



ABANDONED MINE LANDS & URANIUM MILL TAILINGS REMEDIAL  
ACTION DEPARTMENT

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 24, 2016**

**Navajo Nation President Begaye and US EPA acknowledges Grant Award**



WINDOW ROCK, AZ – October 19, 2016. The Navajo Nation and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) acknowledge the efforts put forth by the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Program (NAMLRP), Division of Natural Resources (DNR), and the USEPA in their Partnership efforts to deal with the on-going efforts relating to the Abandoned Uranium Mine (AUM) activities on the Navajo Nation. NAMLRP is authorized to address abandoned mine land (AML) related problems dealing with the physical safety and hazards for the mines relating to the public safety through the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) of 1977. Through this effort, NAMLRP has gained valuable experience and expertise in reclaiming abandoned uranium mines on Navajo Tribal Trust Lands since the early 1990's.

USEPA under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980 has the authority to assess and remediate AUM sites on the Navajo Nation. USEPA recognizes the ability and benefits of working with NAMLRP on investigating and cleaning up abandoned uranium mines, thus has awarded NAMLRP a Cooperative Agreement Grant in the amount of \$328, 849. NAMLRP will provide administrative, project development, technical and public relations support via this Cooperative Agreement Grant to the USEPA.

The Navajo Nation and USEPA look forward to the on-going Partnership opportunities that this first Cooperative Agreement Grant is establishing.

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*"Restoring Navajolands to Enhance Beauty, Harmony and Quality of Life"*