



The Navajo Nation

DR. JOE SHIRLEY, JR.
President

BEN SHELLEY
Vice President

April 28, 2010

Raymond M. Plienness, Director
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management
2597 B ¾ Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Subject: Surface Characterization Activities at the Monument Valley UMTRA site

Dear Mr. Plienness:

Your assistance is requested regarding your letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) concerning the recent and unexpected discovery of radiological contaminated soils at the DOE UMTRA site located on Navajo tribal land.

As the primary stakeholder to this site, it is imperative that DOE maintain direct communication with the Navajo Nation to allow for our active field participation with all ongoing and future assessments and / or with any ground water remedial activities associated with these Navajo sites. This communication should be well in advance of the proposed or scheduled activity thus enabling a joint effort in addressing these legacy related issues. It will also improve our government to government relationship as stipulated in the DOE Tribal Order and Consultation Policy.

This active participation and involvement from the Navajo AML / UMTRA Department would only enhance any phased initiatives related to the surface radiological characterization due to retained historical knowledge associated with these sites.

Please contact me or Mr. Levon Benally, Jr. at (928) 871-6982 should you need any clarification.

Sincerely,

Madeline Roanhorse, Department Manager
Navajo AML / UMTRA Department
Division of Natural Resources

cc: A. Trujillo, DNR
R. Chang, U.S. NRC ✓
D. Taylor, Navajo Nation Department of Justice
L. Benally, Jr., Navajo AML / UMTRA
M. Yazzie, Navajo AML / UMTRA