

# • Slovak Republic •

#### URANIUM EXPLORATION AND RESOURCES

#### **Historical review**

Uranium exploration was performed within the Slovak Republic since 1950s in different regions. Based on the results of the evaluation, it was concluded at that time that the Slovak Republic had no uranium resources of economic interest. No uranium exploration occurred between 1990 and 2005.

#### Recent and ongoing uranium exploration and mine development activities

In 2005, the private Canadian company Tournigan Gold Corporation acquired an exploration license covering 32 km<sup>2</sup> around the uranium mineralisation discovered near Jahodna in Eastern Slovakia. In March 2006, an independent NI 43-101 technical report was issued that contained a mineral resource estimate of 7 000 tU, grading at 0.56% U. Tournigan is continuing exploration at this and other less advanced properties (Novoveska Huta and Spisska Teplica) in Eastern Slovakia.

#### URANIUM PRODUCTION

#### Historical review

In 1960s and 1970s some small quantities of uranium ore were mined in Eastern Slovakia. Production was stopped due to inefficiency and the low-grade of the ore.

#### Status of production capability

The Slovak Republic has no uranium mining industry or production capability.

#### Secondary sources of uranium

The Slovak Republic does not produce or use mixed-oxide fuels, re-enriched tails and reprocessed uranium.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES AND SOCIO-CULTURAL ISSUES

None reported.

#### **URANIUM REQUIREMENTS**

The Slovak Republic has two nuclear power plants located at Bohunice and Mochovce. The NPP Bohunice had four units of the VVER-440 type in operation, with installed capacity of 2 x 406 MWe net and 2 x 407 MWe net. Following the Slovak Government commitment to the European Union, Slovakia shut down the first reactor (Unit 1) of the Bohunice NPP on 31 December 2006. A second Bohunice reactor should be stopped at the end of 2008. The two VVER-440 type reactors at Mochovce remain in operation.

In 2006 Slovenské elektrárne commenced use of new nuclear fuel with burnable Gd absorber in NPP Bohunice Units 3 and 4 and NPP Mochovce Units 1 and 2.

Under preparation and development are uprates of NPP Bohunice Units 3 and 4 and NPP Mochovce Units 1 and 2 uprating as well as consideration of constructing new reactors (Units 3 and 4) at NPP Mochovce.

#### NATIONAL POLICIES RELATING TO URANIUM

The Slovak Republic utility purchases complete fuel assemblies for all operating units from Russian manufacturers. Therefore, there are no special contracts on uranium, conversion and enrichment services.

#### URANIUM STOCKS AND PRICES

The Slovak Republic does not maintain an inventory of uranium. The Slovak government keeps small stock of enriched uranium in form of complete fuel assemblies. Based on above-mentioned information, the Slovak Republic utility has not any special uranium contracts; therefore it cannot publish prices for uranium.

## Uranium exploration and development expenditures and drilling effort - domestic

	2004	2005	2006	2007 (expected)
Industry exploration expenditures	0	NA	NA	NA
Government exploration expenditures	0	0	0	0
Industry development expenditures	0	NA	NA	NA
Government development expenditures	0	0	0	0
Total expenditures	0	NA	NA	NA
Industry exploration drilling (metres)	0	NA	NA	NA
Number of industry exploration holes drilled	0	NA	NA	NA
Government exploration drilling (metres)	0	0	0	0
Number of government exploration holes drilled	0	0	0	0
Industry development drilling (metres)	0	NA	NA	NA
Number of development exploration holes drilled	0	NA	NA	NA
Government development drilling (metres)	0	0	0	0
Number of development exploration holes drilled	0	0	0	0
Subtotal exploration drilling (metres)	0	NA	NA	NA
Subtotal exploration holes	0	NA	NA	NA
Subtotal development drilling (metres)	0	NA	NA	NA
Subtotal development holes	0	NA	NA	NA
Total drilling (metres)	0	NA	NA	NA
Total number of holes	0	NA	NA	NA

## Net nuclear electricity generation

	2005	2006
Nuclear electricity generated (TWh net)	16.3	16.6

# Installed nuclear generating capacity to 2030

(MWe net)

2006	2007	20	10	201	15
2006	2007	Low	High	Low	High
2 438	2 032	1 740	1 740	1 740	2 611

2020		2025		203	30
Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
1 740	2 611	1 740	2 611	871	2 742

# Annual reactor-related uranium requirements to 2030 (excluding MOX) (tonnes U)

2006	2007	20	10	201	15
2006	2007	Low	High	Low	High
491	476	387	387	399	596

2020		20	2025		30
Low	High	Low	High	Low	High
387	583	399	596	197	393

#### **Total uranium stocks**

(tonnes natural U-equivalent)

Holder	Natural uranium stocks in concentrates	Enriched uranium stocks	Depleted uranium stocks	Reprocessed uranium stocks	Total
Government	0	NA	0	0	NA
Producer	0	0	0	0	0
Utility	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	NA	0	0	NA

# • Slovenia •

#### **URANIUM EXPLORATION**

#### Historical review

Exploration of the Zirovski Vrh area began in 1961. In 1968, the P-10 tunnel was developed giving access to the ore body. Mining began at Zirovski Vrh in 1982 and uranium concentrate production (as yellow cake) began in 1985.

#### Recent and ongoing uranium exploration and mine development activities

Expenditures for exploration ended in 1990. There are no recent or ongoing uranium exploration activities in Slovenia.

### Appendix 4

#### **GLOSSARY OF DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY**

#### UNITS

Metric units are used in all tabulations and statements. Resources and production quantities are expressed in terms of tonnes (t) contained uranium (U) rather than uranium oxide  $(U_3O_8)$ .

1 short ton  $U_3O_8 = 0.769 \text{ tU}$ 

1 percent  $U_3O_8$  = 0.848 percent U

 $1 \text{ USD/lb } \text{U}_3\text{O}_8 = \text{USD } 2.6/\text{kg } \text{U}$ 

1 tonne = 1 metric ton

#### RESOURCE TERMINOLOGY

Resource estimates are divided into separate categories reflecting different levels of confidence in the quantities reported. The resources are further separated into categories based on the cost of production.

#### a) Definitions of resource categories

Uranium resources are broadly classified as either conventional or unconventional. Conventional resources are those that have an established history of production where uranium is a primary product, co-product or an important by-product (e.g., from the mining of copper and gold). Very low-grade resources or those from which uranium is only recoverable as a minor by-product are considered unconventional resources.

Conventional resources are further divided, according to different confidence levels of occurrence, into four categories. The correlation between these resource categories and those used in selected national resource classification systems is shown in Figure A.

**Reasonably Assured Resources** (RAR) refers to uranium that occurs in known mineral deposits of delineated size, grade and configuration such that the quantities which could be recovered within the given production cost ranges with currently proven mining and processing technology, can be specified. Estimates of tonnage and grade are based on specific sample data and measurements of the deposits and on knowledge of deposit characteristics. Reasonably Assured Resources have a high assurance of existence. Unless otherwise noted, RAR are expressed in terms of quantities of uranium recoverable from mineable ore (see Recoverable Resources).

Inferred Resources refers to uranium, in addition to RAR, that is inferred to occur based on direct geological evidence, in extensions of well-explored deposits, or in deposits in which geological continuity has been established but where specific data, including measurements of the deposits, and knowledge of the deposit's characteristics, are considered to be inadequate to classify the resource as RAR. Estimates of tonnage, grade and cost of further delineation and recovery are based on such sampling as is available and on knowledge of the deposit characteristics as determined in the best known parts of the deposit or in similar deposits. Less reliance can be placed on the estimates in this category than on those for RAR. Unless otherwise noted, Inferred Resources are expressed in terms of quantities of uranium recoverable from mineable ore (see Recoverable Resources).

Figure A. Approximate Correlation of Terms used in Major Resources Classification Systems

	IDEN	TIFIED RESOU	JRCES	Undiscovere	D RESOU	RCES
NEA/IAEA	REASONABL	Y Assured	Inferred	PROGNOSTICATED	SPECU	LATIVE
Australia	Demons	TRATED	Inferred	Undisc	OVERED	
	MEASURED	INDICATED				
Canada (NRCan)	Measured	Indicated	Inferred	PROGNOSTICATED	SPECU	LATIVE
United States (DOE)	REASONABL	Y Assured	ESTIMATE	D ADDITIONAL	SPECU	LATIVE
Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan	A + B	C 1	C 2	P1	P2	Р3
UNFC*	G1 +	- G2	G3	G4	G	<del>3</del> 4

<sup>\*</sup> United Nations Framework Classification correlation with NEA/IAEA and national classification systems is still under consideration.

The terms illustrated are not strictly comparable as the criteria used in the various systems are not identical. "Grey zones" in correlation are therefore unavoidable, particularly as the resources become less assured. Nonetheless, the chart presents a reasonable approximation of the comparability of terms.

**Prognosticated Resources** refers to uranium, in addition to Inferred Resources, that is expected to occur in deposits for which the evidence is mainly indirect and which are believed to exist in well-defined geological trends or areas of mineralisation with known deposits. Estimates of tonnage, grade and cost of discovery, delineation and recovery are based primarily on knowledge of deposit characteristics in known deposits within the respective trends or areas and on such sampling, geological, geophysical or geochemical evidence as may be available. Less reliance can be placed on the estimates in this category than on those for Inferred Resources. Prognosticated Resources are normally expressed in terms of uranium contained in mineable ore, i.e., *in situ* quantities.

**Speculative Resources (SR)** refers to uranium, in addition to Prognosticated Resources, that is thought to exist, mostly on the basis of indirect evidence and geological extrapolations, in deposits discoverable with existing exploration techniques. The location of deposits envisaged in this category could generally be specified only as being somewhere within a given region or geological trend. As the term implies, the existence and size of such resources are speculative. SR are normally expressed in terms of uranium contained in mineable ore, i.e., *in situ* quantities.

#### b) Cost categories

The cost categories, in United States dollars (USD), used in this report are defined as: <USD 40/kgU, <USD 80/kgU, and <USD 130/kgU. All resource categories are defined in terms of costs of uranium recovered at the ore processing plant

# NOTE: It is not intended that the cost categories should follow fluctuations in market conditions.

Conversion of costs from other currencies into USD is done using an average exchange rate for the month of June in that year except for the projected costs for the year of the report, which uses the exchange rate of 1 January 2007 (Appendix 8).

When estimating the cost of production for assigning resources within these cost categories, account has been taken of the following costs:

- The direct costs of mining, transporting and processing the uranium ore.
- The costs of associated environmental and waste management during and after mining.
- The costs of maintaining non-operating production units where applicable.
- In the case of ongoing projects, those capital costs that remain non-amortised.
- The capital cost of providing new production units where applicable, including the cost of financing.
- Indirect costs such as office overheads, taxes and royalties where applicable.
- Future exploration and development costs wherever required for further ore delineation to the stage where it is ready to be mined.
- Sunk costs are not normally taken into consideration.

#### c) Relationship between resource categories

Figure B illustrates the inter-relationship between the different resource categories. The horizontal axis expresses the level of assurance about the actual existence of a given tonnage based on varying degrees of geologic knowledge while the vertical axis expresses the economic feasibility of exploitation by the division into cost categories.

Figure B. NEA/IAEA Classification Scheme for Uranium Resources

UNDISCOVERED RESOURCES		SPECULATIVE RESOURCES	
UNDISCOVERI	PROGNOSTICATED	RESOURCES	PROGNOSTICATED RESOURCES
IDENTIFIED RESOURCES	INFERRED RESOURCES	INFERRED RESOURCES	INFERRED RESOURCES
IDENTIFIED	REASONABLY ASSURED RESOURCES	REASONABLY ASSURED RESOURCES	REASONABLY ASSURED RESOURCES
	<กรก +0/kg	USD 40-80\kgU	USD 80-130/kgU
		Recoverable at costs	I

Decreasing confidence in estimates

Decreasing economic attractiveness

#### d) Recoverable resources

RAR and Inferred Resource estimates are expressed in terms of recoverable tonnes of uranium, i.e. quantities of uranium recoverable from mineable ore, as opposed to quantities contained in mineable ore, or quantities *in situ*, i.e., not taking into account mining and milling losses. Therefore both expected mining and ore processing losses have been deducted in most cases. If a country reports its resources as *in situ* and the country does not provide a recovery factor, the Secretariat assigns a recovery factor to those resources based on geology and projected mining and processing methods to determine recoverable resources. The recovery factors that have been applied are:

Mining and milling method	Overall recovery factor (%)
Open-pit mining with conventional milling	80
Underground mining with conventional milling	80
ISL (acid)	75
ISL (alkaline)	70
Heap leaching	70
Block and stope leaching	75
Co-product or by-product	70
Unspecified method	75

#### SECONDARY SOURCES OF URANIUM TERMINOLOGY

- a) Mixed-oxide fuel (MOX): MOX is the abbreviation for a fuel for nuclear power plants that consists of a mixture of uranium oxide and plutonium oxide. Current practice is to use a mixture of depleted uranium oxide and plutonium oxide.
- **b) Depleted uranium:** Uranium where the  $^{235}$ U assay is below the naturally occurring 0.7110%. (Natural uranium is a mixture of three isotopes,  $^{238}$ U accounting for 99.2836%,  $^{235}$ U 0.7110%, and  $^{234}$ U 0.0054%). Depleted uranium is a by-product of the enrichment process, where enriched uranium is produced from initial natural uranium feed material.

#### PRODUCTION TERMINOLOGY<sup>1</sup>

**a) Production centres:** A production centre, as referred to in this report, is a production unit consisting of one or more ore processing plants, one or more associated mines and uranium resources that are tributary to these facilities. For the purpose of describing production centres, they have been divided into four classes, as follows:

<sup>1.</sup> IAEA (1984), *Manual on the Projection of Uranium Production Capability*, General Guidelines, Technical Report Series No. 238, Vienna, Austria.

- i) **Existing** production centres are those that currently exist in operational condition and include those plants which are closed down but which could be readily brought back into operation.
- ii) **Committed** production centres are those that are either under construction or are firmly committed for construction.
- iii) **Planned** production centres are those for which feasibility studies are either completed or under way, but for which construction commitments have not yet been made. This class also includes those plants that are closed which would require substantial expenditures to bring them back into operation.
- iv) **Prospective** production centres are those that could be supported by tributary RAR and Inferred, i.e., "Identified Resources", but for which construction plans have not yet been made.

#### b) Production capacity and capability

**Production capacity:** Denotes the nominal level of output, based on the design of the plant and facilities over an extended period, under normal commercial operating practices.

**Production capability:** Refers to an estimate of the level of production that could be practically and realistically achieved under favourable circumstances from the plant and facilities at any of the types of production centres described above, given the nature of the resources tributary to them. Projections of production capability are supported only by RAR and/or EAR-I. The projection is presented based on those resources recoverable at costs <USD 80/kgU.

**Production:** Denotes the amount of uranium output, in tonnes U contained in concentrate, from an ore processing plant or production centre (with milling losses deducted).

#### c) Mining and milling

*In situ* leaching (ISL): The extraction of uranium from sandstone using chemical solutions and the recovery of uranium at the surface. ISL extraction is conducted by injecting a suitable uranium-dissolving leach solution (acid or alkaline) into the ore zone below the water table thereby oxidising, complexing, and mobilising the uranium; then recovering the pregnant solutions through production wells, and finally pumping the uranium bearing solution to the surface for further processing.

**Heap leaching (HL)**: Heaps of ore are formed over a collecting system underlain by an impervious membrane. Dilute sulphuric acid solutions are distributed over the top surface of the ore. As the solutions seep down through the heap, they dissolve a significant (50-75%) amount of the uranium in the ore. The uranium is recovered from the heap leach product liquor by ion exchange or solvent extraction.

**In place leaching (IPL):** involves leaching of broken ore without removing it from an underground mine. This is also sometimes referred to as stope leaching or block leaching.

**Co-product:** Uranium is a co-product when it is one of two commodities that must be produced to make a mine economic. Both commodities influence output, for example, uranium and copper are co-produced at Olympic Dam in Australia. Co-product uranium is produced using either the open-pit or underground mining methods.

**By-product:** Uranium is considered a by-product when it is a secondary or additional product. By-product uranium can be produced in association with a main product or with co-products, e.g., uranium recovered from the Palabora copper mining operations in South Africa. By-product uranium is produced using either the open-pit or underground mining methods.

**Uranium from phosphates:** Uranium has been recovered as a by-product of phosphoric acid production. Uranium is separated from phosphoric acid by a solvent extraction process. The most frequently used reagent is a synergetic mixture of Tri-m-Octyl Phosphine Oxide (TOPO) and Di 2-Ethylhexyl Phosphoric Acid (DEPA).

**Ion exchange (IX):** Reversible exchange of ions contained in a host material for different ions in solution without destruction of the host material or disturbance of electrical neutrality. The process is accomplished by diffusion and occurs typically in crystals possessing – one or two – dimensional channels where ions are weakly bonded. It also occurs in resins consisting of three-dimensional hydrocarbon networks to which are attached many ionisable groups. Ion exchange is used for recovering uranium from leaching solutions.

**Solvent extraction (SX):** A method of separation in which a generally aqueous solution is mixed with an immiscible solvent to transfer one or more components into the solvent. This method is used to recover uranium from leaching solutions.

#### **DEMAND TERMINOLOGY**

**a)** Reactor-related requirements: Refers to natural uranium acquisitions *not* necessarily consumption during a calendar year.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL TERMINOLOGY<sup>2</sup>

- a) Close-out: In the context of uranium mill tailings impoundment, the operational, regulatory and administrative actions required to place a tailings impoundment into long-term conditions such that little or no future surveillance and maintenance are required.
- **b) Decommissioning:** Actions taken at the end of the operating life of a uranium mill or other uranium facility in retiring it from service with adequate regard for the health and safety of workers and members of the public and protection of the environment. The time period to achieve decommissioning may range from a few to several hundred years.
- **c) Decontamination:** The removal or reduction of radioactive or toxic chemical contamination using physical, chemical, or biological processes.
- **d) Dismantling:** The disassembly and removal of any structure, system or component during decommissioning. Dismantling may be performed immediately after permanent retirement of a mine or mill facility or may be deferred.

2. Definitions based on those published in OECD (2002), *Environmental Remediation of Uranium Production Facilities*, Paris.

- e) Environmental restoration: Cleanup and restoration, according to predefined criteria, of sites contaminated with radioactive and/or hazardous substances during past uranium production activities.
- **f)** Environmental impact statement: A set of documents recording the results of an evaluation of the physical, ecological, cultural and socio-economic effects of a planned installation, facility, or technology.
- **g) Groundwater restoration:** The process of returning affected groundwater to acceptable quality and quantity levels for future use.
- **Reclamation:** The process of restoring a site to predefined conditions, which allows new uses.
- i) Restricted release (or use): A designation, by the regulatory body of a country, that restricts the release or use of equipment, buildings, materials or the site because of its potential radiological or other hazards.
- **j**) **Tailings:** The remaining portion of a metal-bearing ore consisting of finely ground rock and process liquids after some or all of the metal, such as uranium, has been extracted.
- **k)** Tailings impoundment: A structure in which the tailings are deposited to prevent their release into the environment.
- l) Unrestricted release (or use): A designation, by the regulatory body of a country, that enables the release or use of equipment, buildings, materials or the site without any restriction.

#### GEOLOGICAL TERMINOLOGY

- a) Uranium occurrence: A naturally occurring, anomalous concentration of uranium.
- **b)** Uranium deposit: A mass of naturally occurring mineral from which uranium could be exploited at present or in the future.
- c) Geologic types of uranium deposits<sup>3</sup>

Uranium resources can be assigned on the basis of their geological setting to the following categories of uranium ore deposit types (arranged according to their approximate economic significance):

- 1. Unconformity-related deposits.
- 2. Sandstone deposits.
- 3. Hematite breccia complex deposits.
- 4. Quartz-pebble conglomerate deposits.
- 5. Vein deposits.
- 6. Intrusive deposits.
- 7. Volcanic and caldera-related deposits.

- 8. Metasomatite deposits.
- 9. Surficial deposits.
- 10. Collapse breccia pipe deposits.
- 11. Phosphorite deposits.
- 12. Other types of deposits.
- 13. Rock types with elevated uranium content.

This classification of the geological types of uranium deposits was developed by the IAEA in 1988-89 and updated for use in the Red Book.

1. Unconformity-related deposits: Unconformity-related deposits are associated with and occur immediately below and above an unconformable contact that separates a crystalline basement intensively altered from overlying clastic sediments of either Proterozoic or Phanerozoic age.

The unconformity-related deposits include the following sub-types:

- Unconformity contact
  - i. Fracture bound deposits occur in metasediments immediately below the unconformity. Mineralisation is monometallic and of medium grade. Examples include Rabbit Lake and Dominique Peter in the Athabasca Basin, Canada.
  - ii. Clay-bound deposits occur associated with clay at the base of the sedimentary cover directly above the unconformity. Mineralisation is commonly polymetallic and of high to very high grade. An example is Cigar Lake in the Athabasca Basin, Canada
- Sub-unconformity-post-metamorphic deposits

  Deposits are strata-structure bound in metasediments below the unconformity on which clastic sediments rest. These deposits can have large resources, at low to medium grade. Examples are Jabiluka and Ranger in Australia.
- 2. Sandstone deposits: Sandstone uranium deposits occur in medium to coarse-grained sandstones deposited in a continental fluvial or marginal marine sedimentary environment. Uranium is precipitated under reducing conditions caused by a variety of reducing agents within the sandstone, for example, carbonaceous material, sulphides (pyrite), hydrocarbons and ferro-magnesium minerals (chlorite), etc. Sandstone uranium deposits can be divided into four main sub-types:
  - Roll-front deposits: The mineralised zones are convex down the hydrologic gradient. They display diffuse boundaries with reduced sandstone on the down-gradient side and sharp contacts with oxidised sandstone on the up-gradient side. The mineralised zones are elongate and sinuous approximately parallel to the strike, and perpendicular to the direction of deposition and groundwater flow. Resources can range from a few hundred tonnes to several thousands of tonnes of uranium, at grades averaging 0.05-0.25%. Examples are Moynkum, Inkay and Mynkuduk (Kazakhstan); Crow Butte and Smith Ranch (United States) and Bukinay, Sugraly and Uchkuduk (Uzbekistan).
  - Tabular deposits consist of uranium matrix impregnations that form irregularly shaped lenticular masses within reduced sediments. The mineralised zones are largely oriented parallel to the depositional trend. Individual deposits can contain several hundreds of tonnes up to 150 000 tonnes of uranium, at average grades ranging from 0.05-0.5%, occasionally up to 1%. Examples of deposits include Westmoreland (Australia), Nuhetting (China), Hamr-Stráz (Czech Republic), Akouta, Arlit, Imouraren (Niger) and Colorado Plateau (United States).
  - Basal channel deposits: Paleodrainage systems consist of several hundred metres wide channels filled with thick permeable alluvial-fluvial sediments. Here, the uranium is predominantly associated with detrital plant debris in ore bodies that display, in a planview, an elongated lens or ribbon-like configuration and, in a section-view, a lenticular or, more rarely, a roll shape. Individual deposits can range from several hundreds to 20 000 tonnes uranium, at grades ranging from 0.01-3%. Examples are the deposits of Dalmatovskoye (Transural Region), Malinovskoye (West Siberia), Khiagdinskoye (Vitim district) in Russia and Beverley in Australia.

- *Tectonic/lithologic deposits* occur in sandstone related to a permeable zone. Uranium is precipitated in open zones related to tectonic extension. Individual deposits contain a few hundred tonnes up to 5 000 tonnes of uranium at average grades ranging from 0.1-0.5%. Examples include the deposits of Mas Laveyre (France) and Mikouloungou (Gabon).
- 3. Hematite breccia complex deposits: Deposits of this group occur in hematite-rich breccias and contain uranium in association with copper, gold, silver and rare earths. The main representative of this type of deposit is the Olympic Dam deposit in South Australia. Significant deposits and prospects of this type occur in the same region, including Prominent Hill, Wirrda Well, Acropolis and Oak Dam as well as some younger breccia-hosted deposits in the Mount Painter area.
- **4. Quartz-pebble conglomerate deposits:** Detrital uranium oxide ores are found in quartz-pebble conglomerates deposited as basal units in fluvial to lacustrine braided stream systems older than 2.3-2.4 Ga. The conglomerate matrix is pyritiferous, and gold, as well as other oxide and sulphide detrital minerals are often present in minor amounts. Examples include deposits found in the Witwatersrand Basin where uranium is mined as a by-product of gold. Uranium deposits of this type were mined in the Blind River/Elliot Lake area of Canada.
- 5. Vein deposits: In vein deposits, the major part of the mineralisation fills fractures with highly variable thickness, but generally important extension along strike. The veins consist mainly of gangue material (e.g. carbonates, quartz) and ore material, mainly pitchblende. Typical examples range from the thick and massive pitchblende veins of Pribram (Czech Republic), Schlema-Alberoda (Germany) and Shinkolobwe (Democratic Republic of Congo), to the stockworks and episyenite columns of Bernardan (France) and Gunnar (Canada), to the narrow cracks in granite or metamorphic rocks, also filled with pitchblende of Mina Fe (Spain) and Singhbhum (India).
- **6. Intrusive deposits:** Deposits included in this type are those associated with intrusive or anatectic rocks of different chemical composition (alaskite, granite, monzonite, peralkaline syenite, carbonatite and pegmatite). Examples include the Rossing and Trekkopje deposits (Namibia), the uranium occurrences in the porphyry copper deposits such as Bingham Canyon and Twin Butte (United States), the Ilimaussaq deposit (Greenland), Palabora (South Africa), as well as the deposits in the Bancroft area (Canada).
- 7. Volcanic and caldera-related deposits: Uranium deposits of this type are located within and nearby volcanic caldera filled by mafic to felsic volcanic complexes and intercalated clastic sediments. Mineralisation is largely controlled by structures (minor stratabound), occurs at several stratigraphic levels of the volcanic and sedimentary units and extends into the basement where it is found in fractured granite and in metamorphites. Uranium minerals are commonly associated with molybdenum, other sulphides, violet fluorine and quartz. Most significant commercial deposits are located within Streltsovsk caldera in the Russian Federation. Examples are known in China, Mongolia (Dornot deposit), Canada (Michelin deposit) and Mexico (Nopal deposit).

- 8. Metasomatite deposits: Deposits of this type are confined to the areas of tectono-magmatic activity of the Precambrian shields and are related to near-fault alkali metasomatites, developed upon different basement rocks: granites, migmatites, gneisses and ferruginous quartzites with production of albitites, aegirinites, alkali-amphibolic and carbonaceous-ferruginous rocks. Ore lenses and stocks are a few metres to tens of metres thick and a few hundred metres long. Vertical extent of ore mineralisation can be up to 1.5 km. Ores are uraninite-brannerite by composition and belong to ordinary grade. The reserves are usually medium scale or large. Examples include Michurinskoye, Vatutinskoye, Severinskoye, Zheltorechenskoye and Pervomayskoye deposits (Ukraine), Lagoa Real, Itataia and Espinharas (Brazil), the Valhalla deposit (Australia) and deposits of the Arjeplog region in the north of Sweden.
- **9. Surficial deposits:** Surficial uranium deposits are broadly defined as young (Tertiary to Recent) near-surface uranium concentrations in sediments and soils. The largest of the surficial uranium deposits are in calcrete (calcium and magnesium carbonates), and they have been found in Australia (Yeelirrie deposit), Namibia (Langer Heinrich deposit) and Somalia. These calcrete-hosted deposits are associated with deeply weathered uranium-rich granites. They also can occur in valley-fill sediments along Tertiary drainage channels and in playa lake sediments (e.g., Lake Maitland, Australia). Surficial deposits also can occur in peat bogs and soils.
- **10.** Collapse breccia pipe deposits: Deposits in this group occur in circular, vertical pipes filled with down-dropped fragments. The uranium is concentrated as primary uranium ore, generally uraninite, in the permeable breccia matrix, and in the arcuate, ring-fracture zone surrounding the pipe. Type examples are the deposits in the Arizona Strip north of the Grand Canyon and those immediately south of the Grand Canyon in the United States.
- 11. Phosphorite deposits: Phosphorite deposits consist of marine phosphorite of continental-shelf origin containing syn-sedimentary stratiform, disseminated uranium in fine-grained apatite. Phosphorite deposits constitute large uranium resources, but at a very low grade. Uranium can be recovered as a by-product of phosphate production. Examples include New Wales Florida (pebble phosphate) and Uncle Sam (United States), Gantour (Morocco) and Al-Abiad (Jordan). Other type of phosphorite deposits consists of organic phosphate, including argillaceous marine sediments enriched in fish remains that are uraniferous (Melovoe deposit, Kazakhstan).

#### 12. Other deposits

**Metamorphic deposits:** In metamorphic uranium deposits, the uranium concentration directly results from metamorphic processes. The temperature and pressure conditions, and age of the uranium deposition have to be similar to those of the metamorphism of the enclosing rocks. Examples include the Forstau deposit (Austria) and Mary Kathleen (Australia).

**Limestone deposits:** This includes uranium mineralisation in the Jurassic Todilto Limestone in the Grants district (United States). Uraninite occurs in intra-formational folds and fractures as introduced mineralisation.

**Uranium coal deposits:** Elevated uranium contents occur in lignite/coal, and in clay and sandstone immediately adjacent to lignite. Examples are uranium in the Serres Basin (Greece), in North and South Dakota (United States), Koldjat and Nizhne Iliyskoe (Kazakhstan) and Freital (Germany). Uranium grades are very low and average less than 50 ppm U.

13. Rock types with elevated uranium contents: Elevated uranium contents have been observed in different rock types such as pegmatite, granites and black shale. In the past no economic deposits have been mined commercially in these types of rocks. Their grades are very low, and it is unlikely that they will be economic in the foreseeable future.

*Rare metal pegmatites*: These pegmatites contain Sn, Ta, Nb and Li mineralisation. They have variable U, Th and rare earth elements contents. Examples include Greenbushes and Wodgina pegmatites (Western Australia). The Greenbushes pegmatites commonly have 6-20 ppm U and 3-25 ppm Th.

*Granites*: A small proportion of un-mineralised granitic rocks have elevated uranium contents. These "high heat producing" granites are potassium feldspar-rich. Roughly 1% of the total number of granitic rocks analysed in Australia have uranium-contents above 50 ppm.

*Black Shale*: Black shale-related uranium mineralisation consists of marine organic-rich shale or coal-rich pyritic shale, containing syn-sedimentary disseminated uranium adsorbed onto organic material. Examples include the uraniferous alum shale in Sweden and Estonia, the Chatanooga shale (United States), the Chanziping deposit (China), and the Gera-Ronneburg deposit (Germany).

#### Appendix 5

#### **ACRONYM LIST**

AGR Advanced gas-cooled reactor

AL Acid leaching

ALKAL Alkaline atmospheric leaching

BWR Boiling water reactor

CANDU *Can* adian *d*euterium *u*ranium

CWG Crush-wet grind

DOE Department of Energy (United States)

EC European Commission

EIA U.S. Energy Information Administration

EU European Union

EUP Enriched uranium product

FLOT Flotation
Ga Giga-years

GDR German Democratic Republic

GIF Generation IV International Forum
GNSS Global Nuclear Services and Supply

GWe Gigawatt electric

HEU Highly enriched uranium

HL Heap leaching

IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency

IEA International Energy Agency

INPRO International project on innovative nuclear reactors and fuel cycles

IPL In-place leaching
ISL In situ leaching
IX Ion exchange
kg Kilograms
km Kilometre

LEU Low enriched uranium
LWR Light water reactor
MAGNOX Magnesium oxide
MOX Mixed oxide fuel
MWe Megawatt electric

NEA Nuclear Energy Agency

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OP Open-pit

ppm Part per million
Pu Plutonium

PHWR Pressurised heavy-water reactor

PWR Pressurised water reactor

RAR Reasonably assured resources

RBMK Water-cooled, graphite-moderated reactor (Russian acronym)

SWU Separative work unit
SX Solvent extraction
t Tonnes (metric tons)

Th Thorium

tHM Tonnes heavy metal
TOE Tonnes oil equivalent
tU Tonnes uranium

TVA Tennessee Valley Administration

TWh Terrawatt-hour

U Uranium

UG Underground mining

USSR Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

VVER Water-cooled, water-moderated reactor (Russian acronym)

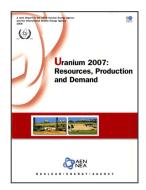
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