New Mexico is NOT a Nuclear Wasteland

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Nuclear Colonialism

...is the systematic dispossession of indigenous lands, exploitation of cultural resources, and the subjugation and oppression of indigenous peoples to further nuclear production of energy and proliferation of weapons from uranium mining, uranium processing, weapons testing, and waste storage, resulting in the destruction of indigenous peoples and cultures and creation of National Sacrifice Zones.

Sources:
1 Nader & Gusterson, *Half Lives and Half Truths*
2 Compilation of Definitions of Nuclear Colonialism from LaDuke, Churchill, and Benally
Contamination in NM from Nuclear Fuel Chain

- Legacy of Uranium Mining & Milling
- Uranium Enrichment (Urenco)
- Testing of First Atomic Bomb (Trinity)
- DU Experimentation (NM Tech)
- 2 National Weapons Labs (LANL, SNL)
- Deep Geological Repository for Transuranic Wastes (WIPP)
- Low-Level Waste nearby (WCS)
- Other Sites (UNM, Buggy Explosion, et al)
- Proposed CIS and Possible Reprocessing?
- NO COMMERCIAL NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS
Abandoned Uranium Mines (AUMs)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates¹:
- 15,000 U mine locations in 15 western states (most in CO)
- 75% of those on federal and tribal lands

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) estimates²:
- 4,225 defense-related U mines
- Approximately 11% of the 4,225 mines are on tribal lands and other areas where poverty, linguistic isolation, limited educational opportunities, and other factors contribute to increased vulnerability to pollution.

Sources
¹ https://www.abandonedmines.gov/wbd_um.html
² https://www.energy.gov/lm/articles/working-group-addresses-abandoned-uranium-mines
Navajo Nation Sovereignty

- Diné Natural Resources Protection Act, 2005
- Radioactive Materials Transportation Act, 2012
- Declarations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
  - United Nations, 2007
  - Organization of American States, 2016
  - Article XXII. Indigenous law and jurisdiction
- Protection of health of people, elements, Sacred Places, future generations
HEALTH EFFECTS OF URANIUM ON PREGNANT WOMAN

- **BRAIN**
  - Radon ($\alpha$) (3.8 days)
  - Radium-226 ($\alpha$) (1600 years)
  - Lead-210 ($\beta$) (22 years)

- **LUNGS**
  - Radon ($\alpha$) (3.8 days)
  - Thorium-230 ($\alpha$ & $\gamma$) (77,000 years)
  - Lead-210 ($\beta$) (22 years)
  - Polonium-210 ($\alpha$) (138 days)
  - Radium-226 ($\alpha$) (1600 years)

- **Spleen**
  - Thorium-230 ($\alpha$ & $\gamma$) (77,000 years)

- **Liver**
  - Uranium ($\alpha$) (1000s of years)
  - Radium-226 ($\alpha$) (1600 years)
  - Thorium-230 ($\alpha$ & $\gamma$) (77,000 years)

- **Kidneys**
  - Uranium ($\alpha$) (1000s of years)
  - Lead-210 ($\beta$) (22 years)

- **Digestive Tract**
  - Radium-226 ($\alpha$) (1600 years)
  - Thorium-230 ($\alpha$ & $\gamma$) (77,000 years)

- **Reproductive System**
  - Uranium ($\alpha$) (1000s of years)
  - Polonium-210 ($\alpha$) (138 days)
  - Radium-226 ($\alpha$) (1600 years)
  - Thorium-230 ($\alpha$ & $\gamma$) (77,000 years)
  - Lead-210 ($\beta$) (22 years)
Southeast NM is not suitable for CIS

- Already Overburdened Area
- Permian Basin
- Sinkhole in Carlsbad
- Recent Tornado
- Lack Emergency Preparedness
Letters from NM Legislators to NRC after education re: CIS

• 2016 Memorials
  – House
  – Senate
• NRC applications for CIS not public until 2017-18
Opposition to CIS

New Mexico
1. Lake Arthur 09/07/17
2. Albuquerque 05/21/18
3. Jal 05/29/18
4. Bernalillo County 06/12/18
5. Las Cruces 07/23/18
6. Santa Fe County 09/25/18
7. Gallup 09/25/18
8. McKinley County 10/02/18
9. Belen 11/10/18
10. Churchrock Chapter 08/15/18
11. Navajo Nation Diné 11/29/18

Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission
12. Bexar County 02/21/17
13. San Antonio County 03/30/17
14. Dallas County 04/14/17
15. Midland County 04/24/17
16. Nueces County 02/04/15
17. Denton County
NM Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham:

"There's nobody that's been able to demonstrate to me that there isn't risk here," she says. "There is risk. We need to be clear about that. I don't think it's the right decision for the state."

Source: New Mexico Is Divided Over The 'Perfect Site' To Store Nation's Nuclear Waste, NPR Article by Nathan Rott, April 11, 2019
CIS is Environmental Racism

Map created by Nuclear Issues Study Group (www.nuclearnewmexico.com/NISG)

Legend
- Nuclear Power Plants
- Proposed CIS Sites:
  - Holtec International
  - Waste Control Specialists

Resources
- https://www.nrc.gov/info-finder/reactors/
- https://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/map-power-reactors.html