

## HELIUM IN THE DINEH BI KEYAH (DBK) FIELD

The DBK field was first developed in the late 1960s to extract oil. The field was largely depleted of oil by the early 2000s. At that point, companies turned to extract helium. First, they drill for natural gas. Then, at a helium processing plant, the helium is separated from the gas stream and prepared for market.

There are currently eight active helium wells in the DBK field and several old oil wells that produce oil in small quantities.

To learn more or get involved, get in touch with Diné CARE on facebook or via our email at [dinecare88@gmail.com](mailto:dinecare88@gmail.com)



# HELIUM OPERATIONS ON THE NAVAJO NATION



Public information  
handout by Diné CARE

# INCREASING DEVELOPMENT

There is increasing interest from corporations in extracting helium from Navajo Nation lands - for instance, in areas such as Red Valley, the Hogback, Tocito Dome, and throughout the Holbrook Basin, including Nahata' Dzil. But impacted communities are not always informed of the potential impacts of this development. In Red Valley, residents' concerns about existing development have been ignored for years.

In the **Dineh Bi Keyah** field near Red Valley, helium and legacy oil operations have brought:

## THREATS TO AIR QUALITY

Air sampling by Diné CARE reveals dangerous levels of air toxins and pollutants.

## THREATS TO HEALTH

These toxins pose health risks to residents who are exposed.

## THREATS TO LAND AND WATER

Diné CARE has documented several oil spills that pose a threat to the land and water. The operator, Capitol Operating Group, does not appear to maintain well sites or roads frequently.

**Navajo Nation agencies have been unresponsive to multiple complaints and requests for information.**



Spilled oil in the Dineh Bi Keyah Field

**Community members deserve answers to their questions, and assurance that their environment is safe.**