

Recent and current Energy Mineral Projects at the Wyoming State Geological Survey

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The Wyoming State Geological Survey (WSGS) recently completed several studies and projects covering energy minerals uranium and rare earth elements (REE), and other mineral commodities. Current projects include uranium resource studies and mapping of uranium-rich areas.

The 1:500,000 scale map (*Uranium Map of Wyoming*, by Robert W. Gregory, Richard W. Jones, and Kyle D. Cottingham) was recently updated to include currently producing operations and is available in hard copy and CD. This map is an update of the information contained in WSGS Open File Report (OFR) 85-6, by Ray E. Harris.

In 2016 the WSGS completed a public information circular on uranium geology, mining, and the nuclear fuel cycle. This is a source of information geared toward the general public to provide fact-based information on the uranium industry with emphasis on the in-situ recovery (ISR) process.

The WSGS is also in the early stages of a resource study of the Gas Hills uranium mining district. This will be a compilation of existing data accompanied by a compilation of geologic mapping endeavors spanning back several decades and will include current mapping efforts.

The WSGS also completed two studies of REE potential in Wyoming by sampling known occurrences and exploring for new deposits. China currently controls over 95% of the world's known resources and has recently cut back on exports of REEs. REEs are vital materials in a wide variety of applications and technology including high-tech military systems, electronic components, and renewable energy generation.

In addition to the REE reports, the WSGS has recently completed resource studies on iron, lithium and zeolite minerals in Wyoming.