

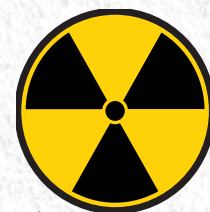
The Impact of Hardrock Mining on Native American Communities

Nuclear energy, despised being painted as clean energy, has a legacy of negative environmental health consequences that disproportionately impact Indigenous communities.



Although reservations only make up 5.6% of the land area in the Western US, **1 in 5 uranium mines** are located **WITHIN 6 MILES** of a reservation.

More than **75%** of uranium mines are located **WITHIN 50 MILES** of a reservation.



A **hardrock mine** involves uncovering and extracting non-fuel metal and mineral deposits of solid ores or eroded deposits such as copper, gold, iron ore, lead, molybdenum, phosphate rock, platinum, potash, silver, **uranium**, and zinc.

Prepared by:



An estimated **600,000 Native Americans** in the Western US **LIVE WITHIN 6 MILES** of an abandoned mine.

Over 1,600 abandoned uranium mines, mills, tailing ponds, and other toxic uranium-related infrastructure are located within the Navajo Nation.



NATIVE AMERICAN
BUDGET & POLICY
INSTITUTE

in partnership with
Health Equity Council of Bernalillo County

Proximity to abandoned uranium mines is associated with diseases of inflammation. Inflammation significantly impacts the development of numerous vascular ailments, as well as diabetes, hypertension, and obesity that disproportionately impact members of the Navajo Nation.

A US Public Health Service Study from 1991–2005, showed that **25% of the deaths** in 4137 former uranium miners were attributed to **lung cancer**. **Native miners died at THREE TIMES the expected rate.**

Of the 150 Navajo uranium miners who worked at the uranium mine in Shiprock, New Mexico until 1970, **133 died of lung cancer or various forms of fibrosis by 1980.**

