

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

**Kin Náhálgaideé' Ni'asdzáan Yik'ihdeézíí' Bìl Hazáa
Ni'káagóó Hasht'ééhnééhgi Baahane'
Skyline leetsoh Haagéed Nt'é'éggi
Bina'aant'áats'ósí Naakidimííł dóó bi'aan Ła'ts'áadah Yihah**

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

**Kin Náhálgaideé' Ni'asdzáan Yik'ihdeézíí' Bìl Hazáa (U.S. EPA) Náhást'éi
Hahoodzohdeé' éi' Ooljéé'tó Táá Sinilíí kéedahat'ínigi Skyline nahdeé' leetsoh
leezh bìl haagee'hééh leh ní deigeehgo hasht'énálnééh Diné baa hááhasinigi bąh.**

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

**Díí leezhígíí' éi leetsoh bìl haageedééh t'ah ba'át'e' hóló t'ah nahdeé' náhást'éi
ts'áadah dóó dízdíin dóó náhást'éi ts'áadah dóó tseebííin yihahédąą Diné bikéyah
bikáá'góó hadasgeedígíí' át'é.**

At the Skyline site, uranium mine waste is still located on the edge and at the foot of the mesa.

**Skyline di ha'agéed nt'é'ééh di' éi t'ahdii leetsoh leezh bìl hadahasgeed yééh
t'áá'ákóh tsé ní'áhígíí bikáá'di dóó tsé nít's'i'hígíí bitsíídi naazhja'.**

The mine waste is a potential health threat to people who come in contact with it or breathe it.

**Díí leezh leetsoh bìl hadasgeedééh éi t'ahdii bá'át'e' hóló diné bits'is bąh silíigo dóó
yil íídzíí'go.**

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

**Kin Náhálgaideé' Ni'asdzáan Yik'ihdeézíí' Bìl Hazáa Náhást'éi Hahoodzohdóó
Superfund Emergency Response Deilyínííshdóó t'áá tsígo t'áadoo bìl hoolzhishí díí
leezh leetsoh bìl haageedééh leeh nídoogél ákó doo t'ó nahgóó ba'át'é nilígíí
naaná'oogohgo' ąhahdahda'oolah dah.**

Location – Bil 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's'i'ígíí bikáadi ts'ídá t'áala'í dóó ná'álníí tsin sitá náhookosji'go' éí Goulding Lodge bil hazánídóó Tsé Bii' Nidzisgai, San Juan bil Hahoodzohígíí bii', Yódah-Utahjí hahoodzohígíí. Ts'ídá kwe'é (Longitude: 37 ° 01' 13.99" N, Longitude 110 ° 13' 50.97" W).

Actions to Date – Ła'daadzahígíí

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

-Ooljéetó T'áa'Sinildóó dóó US EPA' alhil naalnishgo ts'ídá' bohóneedzánígi leezh leetsoh bil haageed yéé Skyline ha'agéédn't'é'ééghi bánáhodiit'á Ooljéetó tsení'ahígíí bikáa'di.

-An Interim repository with plastic liner was constructed to create a barrier around the mine waste to protect humans and the environment. Repository construction was completed on May 31, 2011.

-Áłtsé shíí' éí leezh leetsoh bil haageed yéé t'ó biní dooltih diné dóó naaldlooshii bits'ááh. T'áátsoh tádiin naakidimíł dóó bi'aan ła'ts'áadah bii'di' éíí naanish hadoot'ih. Ndtsaago hahwiigééd doo ákóyaa leezh leetsoh bil hahasgeed nééh anáhidoogéél biniyé bi'doonish.

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

-Da'íníish bíhánígi dabighanígíí' éí t'ó hónízahíjí' bighan bits'áhwíizáadi nídabiilkááhgo' dó' ályaa altso nida'aznishjí'.

-Excavation of mine waste from the slope below the mine opening, the foot of the mesa, and the arroyo drainage away from the mesa.

-Níléí tsé yíchíí' bidahdi dóó chashk'ehgóó' éí' k'ad leezhígíí t'ááláhíjí' nááhádziid nahgóó kódoolníł biniyé.

-Seeding of areas impacted by removal activities with native plants species has begun.

-Kéyah bileezh nasgeedééhgóó' éí t'áa'ákóqh t'oh hóló nígíí k'ééh didoolyéł biniyé bi'deezhnish.

Current Activities/Next Steps—Binaáda'doonishígíí

-A skyline yarder system is being used to transport mine waste from the valley floor up to the top of the mesa.

Béesh tsi'áá' beeha'iha'iikahí t'ah nahdę́ę' beenida'aznishę́ęh nahalingo bee leezh hanáhidoolch'įł wódahjį'.

-Water is being used to control dust from excavation and transport of mine waste.

. Tó chiidoo'įł leeze beenááłtłohgo leeze leetsoh bíł haageedyę́ęh doo nahgóó nítšaazda.

-Air sampling is being conducted around work areas to measure any radioactive dust in the air and ensure dust control is effective.

-Leezhígíí nida'anish binaagóó' éí nináłkáhdoo níláhgóó bíł danítšaaz doohígíí.

-Once all the mine waste has been placed in the repository, another plastic liner will be installed over the top.

-Leeze leetsoh bíł haageedyę́ęh altosh báhahwiisgeedjį' bíł nahaskáą' éí bikáá'dóó tó doo bidéłnínígíí bikáągi bíł yaanináádoolkał.

Then a soil cap will be placed over the top liner to protect it from the sun and wind.

-Altso bikáá'dóó bíł yaaniná' ít'ąó náá bikáá'gi leeze ła' bik'ih nináá doodzıl ákó shándíín dóó nýol doo ni yıl chól da.

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

Kéyah bileeze nasgeedę́ęhgóó' éí t'áá'ákqoh tı'oh hóló nígíí k'ééh didoolyél.

-It is estimated that the project will be completed late September 2011.

-Díí naanish éí Bine'ant'ąátsoh Naakidimíł dóó bí'aan ła'ts'áadah yihaih bíi'jį' altsoh ádooníł.

More Information—Bee'ééhózinii

EPA will attend the Oljato Chapter Meeting on August 21st to answer questions and provide progress updates. For specific questions about Skyline AUM cleanup please contact:

EPA shįį Bine'ant'áants'ósí naadiin ła'góó yolkáál Táá'sinili' ałah aleehgo' áádi nihł dahodoolnih doo na'ídikid nát'ąą' yeeh nihł nidahalne'doo. Skyline Bí'oonishgi na'ídółkidgo' éí díí bee' ééhózin:

US EPA

Jason Musante

On-Scene Coordinator

(213) 479-2120

Musante.Jason@epa.gov

NN EPA

Eugene Esplain

Health Physicist

(928) 871-7331

e.esplain@yahoo.com