

**Title:** Investigation of the Correlation Between the Burning of Locally Mined Coal in Residential Stoves by Navajo People in New Mexico and Respiratory Disease

**Subject and Purpose:** This dissemination, which will be submitted to a scientific journal for publication, will describe the methods, results, and scientific interpretations of a multi-year study (2003-2007), as part of the USGS Energy Resources Program, to determine if indoor use of locally mined coal might be contributing to some of the respiratory health problems being experienced by Navajo Nation residents. The study (1) examined respiratory health data; (2) identified stove type and use; (3) analyzed samples of coal used locally; and (4) measured and characterized the air quality inside selected homes. This dissemination will expand on [USGS Fact Sheet 2006-3094](#), *Navajo Coal and Air Quality in Shiprock, New Mexico*.

**Impact of Dissemination:** Influential Scientific Information

**Timing of Review:** February - March 2007 (No deferrals are anticipated at this time)

**Manner of Review and Selection of Reviewers:** This review will be conducted using the [peer review](#) process as part of the review, approval, and release of [information products](#), according to USGS [Fundamental Science Practices](#). The USGS selects the technical peer reviewers; other reviewers will be selected by the Navajo Division of Health Human Research Review Board.

**Expected Number of Reviewers:** 3 or fewer from USGS; additional (see below) selected by the Navajo Division of Health Human Research Review Board

**Requisite Expertise:** Epidemiology; coal chemistry; Navajo culture and language

**Opportunity for Public Comment:** No public comment is formally incorporated in the USGS peer review process; however, dissemination among at least 17 Navajo professionals and citizens is part of the review process of the Navajo Division of Health Human Research Review Board. It is also possible that public comment on the already published USGS Fact Sheet (see above) may affect the subject dissemination. Any public comments received prior to peer review would be provided to the reviewers.

**Date Plan Submitted:** December 21, 2006

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