### Why Jurisdiction and Uranium Deposit Quality are Essential Considerations for Exploration and Mining of Uranium

### David R. Miller

President and CEO DECLAN RESOURCES INC. June 24, 2014

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### Why Jurisdiction and Uranium Deposit Quality are Essential Considerations for Exploration and Mining of Uranium

### OUTLINE

- 1. Jurisdiction Issues: Is the Government with you or against you?
  - I. National Government, State Government, Local Government:
    - a) Regulatory Agencies
    - b) Legal System
- 2. Deposit Quality: Grade is king? Brief review of historical and current production.
  - I. High grade versus low grade: Why mine low grade?
- 3. Comparison of top producing countries attributes, be they uranium deposit quality (grade, size) versus government involvement (government helpful or hurtful).

### What is important in Exploration, Development and Mining of Uranium around the world?

- Jurisdiction: Is the government with you or against you?
- Uranium Deposit Type and Grade of Deposit: Grade does matter!

Is the government with you or against you?

What is important?

- Government allows uranium mining?
- Government does not allow uranium mining?

Uranium mining banned:

- 1. Virginia, US.
- 2. British Columbia, CA.

<del>3. Greenland,</del> Removed ban last year!

4. Queensland, Removed ban 2 years ago.

Is the government with you or against you?

Government does allow uranium mining.

Some governments are encouraging uranium mining. Permits are fast and efficient.

Examples: Kazakhstan Namibia

Secondary considerations:

- 1. Permitting
  - Government controlled?
  - Government regulated?
- 2. Delays (US-Env. Lawsuits)
  - Time Value of Money
  - Missed Market Opportunity

Discussion: Some jurisdictions may not outright ban uranium mining but can make it onerous and costly to pursue. Sometimes governments change the terms of mining after discovery or even development of the mine.

Examples: New Mexico, US. Niger

#### Grand Canyon uranium mining to be banned for 20 years

Environmental groups hail ban on new mining claims around the canyon, saying it will secure Obama's green legacy

Suzanne Goldenberg, US environment correspondent Follow @suzyji Follow @GuardianUS theguardian.com, Monday 9 January 2012 14.19 EST

### Queensland lifts uranium mining ban

#### 22 October 2012

Uranium mining will be allowed in the Australian state of Queensland after the state government overturned 23 years of prohibition. The state has not produced uranium since 1982.



### THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. $\equiv | u.s.$



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#### U.S. NEWS

Virginia Keeps Ban on Uranium Mining

By CAMERON MCWHIRTER

Jan. 31, 2013 6:39 p.m. ET

## CANADA: BAN ON URANIUM MINING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

#### WORLD

## French nuclear company Areva reaches uranium mining deal with Niger after protests

Published May 26, 2014 · Associated Press

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PARIS – French nuclear manufacturer Areva has reached a deal with Niger's government to continue uranium mining after promising to pay more taxes and invest in local development.

Critics say the country's uranium riches aren't translating into wealth for its citizen and have accused Areva of exploiting Niger since it began operations in 1971. Niger is the world's fourth-largest uranium producer.

#### World Video



Malaysian government releases Fligh 370 raw satell



# Survey of Mining Companies 2013



http://www.fraserinstitute.org/uploadedFiles/fraser-ca/Content/research-news/research/publications/mining-survey-2013.pdf

## Fraser Institute: Ranking of Countries: 2013

The Fraser Institute's vision is a free and prosperous world where individuals benefit from greater choice, competitive markets, and personal responsibility. Our mission is to measure, study, and communicate the impact of competitive markets and government interventions on the welfare of individuals.



#### Figure 1: Policy Perception Index

### Who Controls The Uranium?

"The 'operator' should not start ... operations in a district which is oppressed by a tyrant, but should carefully consider if the overlord there be friendly or inimical."

-Georgious Agricola, 1556, De Re Metallica

inimical - "having the disposition of an enemy"

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## **URANIUM DEPOSIT TYPES**

The International Atomic Energy Agency assigns the uranium deposits according to their geological settings to 15 main categories of deposit types, arranged according to their approximate economic significance [IAEA2004]:

- Unconformity-related deposits
- Sandstone deposits
- Quartz-pebble conglomerate deposits
- Vein deposits
- Breccia complex deposits
- Intrusive deposits
- Phosphorite deposits

- Collapse breccia pipe deposits
- Volcanic deposits
- Surficial deposits
- Metasomatite deposits
- Metamorphic deposits
- Lignite
- Black shale deposits
- Other types of deposits

### 2012 World Uranium Production By Deposit Geology



http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Nuclear-Fuel-Cycle/Mining-of-Uranium/World4 Uranium-Mining-Production/

### WORLD CUMULATIVE URANIUM PRODUCTION



http://www.oecd-nea.org/ndd/pubs/2012/7059-uranium-2015.pdf

### WORLD CUMULATIVE URANIUM PRODUCTION



http://www.oecd-nea.org/ndd/pubs/2012/7059-uranium-201f.pdf

### World Cumulative Uranium Production By Deposit Geology



### 2012 versus World Cumulative Uranium Production By Deposit Geology

**Cumulative** 2012 4% 5% 5% 29% 29% 8% Sandstone 56% Unconformity Sandstone Evaporite 21% Unconformity Hem-Breccia Evaporite 10% Hem-Breccia Vocanic 19% Vocanic QTZ-Pebb 7% Other 5% Other 1%

### URANIUM RESOURCES Reasonably Assured Resources

#### **Tonnes U**

< \$40/kg						< \$80/kg					
	US	C	anada	Kazakhstan	ו	Total		US	Canada	Kazakhstan	Total
Unconformity		-	237,927	-		237,927	Unconformity	-	292,527	-	292,527
Sandstone		0	(	0 19,177	7	19,177	Sandstone	39,064	-	278,875	317,939
Hem. Breccia		0	(	0	0	-	Hem. Breccia	(	- 0	(	- C
Quartz Pebble		0	(	0	0	-	Quartz Pebble	(	) -	(	<b>)</b> -
Vein		0	(	0	0	-	Vein	(	- 0	(	- C
Other		0	(	0	0	-	Other	(	) -	(	- C



http://www.oecd-nea.org/ndd/pubs/2012/7059-uranium-2011.pdf

### **2012 World Uranium Production** Approximate Grade of Deposit Types



### **2012 World Uranium Production** Value of 1 tonne of Ore at \$30/pound



### ATHABASCA PROJECTS By GRADE



http://www.world-nuclear.org/info/Country-Profiles/Countries-A-F/Canada--Uranium/

### **ATHABASCA PROJECTS**

Weighted AV= 12.97 % U



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### JURISDICTION VERSUS U DEPOSIT ATTRIBUTES **Comparison of 6 POLITICAL AND GEOLOGIC ATTRIBUTES**



**DEPOSIT SIZE** 



PERMITTING







CZECH REP

### JURISDICTION VERSUS U DEPOSIT ATTRIBUTES

**Comparison of the Three Major World Uranium Producing Areas** 



## CONCLUSION

### JURISDICTION versus GRADE

Grade is King! But government policy can and does affect the ability to mine.

Government can and does help get projects into production by:

- Streamlining Permit Process
- Favorable Royalty and Infrastructure Support
- And by default, faster approval allows a better economic return by hitting peak price and utilizing the time value of money factor.

RASER INSTITUTE ANNUAL

Survey of Mining Companies 2013



#### JURISDICTION

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## THANK YOU - QUESTIONS

**2012 World Uranium Production** Approximate Grade of Deposit Types





