

# Domestic Uranium Production Report 2nd Quarter 2017

August 2017















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## **Contacts**

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#### **Preface**

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) reports data spanning 1996 through second quarter 2017 on U.S. uranium production activities in this report, *Domestic Uranium Production Report 2nd Quarter 2017*. 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)."

Previous issues of this report may be found on the EIA website at <a href="http://www.eia.gov/uranium/production/quarterly">http://www.eia.gov/uranium/production/quarterly</a>

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

# **Contents**

Contacts	ii
Preface	iii
2nd Quarter 2017	
Zhu Quarter 2017	1

## **Tables**

Table 1. Total production of uranium concentrate in the United States, 1996 – 2nd Quarter 2017	. 2
Table 2. Number of uranium mills and plants producing uranium concentrate in the United States	. 3
Table 3. U.S. uranium mills and heap leach facilities by owner, location, capacity, and operating status.	. 4
Table 4. U.S. uranium in-situ-leach plants by owner, location, capacity, and operating status	. 5

# **Figures**

Figure 1. Uranium concentrate production in the United States, 1996 – 2nd Quarter 2017 ......7

#### 2nd Quarter 2017

U.S. production of uranium concentrate in the second quarter 2017 was 726,375 pounds  $U_3O_8$ , up 61% from the first quarter 2017 but down 3% from the second quarter 2016. For the first half of 2017, uranium concentrate production totaled 1.18 million pounds  $U_3O_8$ , down 14% from the 1.37 million pounds produced in the first half of 2016. During the second quarter 2017, U.S. uranium was produced at seven U.S. uranium facilities, the same number as in the first quarter 2017.

U.S. uranium mill in production (state)

1. White Mesa Mill (Utah)

U.S. uranium in-situ leach plants in production (state)

- 2. Crow Butte Operation (Nebraska)
- 3. Lost Creek Project (Wyoming)
- 4. Nichols Ranch ISR Project (Wyoming)
- 5. Ross CPP (Wyoming)
- 6. Smith Ranch-Highland Operation (Wyoming)
- 7. Willow Creek Project (Wyoming)

Table 1. Total production of uranium concentrate in the United States, 1996 – 2nd Quarter 2017 pounds U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>

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
2012	1,078,404	1,061,289	1,048,018	957,936	4,145,647
2013	1,147,031	1,394,232	1,171,278	946,301	4,658,842
2014	1,242,179	1,095,011	1,468,608	1,085,534	4,891,332
2015	1,154,408	789,980	774,541	624,278	3,343,207
2016	626,522	745,306	818,783	725,947	2,916,558
P2017	450,215	726,375	NA	NA	1,176,590

E = Estimated data. P = Preliminary data. NA = Not available. -- = Not applicable.

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.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Milling uranium-bearing ore.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Not milling ore, but producing uranium concentrate from other (non-ore) materials.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Not including in-situ-leach plants that only produced uranium concentrate from restoration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Uranium concentrate as a byproduct from phosphate production.

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

	2011	County, state	Capacity (short	· ·				
Owner	Mill and <i>Heap</i> <i>Leach¹ Facility</i> name	(existing and planned locations)	tons of ore per day)	2016	1st quarter 2017	2nd quarter 2017	3rd quarter 2017	4th quarter 2017
	Shootaring Canyon	Garfield,						
Anfield Resources Inc.	Uranium Mill	Utah	750	Standby	Standby	Standby		
				Operating-	Operating-	Operating-		
		San Juan,		Processing	Processing	Processing		
EFR White Mesa LLC	White Mesa Mill	Utah	2,000	Alternate Feed	Alternate Feed	Alternate Feed		
Energy Fuels Wyoming		Fremont,						
Inc	Sheep Mountain	Wyoming	725	Undeveloped	Undeveloped	Undeveloped		
Kennecott Uranium Company/Wyoming Coal Resource	Sweetwater	Sweetwater,						
Company	Uranium Project	Wyoming	3,000	Standby	Standby	Standby		
Pinon Ridge		Montrose.		Permitted and	Permitted and	Permitted and		
Corporation	Pinon Ridge Mill	Colorado	500	Licensed	Licensed	Licensed		
Total Capacity:			6,975					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Heap leach solutions: The separation, or dissolving-out from mined rock, of the soluble uranium constituents by the natural action of percolating a prepared chemical solution through mounded (heaped) rock material. The mounded material usually contains low grade mineralized material and/or waste rock produced from open pit or underground mines. The solutions are collected after percolation is completed and processed to recover the valued components.

Notes: Capacity for 2nd Quarter 2017. An operating status of "Operating" indicates the mill usually 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."

<sup>- =</sup> No data reported

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

			Production capacity					
		County, state	(pounds		Ope	rating status at end	of	
In-situ-leach plant		(existing and	u. U₃O <sub>8</sub> per		1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter
owner	In-situ-leach plant name	planned locations)	year)	2016	2017	2017	2017	2017
	-			Partially	Partially	Partially		
		Campbell,		Permitted And	Permitted And	Permitted And		
AUC LLC	Reno Creek	Wyoming	2,000,000	Licensed	Licensed	Licensed		
		Fall River and		Partially	Partially	Partially		
		Custer, South		Permitted And	Permitted And	Permitted And		
Azarga Uranium Corp	Dewey Burdock Project	Dakota	1,000,000	Licensed	Licensed	Licensed		
Cameco	Crow Butte Operation	Dawes, Nebraska	1,000,000	Operating	Operating	Operating		
				Partially	Partially	Partially		
		McKinley, New		Permitted And	Permitted And	Permitted And		
Hydro Resources, Inc.	Church Rock	Mexico	1,000,000	Licensed	Licensed	Licensed		
				Partially	Partially	Partially		
		McKinley, New		Permitted And	Permitted And	Permitted And		
Hydro Resources, Inc.	Crownpoint	Mexico	1,000,000	Licensed	Licensed	Licensed		
		Sweetwater,						
Lost Creek ISR LLC	Lost Creek Project	Wyoming	2,000,000	Operating	Operating	Operating		
Mestena Uranium LLC	Alta Mesa Project	Brooks, Texas	1,500,000	Standby	Standby	Standby		
	, and incourred		1,500,000	Standby	Standby	Standby		
Power Resources, Inc.	Smith Ranch-Highland	Converse,						
dba Cameco Resources	Operation	Wyoming	5,500,000	Operating	Operating	Operating		
South Texas Mining Venture	Hobson ISR Plant	Karnes, Texas	1,000,000	Standby	Standby	Standby		
South Texas Mining					<u>-</u>			
Venture	La Palangana	Duval, Texas	1,000,000	Standby	Standby	Standby		
Strata Energy Inc	Ross CPP	Crook, Wyoming	375,000	Operating	Operating	Operating		
URI, Inc.	Kingsville Dome	Kleberg, Texas	1,000,000	Restoration	Restoration	Restoration		
URI, Inc.	Rosita	Duval, Texas	1,000,000	Reclamation	Reclamation	Reclamation		

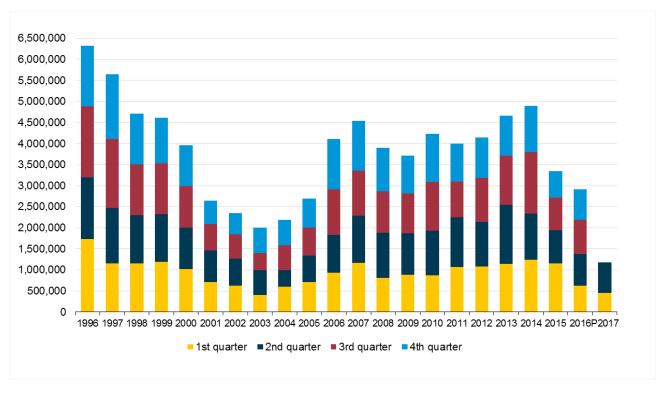
Table 4. U.S. uranium in-situ-leach plants by owner, location, capacity, and operating status (cont.)

		County, state (existing and	Production capacity (pounds		Ope	rating status at end	d of	
In-situ-leach plant owner	In-situ-leach plant name	planned locations)	U₃O <sub>8</sub> per year)	2016	1st quarter 2017	2nd quarter 2017	3rd quarter 2017	4th quarter 2017
URI, Inc.	Vasquez	Duval, Texas	800,000	Restoration	Restoration	Restoration		
Uranerz Energy Corporation (An Energy		Johnson and Campbell,						
Fuels company)	Nichols Ranch ISR Project	Wyoming	2,000,000	Operating	Operating	Operating		
	Goliad ISR Uranium			Permitted And	Permitted And	Permitted And		
Uranium Energy Corp.	Project	Goliad, Texas	1,000,000	Licensed	Licensed	Licensed		
Uranium One Americas,		Sweetwater,						
Inc.	Jab and Antelope	Wyoming	2,000,000	Developing	Developing	Developing		
Uranium One Americas,		Campbell,		Permitted And	Permitted And	Permitted And		
Inc.	Moore Ranch	Wyoming	500,000	Licensed	Licensed	Licensed		
	Willow Creek Project (Christensen Ranch and	Campbell and Johnson,						
Uranium One USA, Inc.	Irigaray)	Wyoming	1,300,000	Operating	Operating	Operating		
Total Production								
Capacity:			26,975,000					

Notes: Production capacity for 2nd Quarter 2017. 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. Uranerz Energy has a tolling arrangement with Cameco Resources. Uranium is first processed at the Nichols Ranch plant and then transported to the Smith Ranch-Highland Operation plant for final processing into Uranerz's uranium concentrate. CPP stands for central processing plant.

Figure 1. Uranium concentrate production in the United States, 1996 – 2nd Quarter 2017

pounds U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>



P = Preliminary data.