgeedjjí’ biih náhaskáq’ éí bikáá’dóó tó doo bidéélníngíí bikáági bił yaanináádoolkał.

-Then a soil cap will be placed over the top liner to protect it from sun and wind. Altso bikáá’dóó bił yaaniná’ ít’aqó náá bikáá’gi leezh la’ bik’ih nináá doodzil ákó shándííñ dóó níyol doo ni yił chöł da.

-Areas impacted by removal activities will be seeded with native plants species to help restore the land.

Kéyah bileezh nasheedééhgóó’ éí t’áá’ákqoh tl’oh hóló nígíí k’ééh didoolyél.

-It is estimated that the project will be completed sometimes in July 2011.
Díí da’íníshígíí’ éí Ya’iishjááshtsoh bii’di altso nida’doonish.

More Information—Bee’ééhóziníí

US EPA will attend the Oljato Chapter Meeting on June 12th to answer questions and provide updates. For specific questions about the Skyline AUM cleanup please contact:

US EPA shííj Ya’iishjáashchilí naakits’áádahgo yoł kálgó t’áá’ sinilí ałah aleehgo’ áádi níhił dahodoolnih doo na’ídíkid nát’aq’ yeeh níhił nidahalne’doo. Skyline Bi’oonishgi na’ídólkidgo’ éí díí bee’ ééhózin:

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