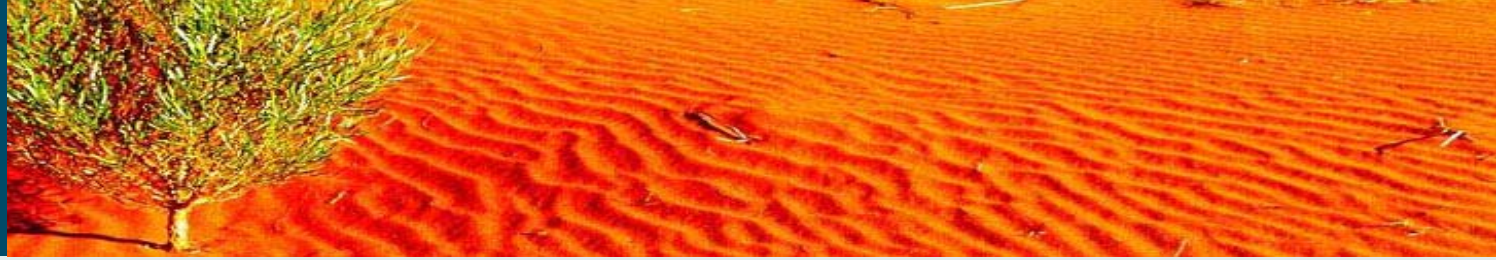




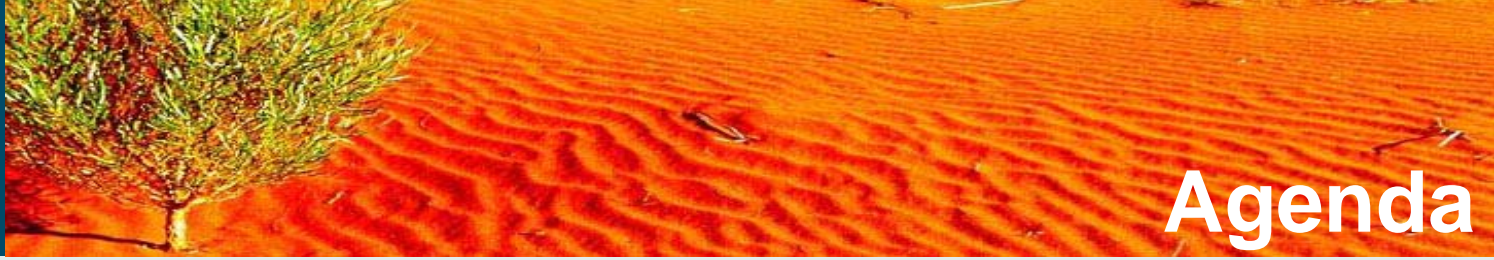
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# Developing the World's Biggest Uranium Resource

**Michael Nossal**  
**Executive General Manager**  
**Business Strategy and Development**

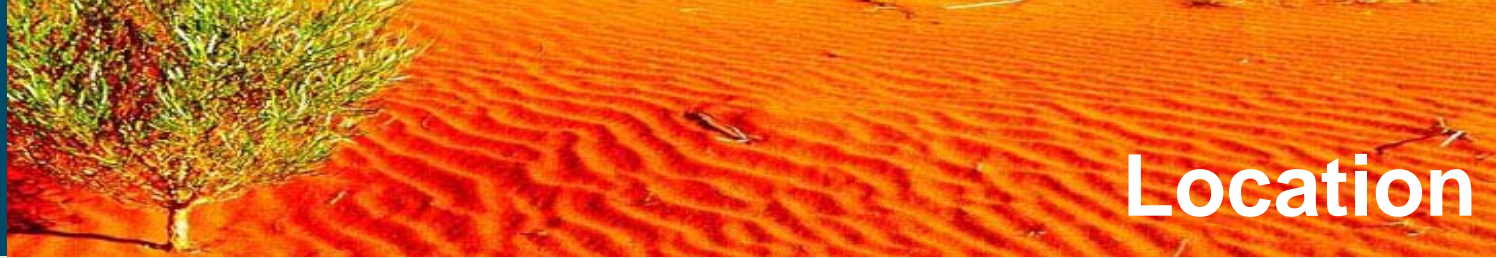
20<sup>th</sup> April 2005



- **The Current Resource**
- **Proposed Expansion Plans**
- **Market Issues**
- **WMC's Performance History**
- **Conclusion**

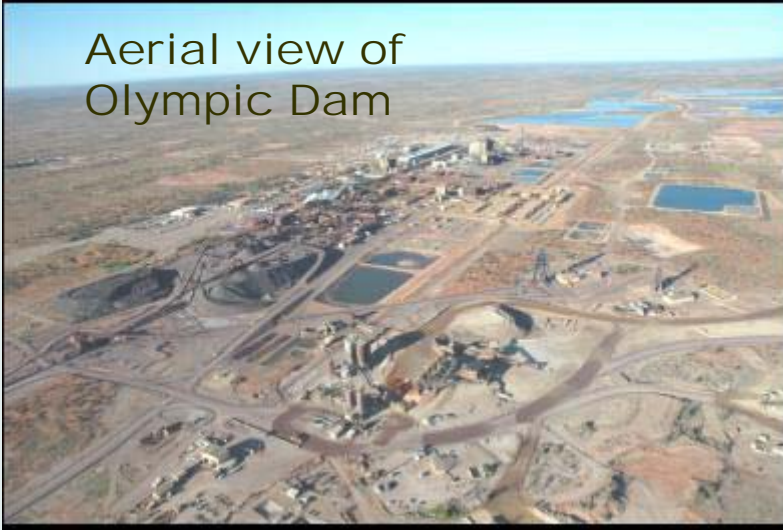


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# Location

Aerial view of  
Olympic Dam







# Current resource

4b tonnes as at 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2005 ...

	Million tonnes	Cu %	U <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> kg/t	Au g/t	Ag g/t
<b>Reserves</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Resource</b>	<b>3,980</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>

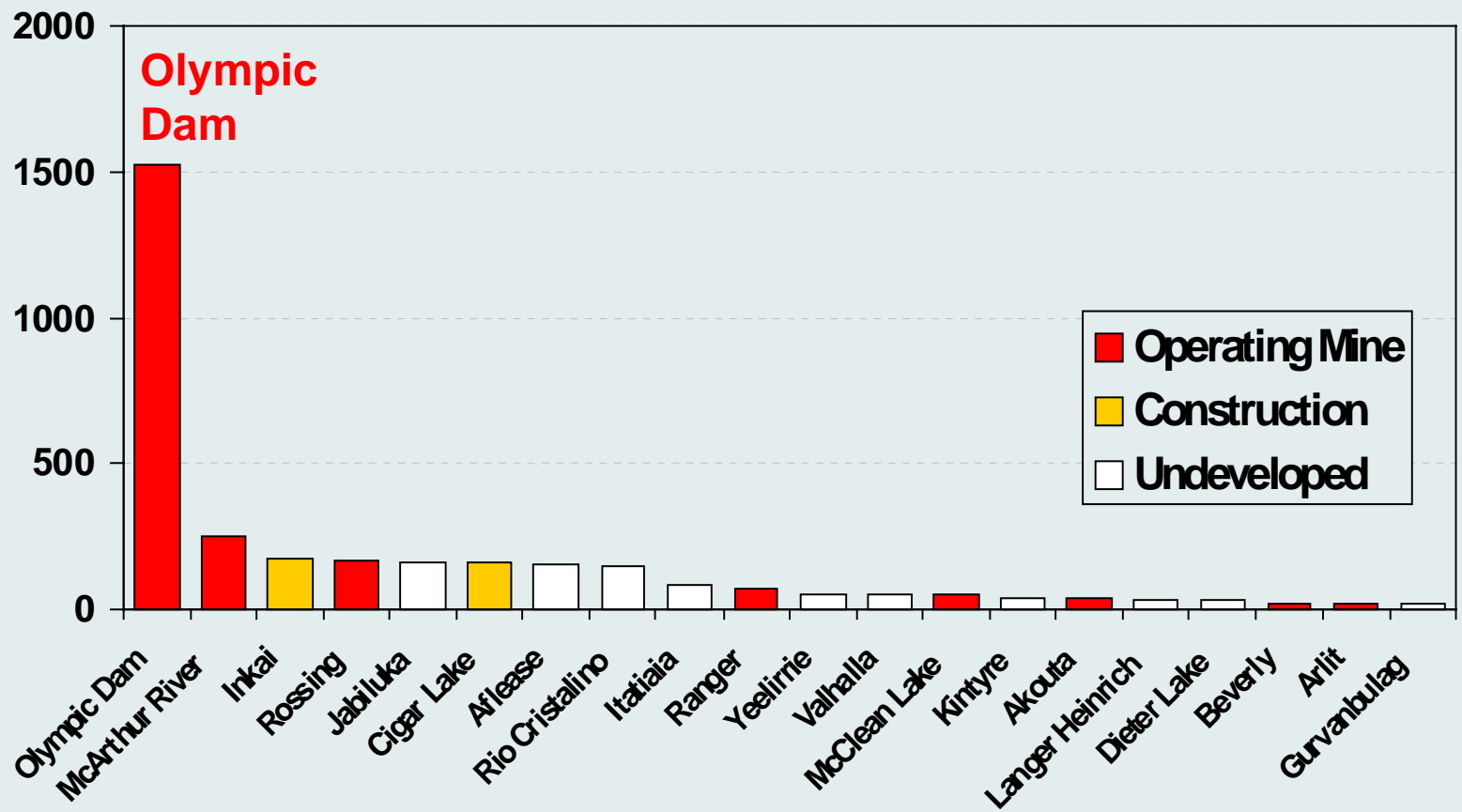
... with more increases likely



# Olympic Dam is the world's largest uranium deposit

The world's top twenty uranium deposits by remaining resources

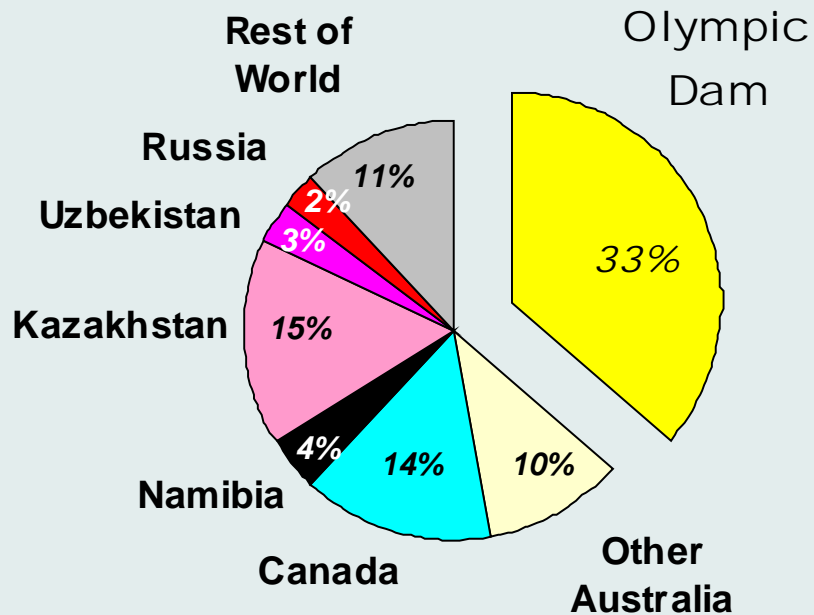
'000 tonnes of  $U_3O_8$



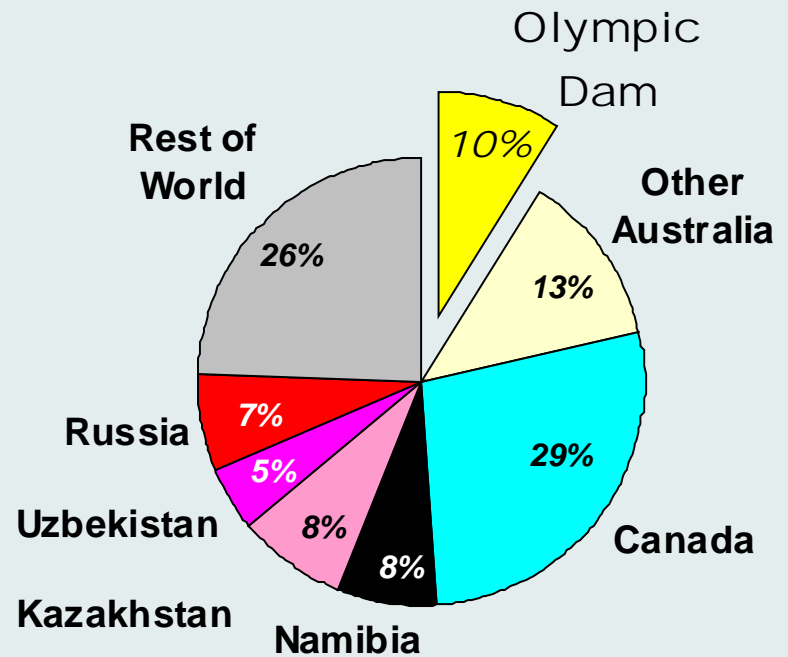


# Our Position in Uranium

## Current Resources



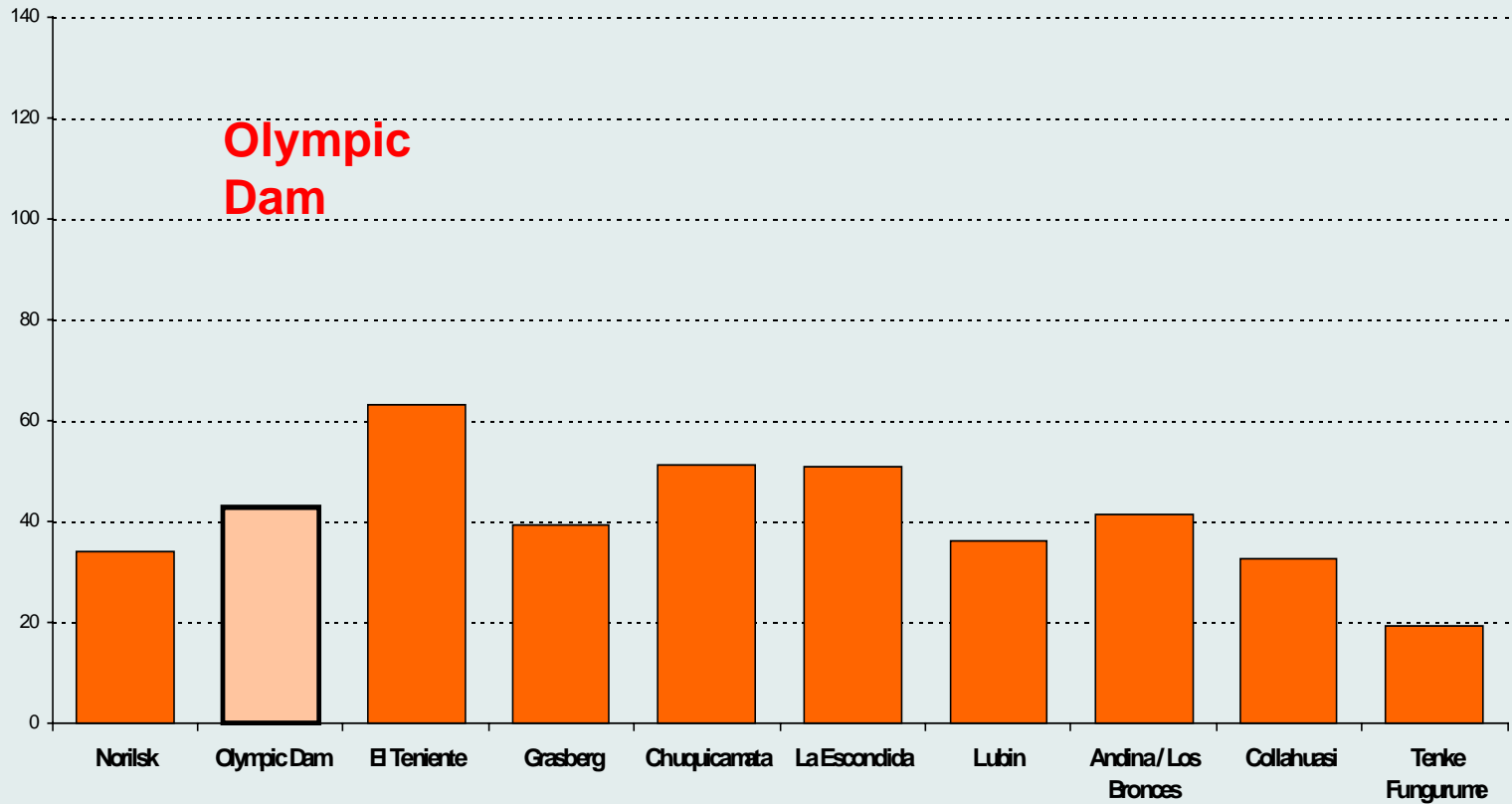
## Production : 2004





# Olympic Dam is also the world's 4<sup>th</sup> largest copper resource ...

The world's top ten copper deposits by remaining resources

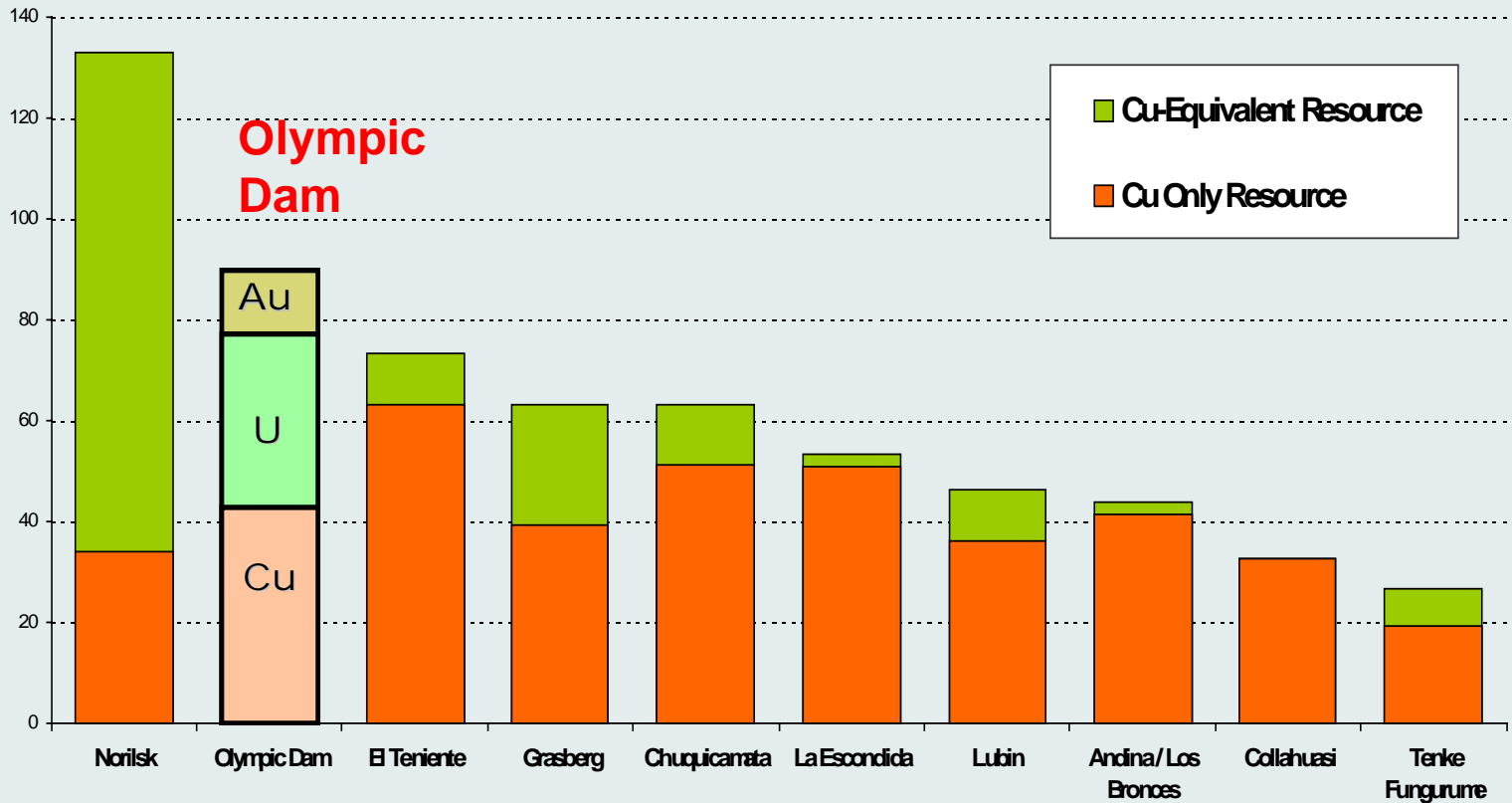


(million tonnes of copper metal)



... but second largest if other metals are included

## The world's top ten copper deposits by remaining resources



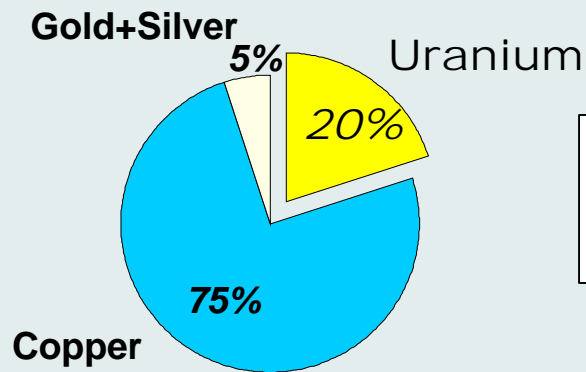
(million tonnes of copper & copper equivalent metal)



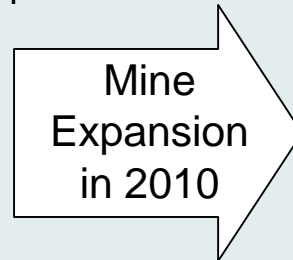


# Uranium is the key to Olympic Dam's future

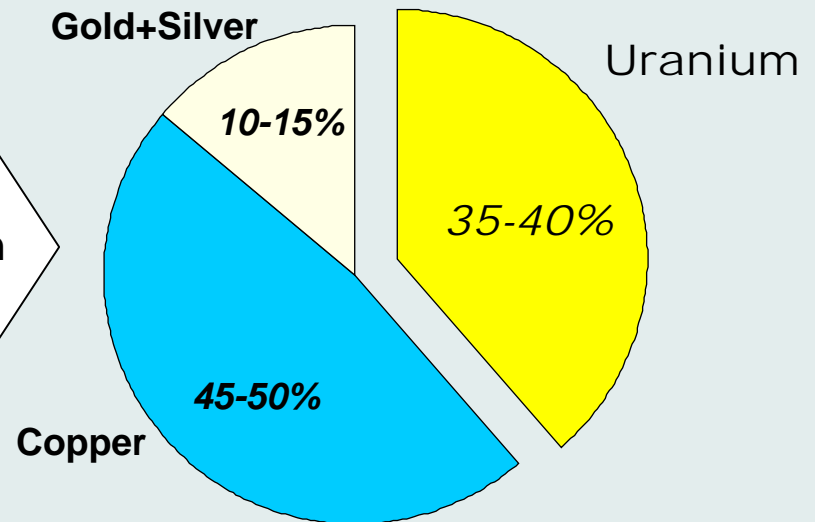
## Sales Revenues : Present



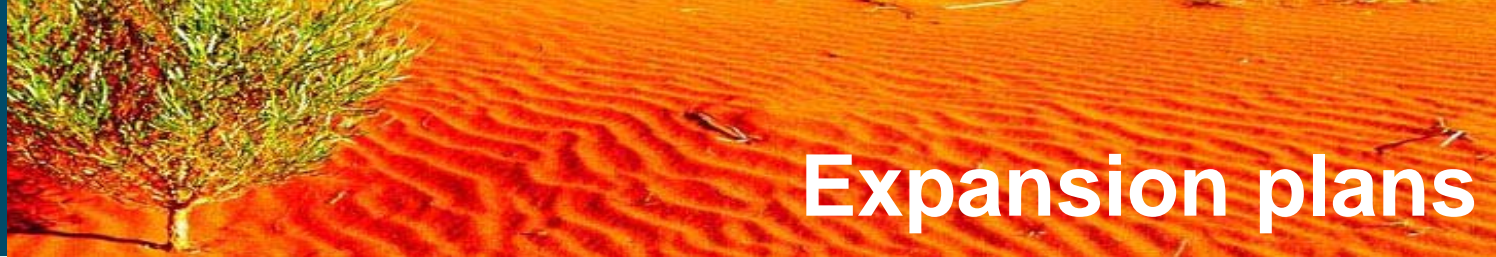
220,000 tonnes copper  
4,400 tonnes  $U_3O_8$   
80,000 oz gold



## Sales Revenues : Long Term



500,000 tonnes copper  
13-15,000 tonnes of  $U_3O_8$   
~500,000 oz gold

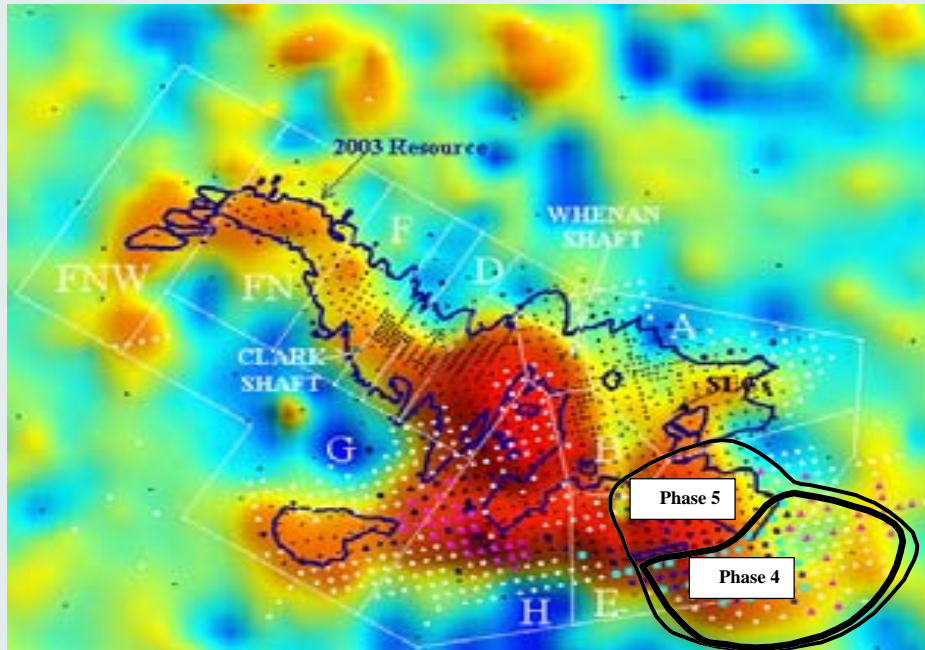


# Expansion plans

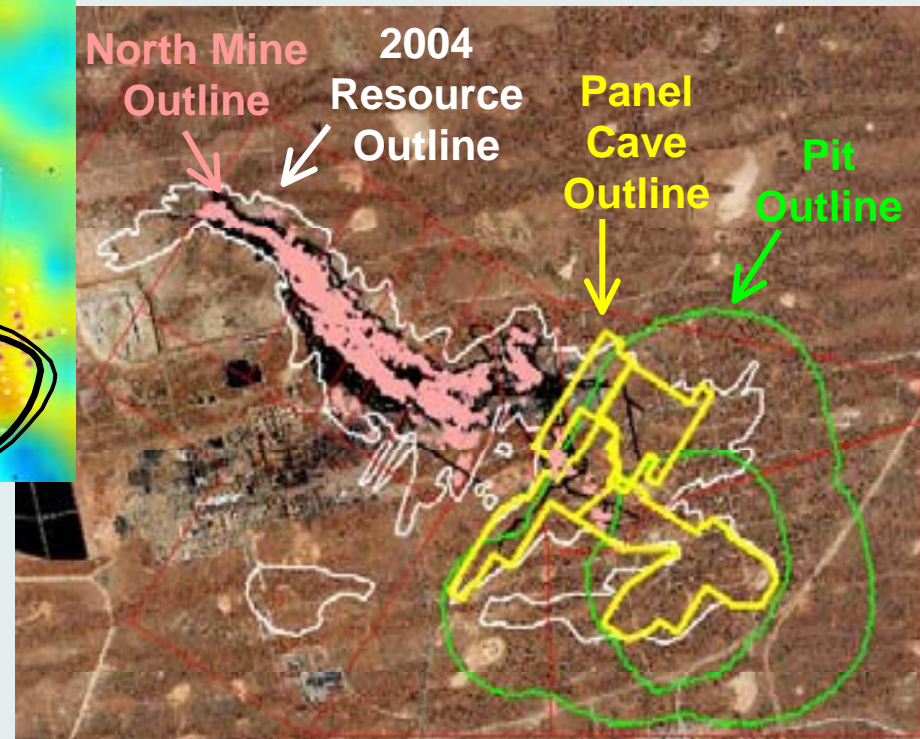
*Two main options considered:*

- *open pit*
- *underground block cave*

## Drilling Program



## Mine Plan



*Resource is still open in the south*





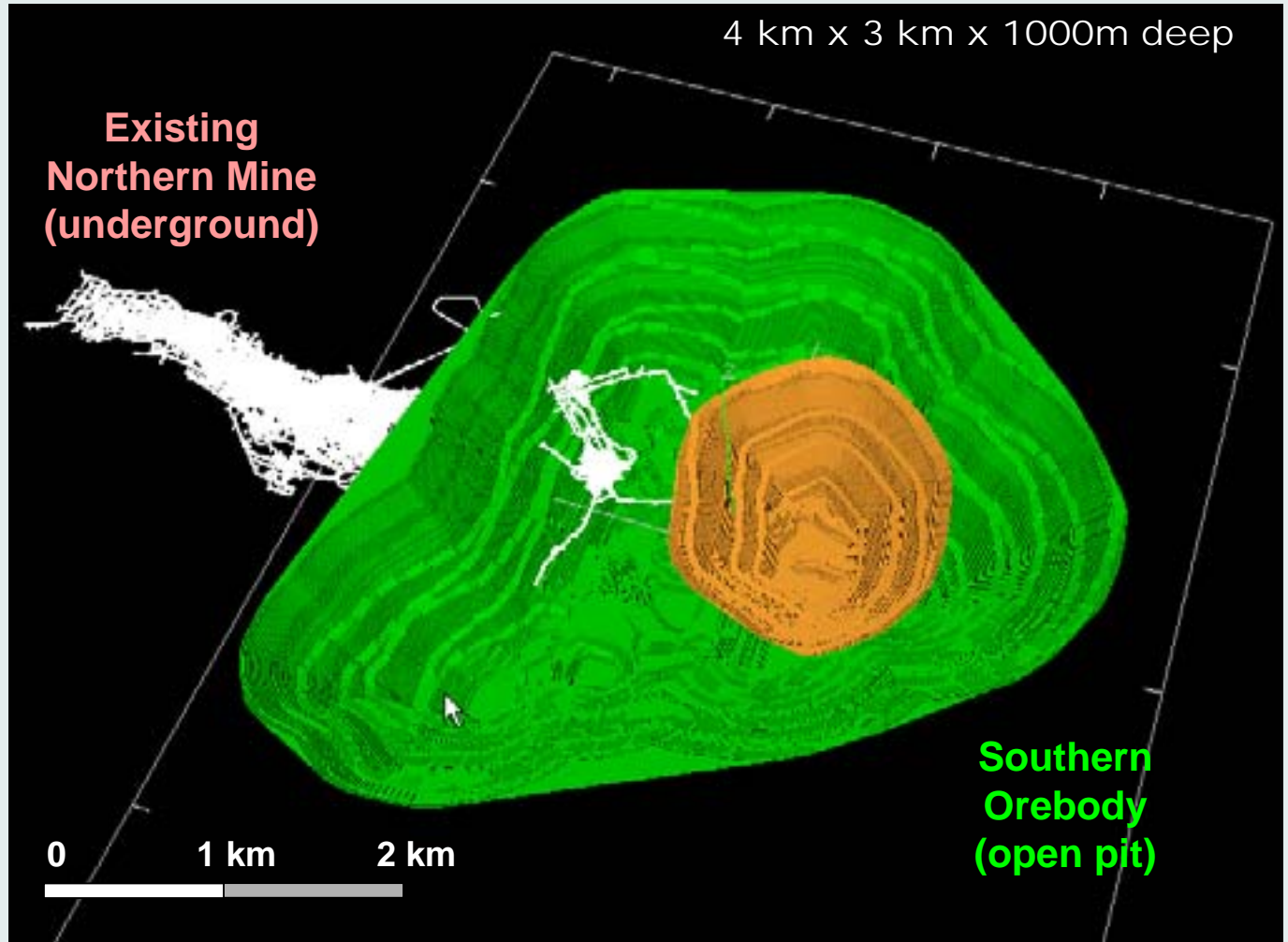
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# Preferred option - open pit



Forbidden City (Beijing)





# Development schedule

- **May 2004 – A\$48m Development Study commenced**
- **March 2005 – Committed A\$90m for reserve drilling and Implementation Planning**
- **April 2005 – Open Pit selected as preferred mining option**
- **H1 2006 – Complete Development Study**
- **Late 2007 – Complete Final Feasibility work**
- **Late 2007 – Commitment to expansion**
- **Early 2008 – Start construction**
- **Late 2010 – Expanded production commences**
- **~2013 – Full expanded capacity reached**





# WMC Likely Development Case

## Mining

**35 mtpa open pit**  
**5 mtpa from existing underground mine**

## Production

**500,000 tpa copper**  
**15,000 tpa U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>**  
**500,000 ozpa gold**

## Financial

**Capital Cost ~A\$5 b**  
**Annual Revenues ~A\$2.5 b**

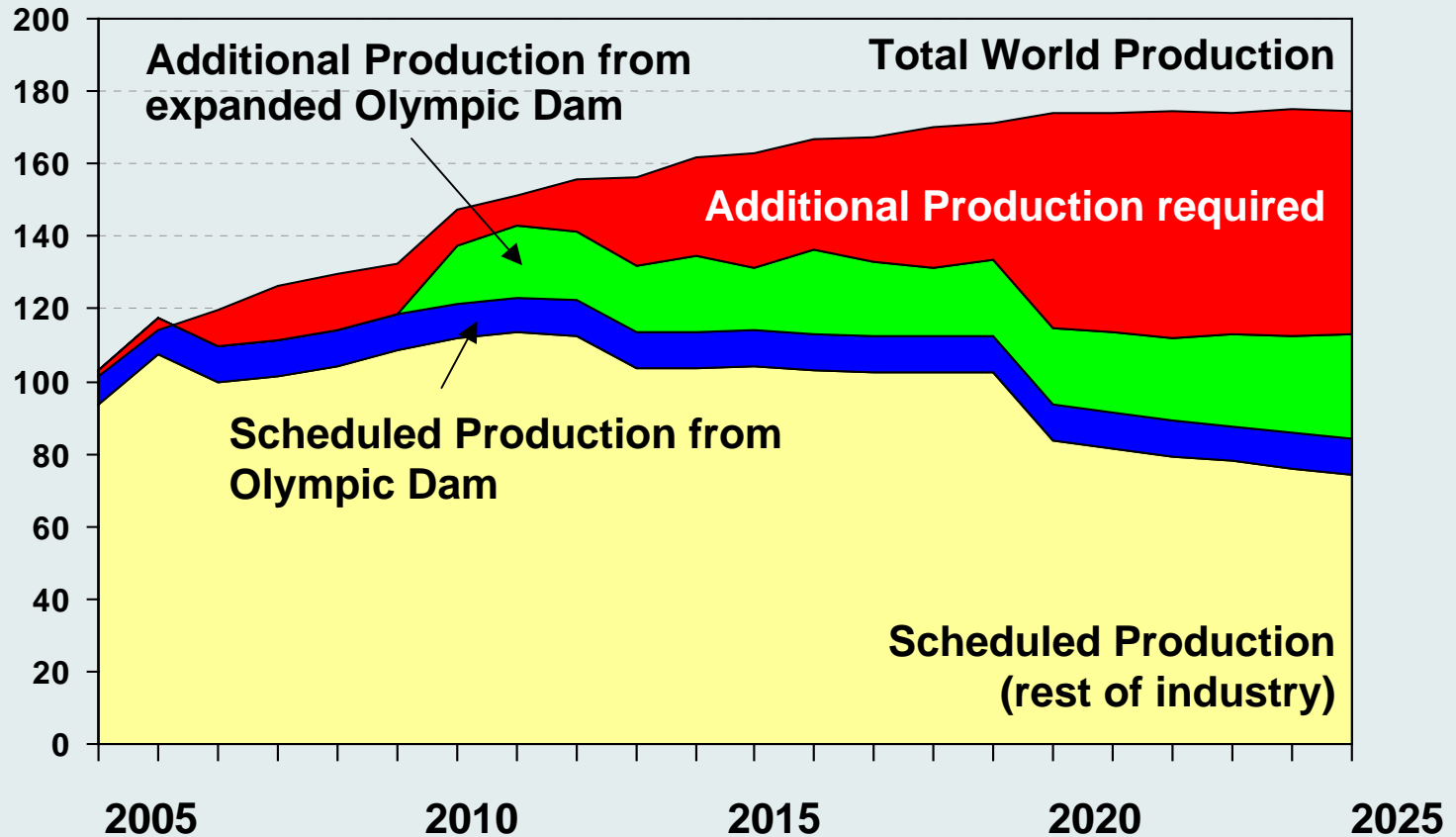
## Mine Life

**+70 years pit outline, open at depth**  
**Further expansions likely**



# The Uranium market can absorb the extra production

Million lb of  $U_3O_8$

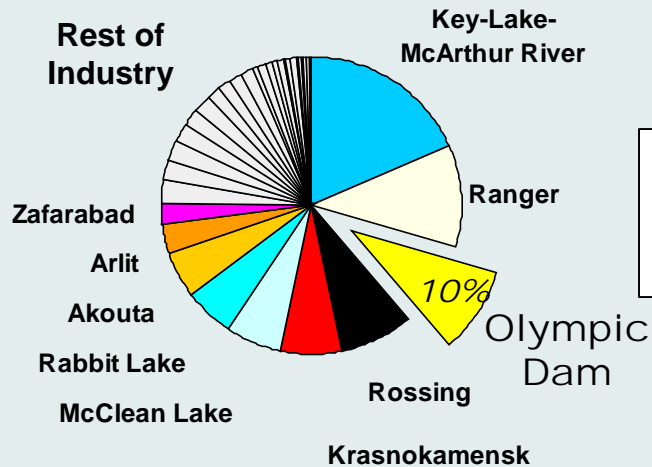




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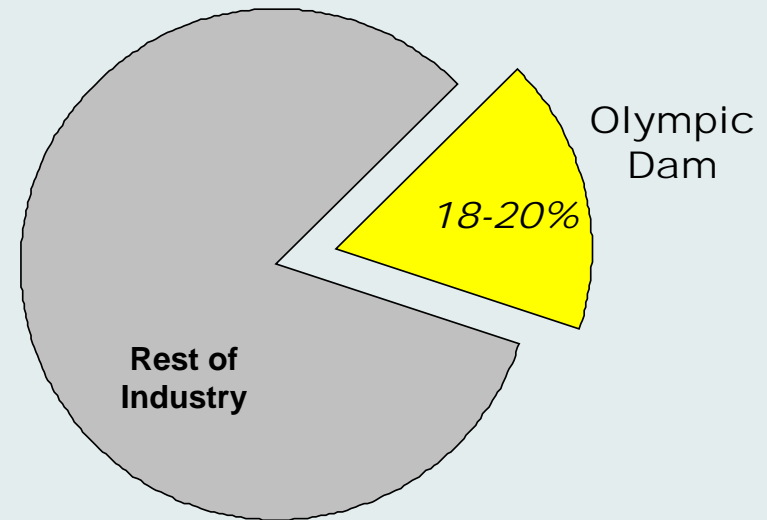
# Olympic Dam will become the world's largest uranium mine

## Production : 2004

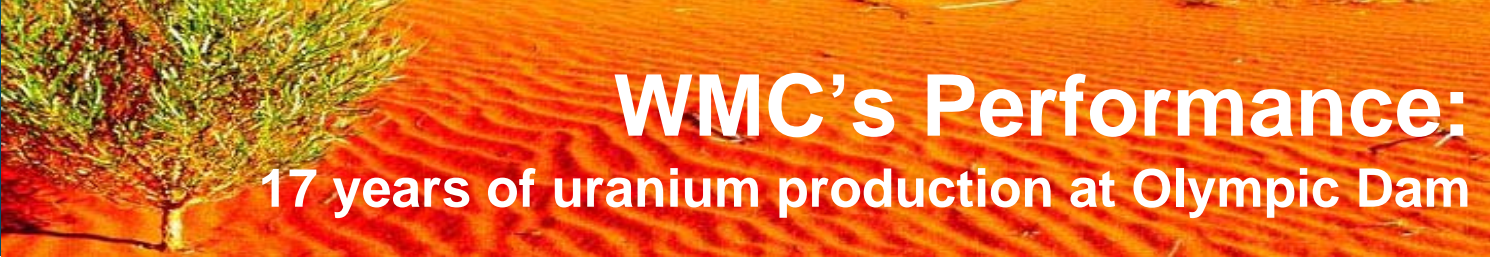


**Mine Production**  
 46 kt U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>

## Production : 2015

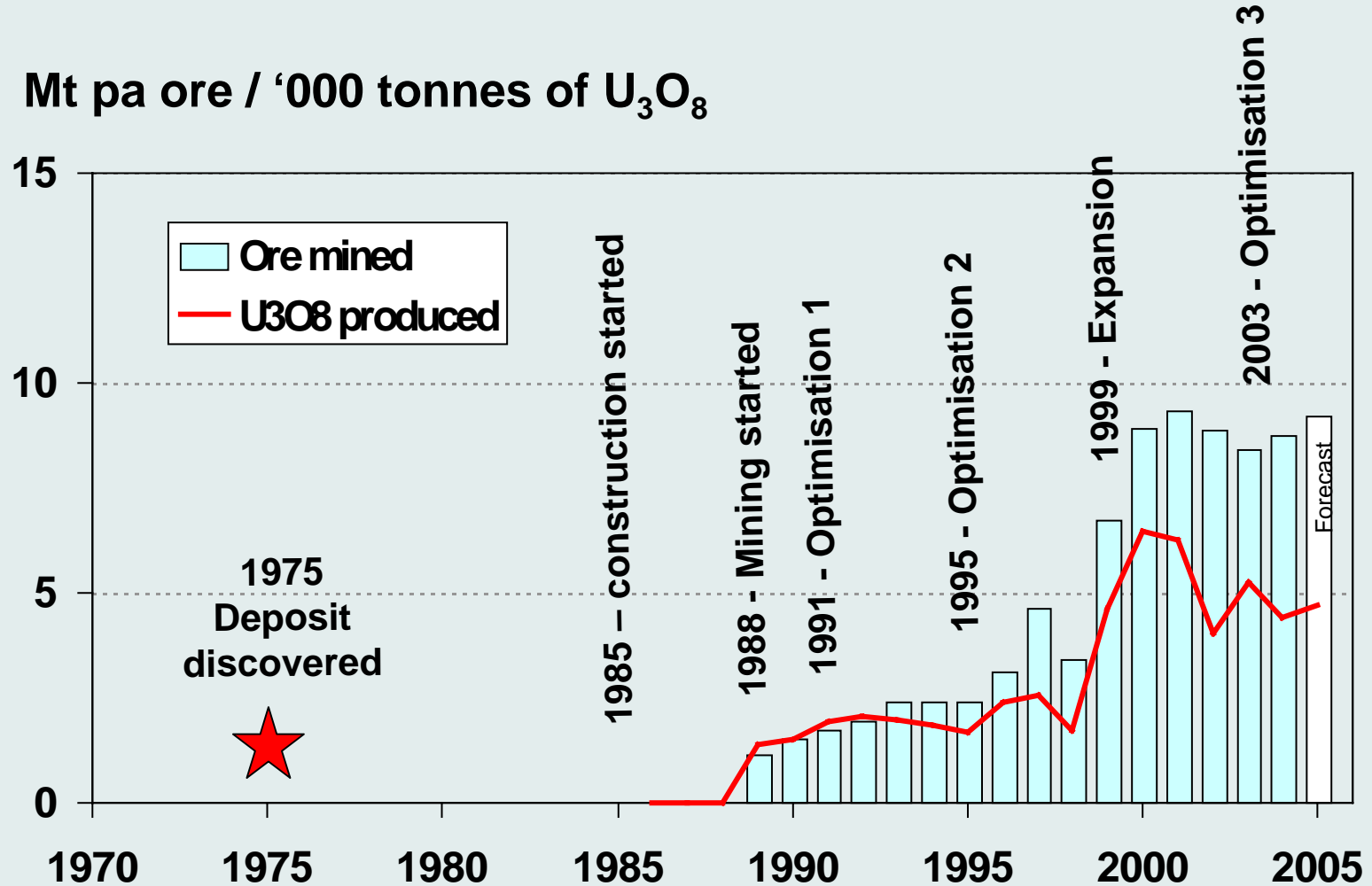


**Mine Production**  
 ~69 kt U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>



# WMC's Performance: 17 years of uranium production at Olympic Dam

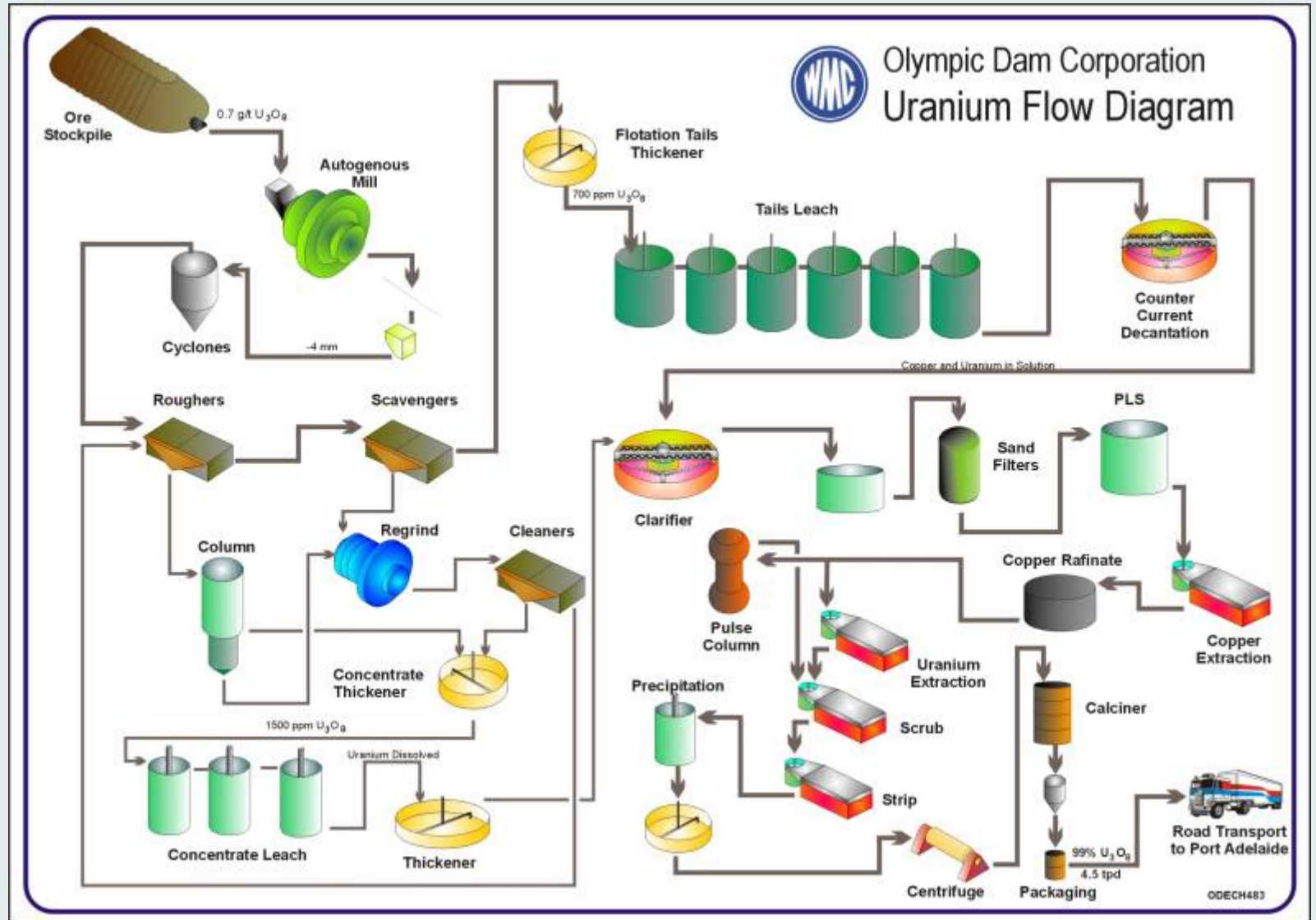
Mt pa ore / '000 tonnes of  $U_3O_8$







# Uranium flowsheet







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# Olympic Dam operation

Aerial view of Olympic Dam  
Processing Facility







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# Olympic Dam operation

Aerial view of the Solvent Extraction  
copper- uranium circuit at Olympic Dam







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# Uranium circuit

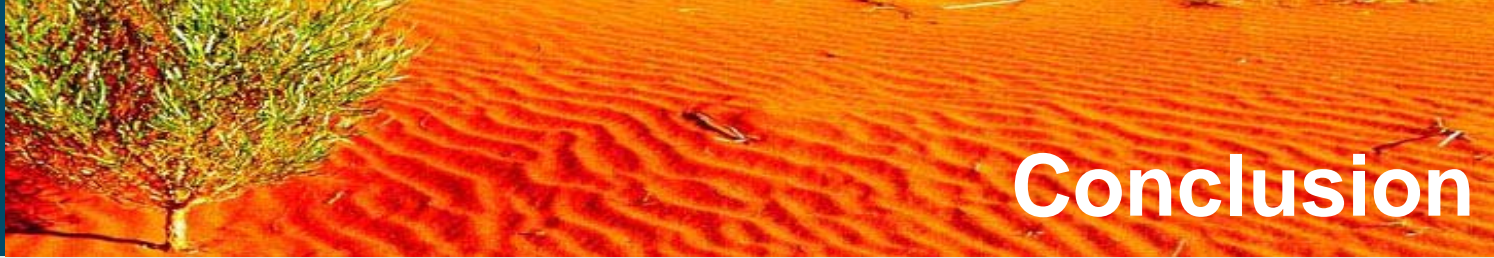
Pulse Columns



Robotic Packaging Line



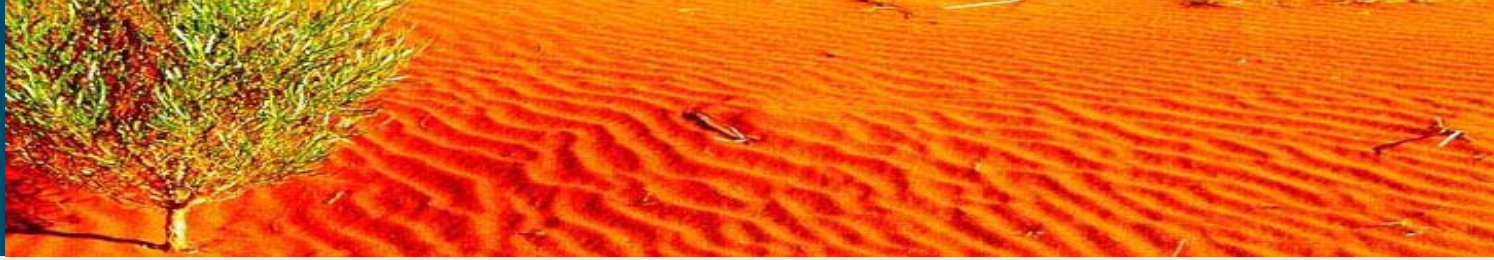




- **Olympic Dam is world class:**
  - the largest uranium deposit in the world
  - the lowest cost uranium producer in the world
  - established producer with 17 years history
  - 70+ more years with further expansion capacity
  - well positioned to meet projected shortfall in supplies and can grow with the market over time
- **Work is well advanced on the Expansion Study, with construction likely to start in 2008**
- **Likely development case is a 40 mtpa open pit mine producing 15,000 tonnes per annum  $U_3O_8$  in longer term**
- **Market demand for the extra production from Olympic Dam**



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# **Developing the World's Biggest Uranium Resource**

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**20<sup>th</sup> April 2005**