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Domestic Uranium Production Report 4th Quarter 2012

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Preface

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) reports data spanning 1996 through fourth quarter 2012 on U.S. uranium production activities in this report, *4th Quarter 2012 Domestic Uranium Production Report*. Data in this report are based on information reported on Form EIA-851A, “Domestic Uranium Production Report (Annual)” and Form EIA-851Q, “Domestic Uranium Production Report (Quarterly).”

Prior editions of this report may be found on the EIA website at <http://www.eia.gov/nuclear/reports.cfm>.

Definitions for terms used in this report can be found in EIA’s Energy Glossary: <http://www.eia.gov/tools/glossary/>.

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4th Quarter 2012

U.S. production of uranium in the fourth quarter 2012 was 961,062 pounds U_3O_8 , down 8 percent from the previous quarter and up 8 percent from the fourth quarter 2011. During the fourth quarter 2012, U.S. uranium was produced at six U.S. uranium facilities.

U.S. Uranium Mill in Production (State)

1. White Mesa Mill (Utah)

U.S. Uranium In-Situ-Leach Plants in Production (State)

1. Alta Mesa Project (Texas)
2. Crow Butte Operation (Nebraska)
3. Hobson ISR Plant/La Palangana (Texas)
4. Smith Ranch-Highland Operation (Wyoming)
5. Willow Creek Project (Wyoming)

Preliminary 2012 total

U.S. uranium concentrate production totaled 4,148,773 pounds. This amount is 4 percent higher than the 3,990,767 pounds produced in 2011.

Table 1. Total production of uranium concentrate in the United States, 1996 – 4th Quarter 2012pounds U₃O₈

| Calendar- Year Quarter | 1st Quarter | 2nd Quarter | 3rd Quarter | 4th Quarter | Calendar- Year Total |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1996 | 1,734,427 | 1,460,058 | 1,691,796 | 1,434,425 | 6,320,706 |
| 1997 | 1,149,050 | 1,321,079 | 1,631,384 | 1,541,052 | 5,642,565 |
| 1998 | 1,151,587 | 1,143,942 | 1,203,042 | 1,206,003 | 4,704,574 |
| 1999 | 1,196,225 | 1,132,566 | 1,204,984 | 1,076,897 | 4,610,672 |
| 2000 | 1,018,683 | 983,330 | 981,948 | 973,585 | 3,975,545 |
| 2001 | 709,177 | 748,298 | 628,720 | 553,060 | 2,639,256 |
| 2002 | 620,952 | 643,432 | 579,723 | E500,000 | E2,344,107 |
| 2003 | E400,000 | E600,000 | E400,000 | E600,000 | E2,000,000 |
| 2004 | E600,000 | E400,000 | 588,738 | E600,000 | 2,282,406 |
| 2005 | 709,600 | 630,053 | 663,068 | 686,456 | 2,689,178 |
| 2006 | 931,065 | 894,268 | 1,083,808 | 1,196,485 | 4,105,626 |
| 2007 | 1,162,737 | 1,119,536 | 1,075,460 | 1,175,845 | 4,533,578 |
| 2008 | 810,189 | 1,073,315 | 980,933 | 1,037,946 | 3,902,383 |
| 2009 | 880,036 | 982,760 | 956,657 | 888,905 | 3,708,358 |
| 2010 | 876,084 | 1,055,102 | 1,150,725 | 1,146,281 | 4,228,192 |
| 2011 | 1,063,047 | 1,189,083 | 846,624 | 892,013 | 3,990,767 |
| P2012 | 1,078,404 | 1,061,289 | 1,048,018 | 961,062 | 4,148,773 |

E = Estimated data.

P = Preliminary data.

Notes: The reported 4th quarter 2002 production amount was adjusted by rounding to the nearest 100,000 pounds to avoid disclosure of individual company data. This also affects the 2002 annual production. The reported 2003 and 1st, 2nd, and 4th quarter 2004 production amounts were adjusted by rounding to the nearest 200,000 pounds to avoid disclosure of individual company data. The reported 2004 total is the actual production for 2004.

Totals may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration: Form EIA-851A and Form EIA-851Q, "Domestic Uranium Production Report."

Table 2. Number of uranium mills and plants producing uranium concentrate in the United States

| Uranium Concentrate Processing Facilities | End of 1996 | End of 1997 | End of 1998 | End of 1999 | End of 2000 | End of 2001 | End of 2002 | End of 2003 | End of 2004 | End of 2005 | End of 2006 | End of 2007 | End of 2008 | End of 2009 | End of 2010 | End of 2011 | End of 4th Quarter 2012 |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Mills - conventional milling ¹ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Mills - other operations ² | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| In-Situ-Leach Plants ³ | 5 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| Byproduct Recovery Plants ⁴ | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 9 | 11 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 6 |

¹ Milling uranium-bearing ore.

² Not milling ore, but producing uranium concentrate from other (non-ore) materials.

³ Not including in-situ-leach plants that only produced uranium concentrate from restoration.

⁴ Uranium concentrate as a byproduct from phosphate production.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration: Form EIA-851A and Form EIA-851Q, "Domestic Uranium Production Report."

Table 3. U.S. uranium mills by owner, location, capacity, and operating status

| Mill Owner | Mill Name | County, State (existing and planned locations) | Milling Capacity (short tons of ore per day) | Operating Status at End of | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | 2011 | 1st Quarter 2012 | 2nd Quarter 2012 | 3rd Quarter 2012 | 4th Quarter 2012 |
| Cotter Corporation | Canon City Mill | Fremont, Colorado | 0 | Reclamation | Reclamation | Reclamation | Demolished | Demolished |
| EFR White Mesa LLC | White Mesa Mill | San Juan, Utah | 2,000 | Operating | Operating | Operating- Processing Alternate Feed | Operating | Operating Partially |
| Energy Fuels Resources Corporation | Piñon Ridge Mill | Montrose, Colorado | 500 | Permitted And Licensed | Permitted And Licensed | Partially Permitted And Licensed | Partially Permitted And Licensed | Permitted And Licensed |
| Kennecott Uranium Company/Wyoming Coal Resource Company | Sweetwater Uranium Project | Sweetwater, Wyoming | 3,000 | Standby | Standby | Standby | Standby | Standby |
| Uranium One Americas, Inc. | Shootaring Canyon Uranium Mill | Garfield, Utah | 750 | Standby | Standby | Standby | Standby | Standby |
| Total Milling Capacity: | | | 6,250 | | | | | |

Notes: Milling capacity for 4th Quarter 2012. An operating status of "Operating" indicates the mill was producing uranium concentrate at the end of the period.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration: Form EIA-851A and Form EIA-851Q, "Domestic Uranium Production Report."

Table 4. U.S. uranium in-situ-leach plants by owner, location, capacity, and operating status

| In-Situ-Leach Plant Owner | In-Situ-Leach Plant Name | County, State (existing and planned locations) | Production Capacity (pounds U ₃ O ₈ per year) | Operating Status at End of | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | | 2011 | 1st Quarter 2012 | 2nd Quarter 2012 | 3rd Quarter 2012 | 4th Quarter 2012 |
| Cameco | Crow Butte Operation | Dawes, Nebraska | 1,000,000 | Operating | Operating | Operating | Operating | Operating |
| Hydro Resources, Inc. | Church Rock | McKinley, New Mexico | 1,000,000 | Partially Permitted And Licensed |
| Hydro Resources, Inc. | Crownpoint | McKinley, New Mexico | 1,000,000 | Partially Permitted And Licensed |
| Lost Creek ISR, LLC | Lost Creek Project | Sweetwater, Wyoming | 2,000,000 | Partially Permitted And Licensed | Under Construction |
| Mestena Uranium LLC | Alta Mesa Project | Brooks, Texas | 1,000,000 | Producing | Producing | Producing | Producing | Producing |
| Power Resources, Inc. dba Cameco Resources | Smith Ranch-Highland Operation | Converse, Wyoming | 5,500,000 | Operating | Operating | Operating | Operating | Operating |
| Powertech Uranium Corp | Centennial Project | Weld, Colorado | - | Undeveloped | Undeveloped | Undeveloped | Undeveloped | Undeveloped |
| Powertech Uranium Corp | Dewey Burdock Project | Fall River and Custer, South Dakota | 1,000,000 | Undeveloped | Undeveloped | Undeveloped | Partially Permitted And Licensed | Developing |
| South Texas Mining Venture | Hobson ISR Plant | Karnes, Texas | 1,000,000 | Operating | Operating | Operating | Operating | Operating |
| South Texas Mining Venture | La Palangana | Duval, Texas | 1,000,000 | Operating | Operating | Operating | Operating | Operating |
| Strata Energy Inc. a wholly owned subsidiary of Peninsula Energy Limited | Ross | Crook, Wyoming | 3,000,000 | Developing | Developing | Developing | Developing | Partially Permitted And Licensed |
| URI, Inc. | Kingsville Dome | Kleberg, Texas | 1,000,000 | Standby | Standby | Standby | Standby | Standby |
| URI, Inc. | Rosita | Duval, Texas | 1,000,000 | Standby | Standby | Standby | Standby | Standby |
| URI, Inc. | Vasquez | Duval, Texas | 800,000 | Restoration | Restoration | Restoration | Restoration | Restoration |
| Uranerz Energy Corporation | Nichols Ranch ISR Project | Johnson and Campbell, Wyoming | 2,000,000 | Under Construction |

Table 4. U.S. uranium in-situ-leach plants by owner, location, capacity, and operating status (cont.)

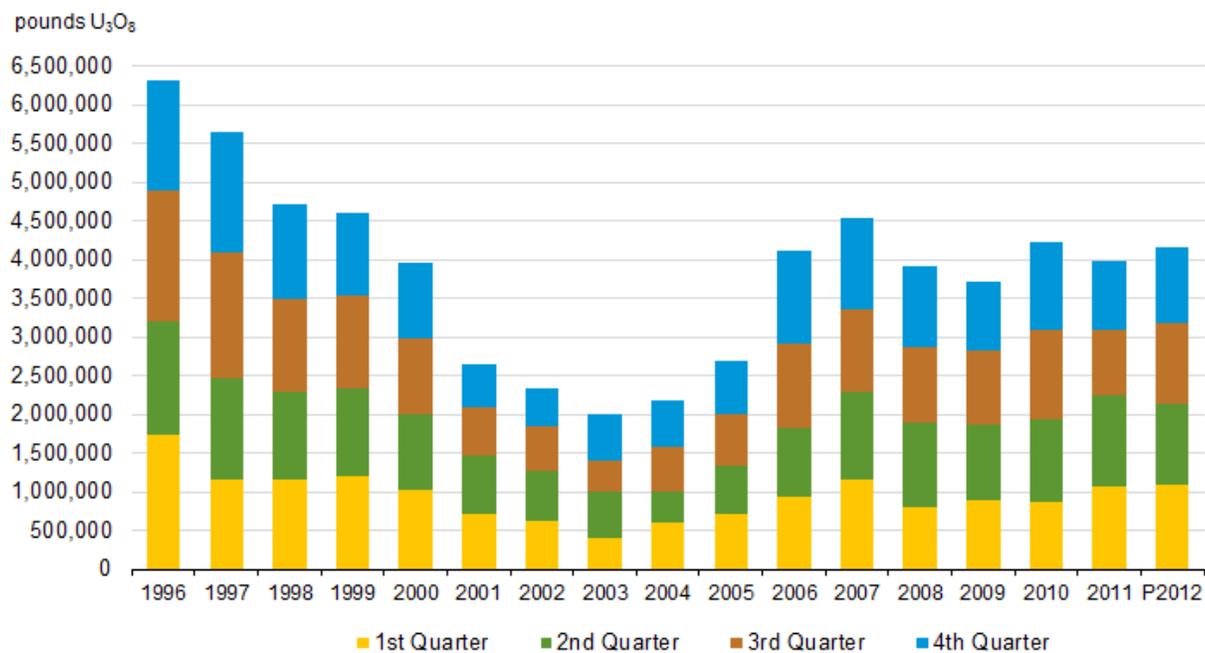
| In-Situ-Leach Plant Owner | In-Situ-Leach Plant Name | County, State (existing and planned locations) | Production Capacity (pounds U ₃ O ₈ per year) | Operating Status at End of | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| | | | | 2011 | 1st Quarter 2012 | 2nd Quarter 2012 | 3rd Quarter 2012 | 4th Quarter 2012 |
| Uranium Energy Corp. | Goliad ISR Uranium Project | Goliad, Texas | 1,000,000 | Partially Permitted And Licensed | Permitted And Licensed |
| Uranium One Americas, Inc. | Jab and Antelope | Sweetwater, Wyoming | 2,000,000 | Developing | Developing | Developing | Developing | Developing |
| Uranium One Americas, Inc. | Moore Ranch | Campbell, Wyoming | 500,000 | Permitted And Licensed | Permitted And Licensed | Permitted And Licensed | Permitted And Licensed | Permitted And Licensed |
| Uranium One USA, Inc. | Texas Operations | Duval, Texas | 0 | Reclaimed | Reclaimed | Reclaimed | Reclaimed | Reclaimed |
| Uranium One USA, Inc. | Willow Creek Project (Christensen Ranch and Irigaray) | Campbell and Johnson, Wyoming | 1,300,000 | Producing | Producing | Producing | Producing | Producing |
| Total Production Capacity: | | | 27,100,000 | | | | | |

- = No data reported.

Notes: Production capacity for 4th Quarter 2012. An operating status of "Operating" indicates the in-situ-leach plant usually was producing uranium concentrate at the end of the period. Hobson ISR Plant processed uranium concentrate that came from La Palangana. Hobson and La Palangana are part of the same project. ISR stands for in-situ recovery. Christensen Ranch and Irigaray are part of the Willow Creek Project.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration: Form EIA-851A and Form EIA-851Q, "Domestic Uranium Production Report."

Figure 1. Uranium concentrate production in the United States, 1996 – 4th Quarter 2012



P = Preliminary data.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration: Form EIA-851A and Form EIA-851Q, "Domestic Uranium Production Report."