

ABANDONED OR INACTIVE URANIUM
MINES IN NEW MEXICO

A report of investigation carried out
between August 1979 and May 1980 under
contract with the New Mexico Energy and
Minerals Department.

by

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INTRODUCTION

During the course of this investigation approximately 200 uranium mine sites were visited. Although these sites are distributed throughout 20 counties the majority are in McKinley, San Juan, and Valencia Counties, along the western and southern margin of the San Juan Basin. Other counties with an appreciable number of sites are Grant, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, Sierra, and Socorro.

Field work commenced in August, 1979 and extended although not continuously, into May, 1980. Information obtained during the on-site visits included location, type and size of mine, condition of mine, host formation, dimensions of remaining structures, proximity to residences or villages, water quality data, and radiation levels, although a gamma ray scintillometer was not obtained for the project until October 20, 1979. An effort was made to contact landowners whenever and wherever possible, however, no systematic attempt was made to determine land and mineral ownership during this phase of the investigation.

Mine operation data has been included where available. This consists of information on ore grades, production history mineralogy, and mine operator. Old publications of the U.S. AEC and the State Mine Inspectors office were helpful in this area.

The mine reports are arranged alphabetically by county with each county having its own index. A NM- or AZ-mine identification number is given with each mine name in the index. It is an AML numbering system devised by Don Baker, Jr. The first part of this

identification number is based on a U.S. Soil Conservation Service numbering system of 15' quadrangles beginning with 1 in the northwest corner of the state to 24 in the northeast corner, then returning to the western border to start a new tier. The second part refers to a 7½' quad within the 15' quad; these are numbered counterclockwise from 1 in the NE quadrant to 4 in the SE. The last part of the number refers to a particular mine within the 7½' quad. An AZ- prefix indicates the 15' quadrangle is an Arizona quad that overlaps the New Mexico state boundary.

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The help and cooperation of the Navajo Tribe Office in Window Rock, Arizona permitted a statewide investigation to be completed; a note of thanks goes to Mr. R. Zaman and Mr. William Armstrong of that office.

Quad: Bread Springs 7½'

1. NM-146-2-1 Page 33
Diamond 2 (Largo)

Quad: Church Rock 7½'

1. NM-122-4-1 Page 39
CD & S (Sec. 35)
2. NM-122-4-2 Page 41
Foutz #3 (Yellow Jacket)
3. NM-122-4-3 Page 45.
Foutz 1 and 2
4. NM-122-4-4 Page 48
William and Reynolds
5. NM-122-4-5 Page 50
Christenson (Rimrock #2)
6. NM-122-4-6 Page 58
Santa Fe Christensen (Rimrock #1)

Quad: Dos Lomas 7½'

1. NM-149-4-1 Page 62
Isabella
2. NM-149-4-2 Page 67
Spencer Shaft (Centennial)
3. NM-149-4-3 Page 69
Hogan
4. NM-149-4-4 Page 74
Gossett Incline (Beacon Hill #23)

5.	NM-149-4-5	Page 78 ⁷⁷
	Blue Peak (Garcia 1)	
6.	NM 149-4-6	Page 84 ⁸³
	Mesa Top 7 & 18 (Malpais Raise)	
7.	NM-149-4-7	Page 93 ⁹²
	Dog Incline (Dog and Flea)	
8.	NM-149-4-8	Page 99 ⁹⁸
	Marquez	
9.	NM-149-4-9	Page 104
	Faith (Westvaco) (Sec. 29)	
10.	NM-149-4-10	Page 109
	Barbara J #3	
11.	NM-149-4-11	Page 112
	Barbara J #1	
12.	NM-149-4-12	Page 114
	Baily and Fife (Rimrock)	
13.	NM-149-4-13	Page 117
	T-20 Shaft (T-9 ore body)	
14.	NM-149-4-14	Page 120
	Flat Top (Flat Top #3 & 4)	
15.	NM-149-4-15	Page 124 ✓
	Roundy Shaft (Rimrock)	
16.	NM-149-4-16	Page 126
	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 30 Strip	
17.	NM-149-4-17	Page 131
	Sec. 25 Strip Complex	

18.	NM-149-4-18	Page 141
	Sec. 25 Shaft	
19.	NM-149-4-19	Page 144
	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ 25, Decline and Open Pits	
20.	NM-149-4-20	Page 149
	Hanosh	
21.	NM-149-4-21	Page 152
	Sec. 23 and 26 Open Pit	
22.	NM-149-4-22	Page 156
	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 36 (Rimrock) Homer Scriven)	
23.	NM-149-4-23	Page 160
	Sec. 31 Open Pit	
24.	NM-149-4-24	Page 163
	Moe No. 4 (Sec. 32)	
25.	NM-149-4-25	Page 165
	Charlotte	

*Dos Lomas Quad reports #26 - #35 found under Valencia County

Quad: Gallup East 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ '

1.	NM-122-3-1	Page 167
	Hogback (Hogback 3-5)	
2.	NM-122-3-2	Page 171
	Becenti	

Quad: Goat Mountain 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ '

1.	NM-149-2-1	Page 174
	Kermac Sec. 10 (Kermac No. 10)	

Date visited 1/16/80

Mine name(s) Dog Incline (Dog and Flea) County McKinley

Section SW $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{2}$ 20 Twنش. 13 N R. 9 W

Quadrangle sheet Dos Lomas 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ '

Mining district Poison Canyon Trend

Elevation 7,020'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Ambrosia Lake junction, 2 air miles northeast.

The Dog is located in the SW $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{2}$ of sec. 20. It is considered private property; Mr. Bob Miles of M & M Mining in Grants has patented mining claims in the section and he must be contacted before proceeding on to property.

The Dog Mine consists of a 250' long inclined shaft driven generally southwest (photo a). The portal and shaft are timbered; portal is only partially open as one or two boards have fallen (photo b); caving has blocked shaft about 20' inside.

Mine dumps are quite extensive at the site. To the south of the shaft is a compact area, measuring about 50' x 165', of closely spaced conical waste (low grade ore?) piles, 2' to 4' high; this area is bordered on the east by a small drainage line (photo c). Several very small waste piles and other general debris occur immediately north of the shaft (photo d) along the continuation of the drainage line just mentioned.

About 400' north of the shaft are the two main waste dumps. They are ramp shaped, slope to the west, elongate E-W, and are in an en echelon relationship (photo e). The eastern one is 50' by 150', with maximum height of 30'. The toe of this dump nearly reaches the small drainage that continues northward from the shaft site. Scintillometer readings range up to 350 cps. The western one is 45' x 175', with a maximum height of 25'. Scintillometer readings range up to 750 cps. Photo (f) offers a view of this dump from the other side. Photo (g) is a view of the mine site from atop the western dump. The ridge extending across photo from lower left to upper right is composed of individual conical waste piles, 3'-4' high; with average scintillometer readings of 550 cps. Ridge is about 280' long and parallels the access road.

The deposit mined at this site is in the Poison Canyon sandstone tongue in the Brushy Basin member of the Morrison fm. The mine was active between 1957 and 1964 (Hilpert, 1969). Initially, 1957-58, the mine run ore was averaging 0.26% U₃O₈ (AEC-PED-1, 1959). Additional information on the geology and ore grade of the deposit is given in Rapaport, (1963).

The State Mine Inspector's Office last registered the mine under the name Dog & Flea in January, 1969, with Four Corners Exploration as the operator. At present the mine is inactive, but M & M Mining should be contacted to determine relationship of these workings to the active Doris Mine workings.

References: (1) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S., Prof. Paper 603, p. 34.
(2) Rapaport, I., 1963, Uranium Deposits of the Poison Canyon Ore Trend,

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Grants District, in Geology and Technology of the Grants Uranium Region: New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources, Mem. 15, p. 126.

- (3) U.S. AEC PED-1, 1959, Mine Operation Data Report; GJO/AEC, p. 45 (microfiche only).
- (4) State Mine Inspector's Office, inactive uranium mine file.
- (5) Field notes, 1/16/80.



Photo A Looking southwest at wooden headframe at Dog Mine; note person with range pole at left of headframe for scale.



Photo B Looking southwest at 6' x 6' portal of Dog Incline; workings have caved 20' down.

H 100 MC 94



Photo C Looking northward at mine dump area south of shaft; note wooden headframe at left and small drainage line at right; person with range pole to right of shaft provides scale.



Photo D Looking northward from shaft site at small waste piles and timber along north flowing drainage line.



Photo E Looking northward at the two ramp shaped mine dumps; one on right (east) extends nearly to small drainage line. The one on the left (west) is about same size and is shown from other direction in F below; note person at center for scale.



Photo F Looking southward at westernmost mine dump (shown at left in E). Note person at toe of dump at left for scale.

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Photo G Looking southward at mine site from atop westernmost mine dump; ridge at center photo, marked by person, is composed of conical waste piles and extends for 280' along road. Note headframe and shaft at upper left, with drainage line to immediate left of it.