

JOE D. LONGACRE, SR. STATE INSPECTOR OF MINES

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

INSPECTOR OF MINES DEPARTMENT

2340 MENAUL, N.E., SUITE 106 ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87107



REPORT OF INSPECTION



OFFICE TELEPHONE 842-3055 RESIDENCE PHONE 344-1129

1.D. No. 2900575 Sandstone Mine (United Nuclear Corporation) (Name)

Mine

Typed May 19, 1977 May 9,10,11,12, 1977 (Date of Inspection)

Uranium (Classification of Mine)

McKinley (County in which located) John Visarraga, Ventilation Technician (Company representative present at inspection)

Pursuant to the Mining Laws of the State of New Mexico, Section 63-4-8, an inspection, as designated above, has been made. During this inspection the following was noted:

GENERAL INFORMATION

Owner and Operator: United Nuclear

Corporation

Location: 25 miles NW of Grants, NM, off State Hwy. 509.

8

Employment:

Total 198 Underground 173 Surface 25

Work Scheduled Hours per shift

Shifts per day 3 Days per week

Company Officials:

Walt Smit, Manager of Operations Dave Moody, General Superintendent Jack Farley, Mine Superintendent John Anderson, General Mine Foreman Ken Blume, Safety Director

Mining method: modified room and pillar

Previous radiation inspection: February, 1977, and the report was posted.

Inspection Party:

United Nuclear Corporation

John Visarraga, Ventilation Safety Technician

Dan Thebeau, Ventilation Engineer

Mining Enforcement and Safety Administration Miguel Bernal, Metal and Nonmetal Mine Inspector

State of New Mexico George C. Henckel, Dust and Mine Gas Engineer

Mr. Visarraga obtained duplicate radon-daughter samples for comparison purposes.

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The mine is opened by a 12 foot diameter, concrete, three compartment shaft, 940 feet deep. This shaft is used for the hoisting and lowering of men and materials, ventilation and hoisting ore. The John Billy shaft is 60" I.D. borehole that is presently being coverted to a production shaft and will be used for hoisting ore and ventilation.

The mine was ventilated by air delivered and exhausted through the following:

Opening	Size	Air Direction	Fan	НР	Ventilation c.f.m.
Shaft John Billy Shaft	12 [‡] 60''	downcast downcast	-	:	200,000
No. 1 BH No. 2 BH No. 3 BH No. 4 BH	41'' 51'' 36'' 48''	upcast upcast downcast upcast	Joy Joy Joy	150 (2) 125 100 150	50,000 150,000 10,000 20,000

The following is a list of radon-daughter concentrations and ventilation volumes:

Sample No.	Sample Location	Ventilation c.f.m.	Working Level
1 2 3 4 5 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	72 room trench area 72 room haulage B-6 64 room development C-1 No. 1 slusher C-1 drill position C-1 No. 2 slusher A-4 raise development 54 room haulage 33 entry drill position 27 entry drill position 26 raise haulages 26 raise slusher 24 room shop station area 27 entry R E S A M P L E 33 entry R E S A M P L E 26 raise haulage R E S A M P 26 raise slusher R E S A M P	adequate 20,000 convection 1,500 convection 20,000 1,500 1,000 2,000 convection 10,000 adequate	Nil 0 Nil 0.2 Nil 0.5 0.6 0.4 0.8 (C.W.O. issued) 6.0 10.1 4.0 (C.W.O. issued) 0.2 Nil Nil (C.W.O. abated) 0.3 (C.W.O. abated) 0.4 (C.W.O. abated) 0.5 (C.W.O. abated) 0.5 (C.W.O. abated) 0.5 (C.W.O. abated)

CEASE WORK ORDERS ISSUED 5-9-77

Order No. 1, SIM Rule No. 76-1(c): For high radiation in the B-1, B-2 area. (57.5-39M) Abated 5-12-77.

ABATEMENT OF NOTICES ISSUED 5-5-76

Notice No. 1, SIM Rule No. 75-2(2c); (57.5-16M) Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 2, SIM Rule No. 71-1(2c); (57.5-2M) Abated 5-12-77.

NOTICES ISSUED 5-12-77

Notice No. 1, Section 63-28-17(b), NMSA: The mechanic in the 24 room haulage shall wear safety glasses. (57.15-4M) Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 2, SIM Rule No. 71-1(2c): The oil storage area in 24 room shall be provided with drip pans (fire hazard). (57.4-4M) Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 3, SIM Rule No. 71-1(2c): The oil storage area in 26 raise shall be kept clean and provided with drip pans. (fire hazard) (57.4-4M) Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 4, Section 63-4-5(c), NMSA: The vent bag in 64 room shall be kept within 30 feet of the face. Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 5, Section 63-28-9, NMSA: Dust shall be controlled in the 72 room trench area. Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 6, Section 63-28-9, NMSA: Dust shall be controlled at the M&E station area. Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 7, SIM Rule No. 76-1(2c): Evidence of smoking was found in C-1 haulage 27 entry. '(57.5-41M) Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 8, Section 63-26-1(b), NMSA: The area where diesel truck parking 26 raise shall be ventilated. Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 9, Rules Governing Diesel Equipment in Underground Mines for the State of New Mexico, Rule No. 4(b): The 33 entry shall be provided with at least 75 c.f.m. of air per brake horsepower for operation of diesel equipment. Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 10, Rules Governing Diesel Equipment in Underground Mines for the State of New Mexico, Rule No. 4(b): The 27 entry shall be provided with at least 75 c.f.m. of air per brake horsepower for operation of diesel equipment. Abated 5-12-77.

Notice No. 11, SIM Rule No.75-3(a): The two air tuggers in the C-1 development stope shall be provided with noise control devices. (57.5-50(b)M) Abated 5-12-77.

The above notices and order were discussed at the inspection's conclusion with Messrs. Jack Farley, John Anderson, Nash Tafoya, Nick Sloan, Roger Siegmann, John Visarraga, C. R. Finch and Miguel Bernal, MESA.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The courtesy and cooperation of the staff and personnel of the Sandstone Mine are hereby gratefully acknowledged.

Inspected and Reported by: George C. Henckel Dust and Mine Gas Engineer Deputy Inspector of Mines

Approved:

JOE D. LONGACRÉ. SR.

State Inspector of Mines