

Classification of Uranium Resources of Republic of Uzbekistan

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The main uranium estimated and inferred resources making up the mineral base of Republic of Uzbekistan are located in the Central Kyzylkum uranium-ore province. Uranium deposits of the province belong to two types: "sandstone" and "black-shale" ones. The "sandstone" type forms stratiform uranium deposits in permeable Cretaceous and Paleogene sand horizons on redox barriers of bed oxidation zones. The second type deposits are connected with Pre-Cambrian – Early Paleozoic chert and carbonaceous slate. Explored conventional uranium resources (RAR+EAR by IAEA's classification) are: 185.8 Kt of uranium, including 138.8 Kt of the "sandstone" uranium and 47.0 Kt of the "black-shale" uranium. 114.7 Kt of uranium of the "sandstone" type from 138.8 Kt can be extracted with total costs not more than \$40/kg of uranium, mining out of 24.2 Kt will cost up to \$130/kg. 36.0 Kt of uranium from 47.0 Kt of the "black-shale" type can be mined with total cost not more than \$40/kg of uranium. 11.0 Kt can be mined out with total costs up to \$130/kg. Inferred conventional resources (EAR-II+SP) are 242.7 Kt of uranium, including 188.8 Kt of the "sandstone" type and 53.9 KT of "black-shale" type.