

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 1/15/80

Mine name(s) Roundy Shaft (Rimrock) County McKinley

Section N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ 30 Twنش. 13 N R. 9 W

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

Mining district Poison Canyon Trend

Elevation 6,860'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Offices and several dwellings at Todilto Exploration and Development Co. Piedre Triste Mine, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north

The Roundy Shaft is located in the N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 30. It is about 200' south of the fence that encloses the Piedre-Triste Mine (active) of Todilto Exploration and Development. Permission should be obtained from the local Todilto Exploration Office before proceeding on to property.

The mine consists of a single vertical shaft sunk to a total depth of 115' (AEC PED-1, 1959). The shaft has since caved leaving a depression about 12' x 20' and maybe 10' deep (see photo a). The depression is filling in with tumbleweed and blow sand. Scintillometer readings at the site ranged between 1,000 and 2,200 cps, probably due to some ore grade material still lying around on the surface. No fence surrounds the site.

A small waste dump area lies several hundred feet off to the south of the shaft (photo b). It is about 125' long (E-W) and up to 5' high.

Hilpert, (1969) called this mine the Rimrock, which is very confusing because of all the other mines nearby which carry the name Rimrock in one way or another. It is, however, the same workings called Roundy by others, as it is the only shaft in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 30; Roundy is the preferred name.

The mine produced from a medium sized deposit in the Todilto limestone. Initial production was in 1952 and it was active intermittently until 1958. Total production through July 1, 1958 was 35,087 tons of ore averaging 0.29% U₃O₈ (AEC PED-1, 1959). This figure may represent total production for the property.

The mine is on an active lease area; lease is held by Todilto Exploration and Development, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

- References:
- (1) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S.; Prof. Paper 603, p. 35.
 - (2) U.S. AEC PED-1, 1959, Mine Operation Data Report, GJO/AEC, p. 60 (microfiche only).
 - (3) Field notes, 1/15/80.



Photo (a) Looking northeast at caved mine shaft at Roundy site.



Photo (b) Looking southward at waste dump area several hundred feet south of shaft.