

30th Anniversary Commemoration of the Church Rock Uranium Tailings Spill JULY 16, 2009



July 16th, 7 am to 9 pm, Churchrock NM

For more information:

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Co-Sponsors

Churchrock Chapter, Coyote Canyon Chapter, Navajo Nation Special Diabetes Project-Crownpoint Area
Bluewater Valley Downstream Alliance, Dineh Bidzil Coalition, Eastern Navajo Diné Against Uranium Mining,
Laguna Acoma Coalition for a Safe Environment, Post-71 Uranium Workers Committee,
SAGE Council, Sierra Club Environmental Justice Office, Southwest Research and Information Center

♦ **7-11 am — Prayer and Health Walk on State Route 566 in Remembrance of Communities Affected by the July 16, 1979 Tailings Spill**

7 am Prayer service at residence of Teddy and Bertha Nez, 29E Red Water Pond Road. Registration for health walk will be conducted by NNSDP-Crownpoint Area.

8 am Registration, start of Health Walk from Nez residence to site of spill on SR 566, ~1.5 mi.

9 am Prayer for healing at spill site at south end of UNC uranium mill tailings impoundment on SR 566. Remarks from community members about the spill and path of contamination.

10 am Walk continues to King Ranch at intersection of SR 566 and Old Churchrock Mine Road. Commemorative T-shirts will be distributed to walkers.

♦ **11 am - Noon — Commemoration Proclamation and Reaffirmation of the Navajo Nation's Uranium Mining Ban**

Proclamation of commemoration and press conference on lands of the families of the late Howard King. Welcome by Larry J. King, rancher and MASE/ENDAUM member.

♦ **12:15 - 2:30 pm — Luncheon at Churchrock Chapter**

Recognition luncheon at Churchrock Chapter House (Old Rt. 66 and SR 566)

♦ **5 - 9 pm — Uranium Films & Panel Discussion, Calvin Hall, UNM Gallup**

Directions and Parking

From Interstate 40 (Exit 33 on the east or Exit 26 on the west), take the north frontage road, Old Route 66, to State Route 566. On SR 566, travel north 11.5 miles to Red Water Pond Road. Turn right (north) on Red Water Pond Road and take the first left turn across the cattle guard to the Nez residence, 29E Red Water Pond Road. Parking for the 7 a.m. prayer and registration for the health walk will be next to the Nez residence. For people joining the walk at the spill site at 9 a.m., take SR 566 from Old Rt. 66 at Church Rock Village 7 miles to the intersection of SR 566 and Old Churchrock Mine Road. A parking area will be available next to the King Ranch gate at this location. A shuttle van will take walkers to the spill site on SR 566 across from the UNC mill at 8:30 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. Parking will NOT be permitted on SR 566 at the spill site. The van will also be available to take walkers back to the Nez residence at the end of the walk. Walkers will be accompanied by a law enforcement escort and a shuttle van for anyone who needs assistance or a ride during the walk.

Rules and Procedures for the Health Walk

The Health Walk commemorating the Church Rock Tailings Spill will be a peaceful and healing event in remembrance of the people and communities affected by the spill. Please, no drugs or alcohol. Walkers MUST register at either the start of the walk at the Nez Residence at 7 a.m., or at the spill site on SR 566 at 9 a.m. Walkers should wear comfortable walking shoes and wide-brimmed hats, and have plenty of sunscreen. Walkers may bring their own water (in plastic containers only), but PLEASE DO NOT DISCARD empty bottles (or any other trash) along the sides of the highway. Despite the past impacts of uranium mining in the area, we want to respect the land and local residents. Fruit and water will be provided for the walkers. Walkers may bring their own healthy snacks (fruit or granola bars, veggies). Commemorative T-shirts will be handed out at the end of the walk at the King Ranch. Donations to help cover the costs of this event are greatly appreciated.