**New tests: Uranium removed**

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ASHLAND - The results of more testing by those at the company's Trinity Mine site prior to tests showing trace amounts of uranium found in water samples taken from a lake near the company's uranium treatment plant.

Earlier this month, officials said testing confirmed the presence of uranium in water samples from surface aggregate loading at the bottom of the mine's Temporary Development Pack. Stanford Newell has exceeded the federal maximum concentration level for safe drinking water.

The mining did not violate any state or federal regulatory permits at the mine, but the tests were a Superfund impacted community that conducted the independent Community Environmental Monitoring Project's testing activities wanting to make sure the element was being contained, find more about potential sources and report the information to the public.

**Photos**

Latter tests on a water entering and leaving the water treatment plant - by the city and the partnership - showed the uranium was successfully contained and was not being released into the ground or back into mining processes.

Rio Tinto has also received results of tests on solid waste samples, and in the filter press, and the second is a solid waste. The samples from the plant are disposed of in a municipal landfill.

Tests on the filter press waste showed 3.5 milligrams per kilogram of uranium concentration, which is below the company's previous solid waste limit which ranged from 0.1 to 0.7 milligrams per kilogram. Tests on the contaminant waste did not detect any uranium, duplicating the result from the Trinity previous testing.

"The tests are consistent and we are continuing to take steps to monitor the environment," the company said.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - which has been regulating uranium in community drinking water supplies to reduce the risk of kidney disease and cancer since 1993 - has established uranium concentration levels below the Safe Drinking Water Act at 30 parts per billion, with higher levels considered unsafe.

Rio Tinto said the company would continue to monitor the water treatment plant and provide these findings to the community and other water treatment plants in the area.