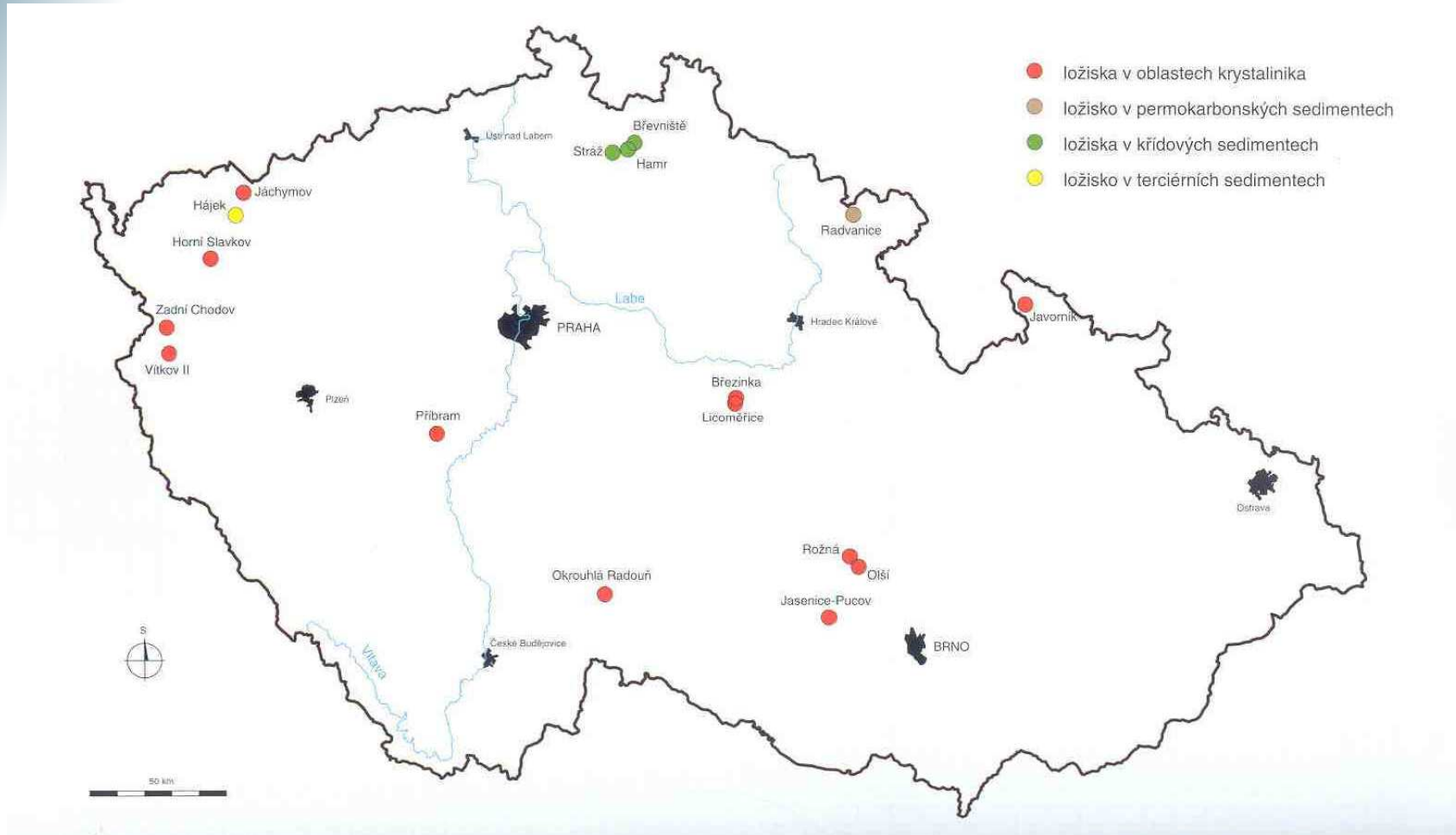


# Uranium mining history in the Czech Republic

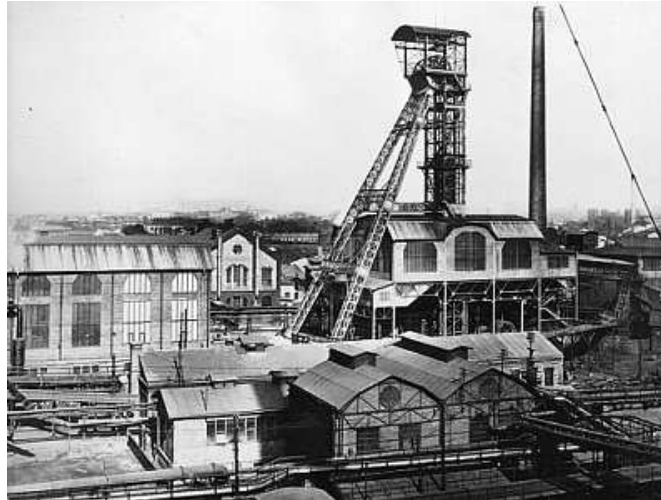
Miloslav Němec

18.10.2017

## Uranium mining and milling



## History



- 1945 On 23 November, a bilateral inter-state agreement was signed between the Czechoslovak Republic and the Soviet Union on prospecting, mining and deliveries of radioactive raw materials to the Soviet Union.
- 1946 On 1 January, Jáchymovské doly (JD) national enterprise, with a seat in Jáchymov, was established. It was subordinated to the Headquarters of the Czechoslovak Mines within the Ministry of Industry. HQs of the national enterprise directly managed groups for prospecting work (revision, search and survey) and for construction and assembly (“Budování” works).



- 1955 On 2nd November, the name Jáchymovské doly, n.p. was deleted and Central Administration of Research and Mining of Radioactive Raw Materials (in Czech abbreviated as ÚSVTRS) was established as a central body with the right of the Ministry. ÚSVTRS's competence covered mining and processing of uranium on the territory of the Czechoslovak Republic and related building and machine engineering activities.
- 1960 ÚSVTRS HQs moved from Jáchymov to Příbram, i.e. to the area with the largest mining activities.



1967 On 1 July, Central Administration of the Uranium Industry (which replaced ÚSVTRS from 14 July 1965) was dissolved and an economic organization called Czechoslovak Uranium Industry (in Czech abbreviated as ČSUP), subordinated to the Ministry of Mining, was established .

1989 On 19 October, Czechoslovak Government Presidium's Decree no. 94 as adopted concerning the inhibition program for uranium mining and related activities. Based on this Decree, the uranium industry underwent massive restructuring in the subsequent period, which was accompanied by substantial restriction of all activities including production of the uranium concentrate. At the same time, activities which were not directly related to uranium ore mining and processing were privatized.



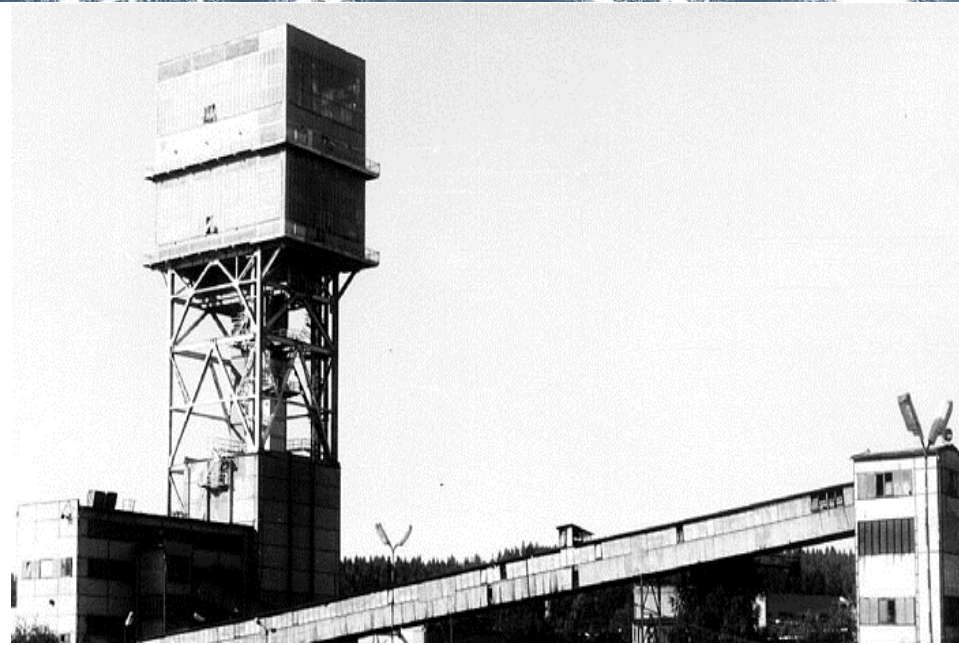
- 1991 On 1 August, the seat of ČSÚP moved again – this time from Příbram to Stráž pod Ralskem – in relation to the discontinuation of uranium mining in the Příbram site.
- 1992 On 31 March, Concern enterprise ČSÚP, Příbram, was renamed to DIAMO, state enterprise, Stráž pod Ralskem.
- 1993 On 1 January, after the split of the Czechoslovak Federative Republic, DIAMO, state enterprise became a legal successor of ČSÚP.

During the period 1945-2012 was mine 110 000 tons uranium. Which is 9.place in the world after USA, Kanada , Australia, Rus.Fed., Kazachstan, Uzbekistan .....

## DIAMO s.e.

SUL  
TÚU  
GEAM

### Division SUL Příbram



For the whole period of the mineral exploitation of the Příbram bearings, i.e. for the **period 1947-1991** from underground was harvested a total of 48,8 kt uranium 6,2 kt lead and 28,9 t of silver.

- ensures administration of dismantled mining and processing capacities at uranium and other ore deposits on the Czech territory, except for North Bohemia and East Bohemia.
- 16 former uranium mines and tailings sites – closed;
- >6000 particular environmental burdens (pits, waste dumps, tailings impoundments, mine waters spillway etc.)



#### Remediation of Uranium production facilities:

- 122 hectares of the tailing ponds has been reclaimed just in the former Mydlovary mill until 2008 i.e. 56 % of a total area;
- Remediation, removing or reprocessing of the waste dumps (395 dumps, cap. 54 mill. m<sup>3</sup>) under way;
- Long-term mine water treatment (in sum 15.0 million m<sup>3</sup> in a year);



## Division GEAM Dolní Rožínka (former last uranium mine in Europe)

Mine began in 1957 and continues in selective mining of uranium ore in compliance with the Czech Republic's Government Decree no. 1316/2005, that approved continuation of uranium mining and processing at the Rožná site until the end of 2008. Czech Republic's Government Decree no. 565/2007 of 23 May 2007 extended the uranium mining and processing at the Rožná site in Dolní Rožínka locality as long as the mining is effective without being funded from the Czech Republic's state budget. The mining was stopped in March 2017.



## Division TÚU Stráž pod Ralskem

Inhibition of uranium mining and processing in the Stráž pod Ralskem area began at the end of the 1980s when construction of Hamr II – Lužice Mine was stopped and the mine was subsequently dismantled, as well as Křižany I Mine. Government Decree no. 429 of 11 August 1993 discontinued mining on Hamr I Mine which was transferred to conservation regime, and Government Decree no. 244 of 26 April 1995 decided about the mine's dismantling. The dismantling of Chemical milling facility was subsequently begun, in compliance with Government Decree no. 170 of 6 March 1996.

The Hamr I mine surface area was put out of service at the end of 2015 in accordance with SÚJB license for decommissioning and the chemical mill in Stráž pod Ralskem too.



Stráž pod Ralskem ISL (in situ leaching). Remediation consequences of ISL started in 1996 (affected in sum 266 million m<sup>3</sup> groundwater). Since 1996 was removed from underground 1 million tones acidic solutions and as a by-product 2,071 tU



**Thank you for your attention.**