

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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NRC OFFERS OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO MAKE ORAL STATEMENTS  
ON NEW MEXICO PROJECT

The presiding officer of a Nuclear Regulatory Commission proceeding is offering an opportunity for members of the public to make oral statements September 15 in Crownpoint, New Mexico, concerning the Crownpoint Uranium Solution Mining Project of Hydro Resources, Inc.

The NRC issued a license to Hydro Resources in January to construct and operate the Crownpoint project. The license, which has been challenged in the NRC proceeding by two citizens groups, Eastern Navajo Dine Against Uranium Mining (ENDAUM), and the Southwest Research and Information Center (SRIC), and Marilyn Morris and Grace Sam, authorizes the extraction of uranium at three sites, located near the towns of Church Rock and Crownpoint, in McKinley County northeast of Gallup.

The sessions for the "limited appearance" oral statements will be held in the South Gym, Crownpoint Community School, State Road 371, Building No. 3001, Crownpoint, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Generally, statements will be limited to six minutes unless an extension to 10 minutes is granted.

At the beginning of each session, anyone wishing to speak should present a written statement to the presiding officer, Administrative Judge Peter B. Bloch, including their name and address and a declaration as to whether they are able to speak in English. Those who cannot write or obtain someone else to prepare a written statement may make an oral request to Judge Bloch to speak. Those unable to speak in English may speak in Navajo and will be permitted additional time, to allow for translation.

An additional public session will occur on September 17. During that session, to be held at the same location, ENDAUM, SRIC, and Marilyn Morris and Grace Sam, who have been officially admitted as parties in the case, will present their arguments about the scheduling of the proceeding. There will be no public participation at this additional session.

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