



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

DOCKETED  
USNRC

March 26, 1998

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MEMORANDUM TO: Emile Julian, Chief  
Rulemaking and Adjudications Branch  
Office of the Secretary

OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
RULEMAKING AND  
ADJUDICATION STAFF

FROM: Joseph J. Holonich, Chief *[Signature]*  
Uranium Recovery Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: NEW INFORMATION POTENTIALLY RELEVANT AND MATERIAL TO  
COMMISSION PROCEEDING IN THE MATTER OF INTERNATIONAL  
URANIUM CORPORATION (WHITE MESA URANIUM MILL)

Pursuant to Commission Policy on Notification to Licensing Boards and to the Commission of new relevant and material information, the attached document is considered potentially relevant and material to the International Uranium Corporation proceeding now on appeal to the Commission, and is forwarded herewith. This information consists of a newspaper article retrieved via the Internet, which notices the death of Mr. Norman Begay in an automobile accident on February 21, 1998. Mr. Begay was one of the three Native American petitioners whose petitions for hearing were denied on July 23, 1997, on the basis of a failure to establish standing. Mr. Begay and the other Native American petitioners appealed this ruling to the Commission on July 30, 1997.

Docket No. 40-8681-MLA

Attachment: As stated

CONTACT: James Park, NMSS/DWM  
(301) 415-6699

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# Archives

Deseret News Archives,  
Tuesday, February 24, 1998

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## **Anti N-waste activist Begay, wife killed in N.M. highway accident**

By Jason Swensen, Staff Writer

Utah Indians and environmentalists are mourning the weekend death of anti-nuclear waste activist Norman Begay and his wife, Shirley.

The Begays were killed in a traffic accident Saturday evening near Shiprock, N.M.

The couple's pickup reportedly veered out of control and rolled after being struck from behind by a car. The Begays were killed instantly.

For several years, Norman Begay had been a vocal opponent of plans to dump nuclear waste near the White Mesa Ute Reservation.

In 1994, he and his allies foiled a bid by the U.S. Department of Energy to haul low-level nuclear waste from an old uranium mill site near Monticello to the White Mesa Uranium Mill tailings ponds. The ponds sit adjacent the Begay's Ute community 10 miles south of Blanding.

Recently, Norman Begay spent much of his time fighting a recent Nuclear Regulatory Commission-approved decision to dump "Cotter Concentrate" wastes in White Mesa uranium mill's tailing pond.

Cotter Concentrate consists of the residue of uranium processed and reprocessed to aid World War II America in early atomic bomb production and nuclear experiments.

Norman Begay and others insisted the concentrates being shipped to the area by Denver-based Energy Fuels Nuclear were harmful to residents. He co-authored a letter faxed to President Clinton, asking him to stop the shipments.

According to Winston Mason of Great Avikan House, Begay also uncovered the NRC's coding system to backdate license amendment dates to keep the amendment information off the public register and away from public awareness until long after the nuclear wastes had been disposed.

Funeral is scheduled for Thursday at 10 a.m. in the LDS North Chapel in Blanding.

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Attachment

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

INTERNATIONAL URANIUM (USA)  
CORPORATION  
(White Mesa Uranium Mill;  
Alternate Feed Material)

Docket No.(s) 40-8681-MLA

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing MEMO FROM J. HOLONICH TO E. JULIAN RE NEW INFORMATION ... have been served upon the following persons by deposit with Federal Express as indicated by triple asterisk; by deposit in the United States mail, by double asterisk; or as indicated by a single asterisk through deposit in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's internal mail system in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Sec. 2.712.

Office of Commission Appellate\*  
Adjudication  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Mail Stop O-16G15  
Washington, DC 20555

Michelle R. Rehmnn\*\*  
Environmental Manager  
International Uranium (USA) Corp.  
Independence Plaza, Suite 950  
1050 Seventeenth Street  
Denver, CO 80265

Administrative Judge\*  
Charles N. Kelber  
Special Assistant  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel  
Mail Stop - T-3 F23  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Robert R. Pierce\*  
Senior Attorney  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
Mail Stop - T-3 F23  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Administrative Judge\*  
Peter B. Bloch  
Presiding Officer  
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board  
Mail Stop - T-3 F23  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Richard A. Munson, Esq.\*\*  
One Tabor Center, Suite 1000  
1200 Seventeenth Street  
Denver, CO 80202

John T. Hull, Esq. \* (2)  
Sherwin E. Turk, Esq.  
Office of the General Counsel  
Mail Stop - 0-15 B18  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

G. Leah Dever, Asst. Manager\*\*  
for Environmental Management  
Department of Energy  
Nevada Operations Office  
PO Box 98518  
Las Vegas NV 89193

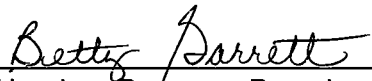
Docket No.(s) 40-8681-MLA  
HOLONICH MEMO TO E. JULIAN RE  
NEW INFORMATION ...

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Winston M. Mason\*\*  
Great Avikan House  
Native American Peoples Historical  
Foundation  
3 East Center Street, Box AVIKAN  
Blanding Ut 84511

Lula J. Katso\*\*  
Westwater Navajo Community  
c/o M. Hutchins  
264 West 100 North  
Blanding Ut 84511

Dated at Rockville, MD, this  
27th day of March 1998

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Uranium Recovery Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards