

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 <sup>77</sup>
	Blue Peak (Garcia 1)	
6.	NM 149-4-6	Page 84 <sup>83</sup>
	Mesa Top 7 & 18 (Malpais Raise)	
7.	NM-149-4-7	Page 93 <sup>92</sup>
	Dog Incline (Dog and Flea)	
8.	NM-149-4-8	Page 99 <sup>98</sup>
	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) T-20 Shaft (T-9 ore body) County McKinley

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

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

Mining district Poison Canyon Trend

Elevation 6,820'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Ambrosia Lake junction, about 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  road miles to northeast.

The T-20 Shaft is located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 30 about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile northwest of the Flat Top Mine. It is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile west of highway no. 53 along the north side of the Poison Canyon road.

The mine consists of a single vertical shaft, about 4' x 8', now covered with a concrete slab fitted with a small metal trap door (see photo a). Two 12" diameter ventillation shafts are visible immediately northeast of the shaft. A mine dump several hundred feet east of the shaft is about 100' x 150', up to 4' high and has maximum scintillometer readings of about 950 cps (see photo b).

An additional dumping area occurs in the small drainage line immediately north of the shaft (photo c). A series of conical piles up to 3' high form a ridge about 300' long on the north side of the intermittent stream channel.

The mine produced in the late 1950's from a small deposit in the Todilto limestone. The State Mine Inspector's Office last registered the mine in July, 1959 under the name(s) T-9 ore body (T-20 Shaft) with Rimrock Mining as the operator.

References: (1) State Mine Inspector's Office, inactive uranium mine file.  
(2) Field notes, 1/15/80.

11/15/80



Photo (a) Close-up of T-20 shaft opening, showing concrete slab with rectangular opening covered with plate metal door.



Photo (b) Mine dump east of T-20 shaft.

#190 MC 118

Mc 119



Photo (c) Looking northward from shaft at mine dump forming ridge in small drainage line; person with range pole is standing on ridge. Note head frame of Bailey and Fife Mine in background.