

Navajo Language Terms for Common English Words and Phrases in Environmental Science

English Word	Navajo Term	English Translation
Uranium	{ <i>eetso</i> or [<i>eetsoh</i> or [<i>eetsoii</i>	Dirt + yellow + the one that is
Uranium ore	<i>Ts4</i> [<i>eetso bitah7g77</i>	Rock + [uranium] + the one within it
Uranium mine	{ <i>eetso haag44d</i>	[uranium] + something is dug out (the place where)
Uranium toxicity	{ <i>eetso ba'1t'e'</i>	[uranium] + it is caused by it (inferring harm or harmfulness)
Radiation	(1) <i>Ideezla'</i> (2) { <i>eetso bideezla' 47 doodago</i> <i>[eetso ba'1t'e'</i> (3) { <i>eetso bits'1ziil</i>	(1) A + ray/property + creates/causes harm (connotes changes and the effects of those changes, externally) (2) [uranium] + [radiation] + that is, or [uranium] + its negative nature (3) [Uranium] + away from it + the energy that emits or streams (inferring the scientific definition of radiation without connoting harm or danger)
Water	<i>T0</i>	All waters, all liquids
Stream	<i>T0</i> [<i>l7n7g77</i>] or <i>T0</i> [<i>dan7l7n7g77</i>	[water] + all those that flows/flowing + the one that
Spring	<i>T0 h11l9</i>	[water] + flows out of it
Aquifer	(1) { <i>eeyi' t0</i> (2) <i>Ts4</i> [<i>diniit['iizh</i>	(1) soil + within it + [water] (2) rock + saturated with (water)
Water well	<i>T0 haadleeh7g77</i>	[water] + pulled up one quantity after another + the one that is
Natural processes	<i>Y1k'22shb22h</i>	(male) dynamic processes of changes in the sky [after <i>Y1di7hi</i>], or Father Sky] (where male = destructive)
Natural processes	<i>N7k'22shb22h</i>	(female) dynamic processes of changes in the earth [after <i>Nohosdz11n</i> , or Mother Earth] (where, female = constructive)

Sources:

1. Diné College Uranium Education Project Glossary, updated 2002.
2. Robert W. Young and William Morgan, Sr. *The Navajo Language: A Grammar and Colloquial Dictionary* (revised edition). Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1987.
3. Steve Semken, Ph.D. *Rocks, Water, Metal: The environmental geology of uranium*. WERC-Navajo Dryland Environments Laboratory, Diné College, Shiprock, NM, 2003.
4. Consultation by Frank Morgan, Navajo language specialist, Albuquerque, NM, 2003.