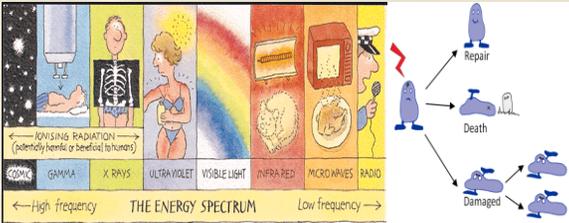


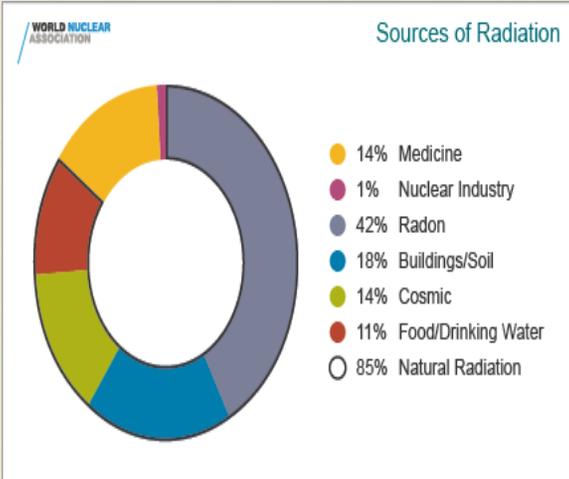
Radiation, Environment Facts, and Radiation Health:

Radiation: Red, blue and yellow lights are low energy forms of radiation. **Ionizing radiation**, however, damages health because of its very high energy. In delicate living cells, ionizing radiation damages molecules by knocking electrons out of their atomic orbits. Usually—but not always—cells repair this damage quickly. Un-repaired damage may be minor or it may lead to cancer, other disease or a genetic mutation passed from parent to child. Energy passes through space as waves. WorldNuclear.org



Uranium: is a very heavy metal which can be used as an abundant source of concentrated energy, it is widespread in many rocks, and even in seawater.

Sources of Radiation:



Prevention Strategies:

The best way to be protected is through knowledge and awareness. If you are aware of what effects may be caused to you, you can take necessary prevention strategies. The best way to stay safe is know where contaminated areas are and learn how to better protect yourself from the contaminants in those areas.

Activism against the US government and industries causing these effects will be the American peoples and local communities only chance for the cleaning and renovation of our land. The damages is irreversible but cleaning up what is left behind and cleaning what is damaging is a start to a very long continuing process.

Works Cited

Chris Shuey and Eileen Shaughnessy

Worldnuclear.org

Nuclearfiles.org

<http://masecoalition.org/navajonation/>

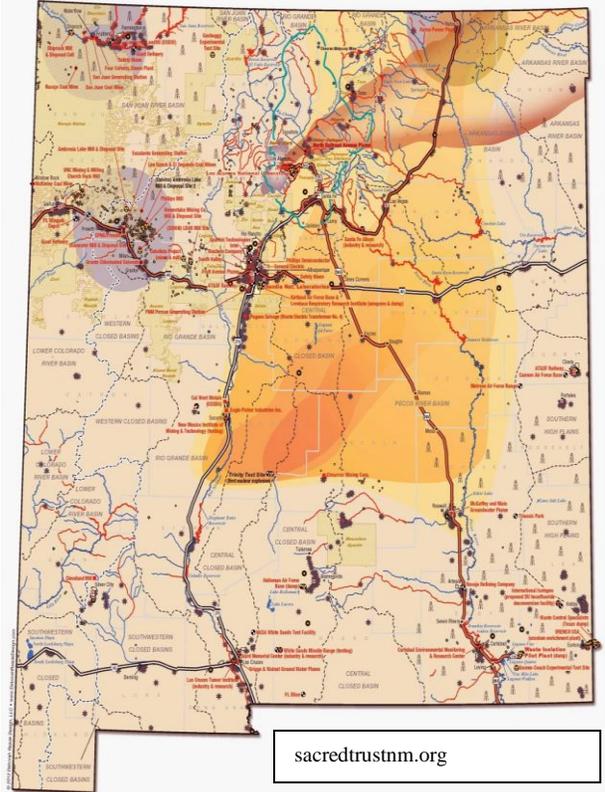
http://www.radon.com/radon/radon_facts.html

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/fact-sheets/bio-effects-radiation.html>

<http://www.ratical.org/radiation/KillingOurOwn/KOO9.html>

GORDON LOISELLE
University Of New Mexico
Telephone: (505)409-5852
Other: unnm.sust.edu

NUCLEAR WORLD IN NEW MEXICO: A PERMANENTLY CONTAMINATED LAND?

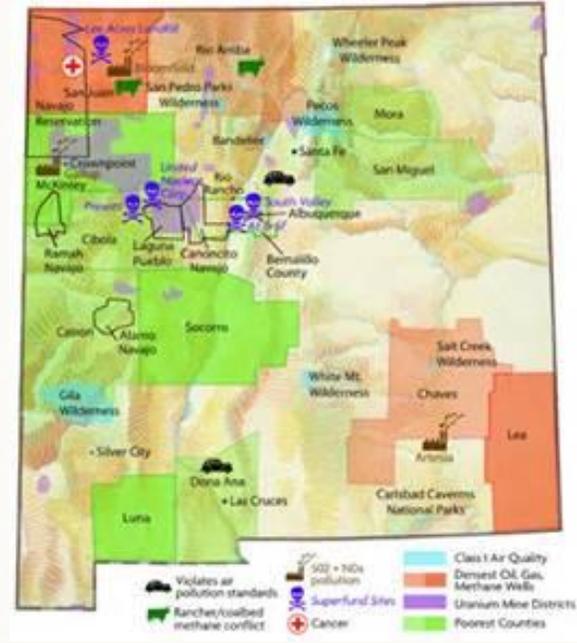
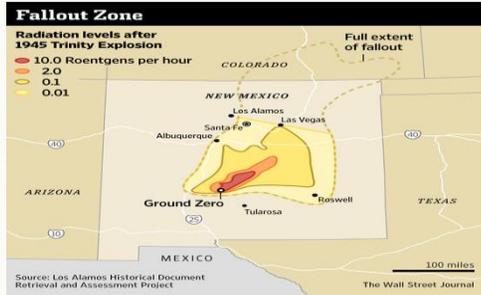


HEALTH AND
ENVIRONMENT
AWARENESS AND
INFORMATION FOR
NEW MEXICO
COMMUNITIES

How is the environment effected?

Radioactive waste, contaminants, mining, and testing are key affecters in New Mexico communities:

Radiation and Uranium has never been the problem but how the US government used Uranium is an issue of concern. Left over waste from nuclear technology advances and mining contaminate our soil, water, and air. New Mexico is involved with all stages of nuclear activities from creation of nuclear weapons to testing them in our backyards. Nuclear testing has been the most destructive of human health and the environment.



How is your Health and future effected?

Radiation and uranium both effect the body, but the decay of uranium which turns into radon is the most dangerous and leading cause of lung cancer in the US. . Because our states involvement in nuclear technologies, New Mexicans are highly effected and very prone to health effects and cancer. The human body could be permanently damaged by defected reproduction cells and also while passing these effects onto your children. Living cells exposed to radiation could: (1) repair themselves, leaving no damage; (2) die and be replaced, much like millions of body cells do every day; or (3) incorrectly repair themselves, resulting in a biophysical change.

Exposure rates determines the effects received.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas and comes from the natural breakdown (radioactive decay) of uranium. The primary routes of potential human exposure to radon are inhalation and ingestion. Radon in the ground, groundwater, or building materials enters working and living spaces and disintegrates into its decay products. More exposure greater the effects and damages. The exposure time is relevant to the effects to your body. Accumulative exposure is hazardous.

Inhalation

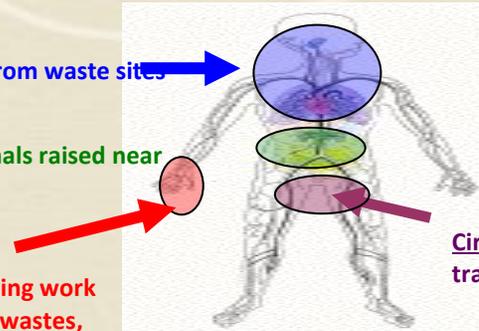
Breathing in dusts from waste sites

Ingestion

Eating meat of animals raised near mines;

Absorption

Skin contact: washing work clothes, playing in wastes, washing in contaminated water

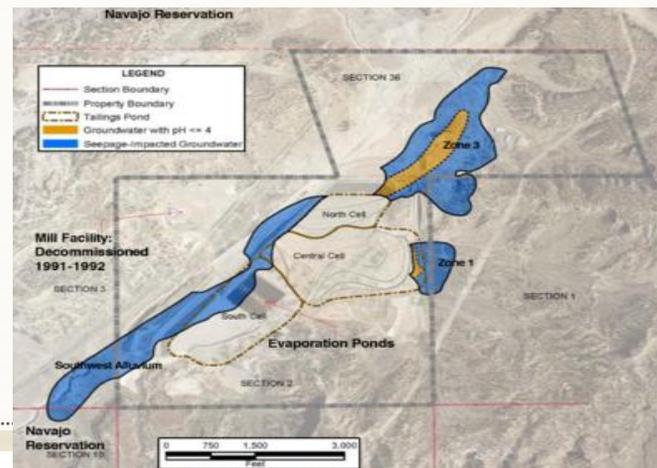


Circulation Contaminant transfer across placenta

- ▶ Inhalation
 - Lung tissue damage
 - Kidney damage
- ▶ Ingestion
 - Damage to gastrointestinal tract (sensitive)
 - Kidney damage
- ▶ Absorption
 - Unlikely
- ▶ Circulation
 - Transfer of contaminants across placenta barrier

Church Rock Spill and Nearby Communities lack of Awareness.

Church Rock was the biggest tailings spill on record, but it was not the only one. And though the Navajo and other New Mexicans nearby were the most directly affected, people as far away as Los Angeles had cause for concern.



I want to share my own personal experience towards the lack of knowledge and concern for my Dine people near the church rock spill. I have lived near zone 3 (on map to the left) for nearly 15 years with no knowledge or awareness of the potential dangers within the land. All community members have in twined livelihoods with the land. We use the land to live and without the knowledge that the land is contaminated we are damaging our bodies and future unknowingly. Shown from studies, the Church Rock spill left the area highly active with contaminants and no permanent solutions was found. How can people be protected from something they do not know about? The lack of knowledge about the spill is caused by the government's lack of concern. The US government discriminates against its own indigenous peoples by not providing awareness to protect themselves from harm and health effects cause by their thirst for power through nuclear advances. All communities of New Mexico are effected without consent or knowledge.