

**RALPH KNODE**

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Gillette, WY 82716

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**AREAS OF EXPERTISE****ISR Mine Construction**

- Project Design and Engineering
- Large Contract Administration
- Contractor Management
- Safety and Environmental Oversight

**ISR Mine Operations**

- Strategic and Operational Planning
- Regulatory Compliance
- Budget and Financial Accountability
- Technical and Operational Assessment

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**
**STRATA ENERGY, INC, Gillette, Wyoming**
**April 2012 – Present**
**Chief Executive Officer**

Responsible for guiding new in-situ uranium leach project through state and federal permitting processes, planning and executing wellfield and plant construction, and bringing mine into production.

- Develop financial models, annual budgets and production targets
- Oversee design and construction of wellfields and 1.25Mlb/year central processing plant
- Direct exploration to upgrade and expand 52Mlb U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> resource
- Ensure acquisition of all regulatory permits and licenses necessary to begin production
- Secure and maintain all necessary mineral and land acquisitions and leases, use agreements, and rights of way
- Oversee development and implementation of stringent safety, health and environmental program
- Direct development and implementation of reclamation program
- Direct litigation activities surrounding legal challenge to project
- Establish and maintain robust, proactive public involvement program

**URANIUM ONE, INC**
**June 2008 – March 2012**
**June 2010 – March 2012, Senior Vice President, Projects: Denver, Colorado, USA**

Report directly to the Chief Operating Officer, Uranium One.

- Responsible for tracking and formally forecasting global production from U1 operations quarterly
- Work with all JVs and U1 operations on development of annual budgets and production targets
- Track and report on schedules of all capital construction projects at JVs and U1 operations
- Member of two man team which develops and updates Life of Mine Model and valuations for all JVs and U1 operations annually
- Serve as Chairman of Honeymoon Joint Venture Operating Committee; Adelaide, Australia
  - Oversee the start up of Honeymoon ISL Mine, Australia's fourth uranium mine
- Member of two man team that performs annual SHE audits at all JVs and U1 operations

**June 2008 – June 2010, Vice President, Technical: Almaty, Kazakhstan**

Headed up a team of local professionals responsible for overseeing U1 investment in four operating mines in Kazakhstan. Report directly to the Senior Vice President, Kazakhstan.

- Successfully developed and managed a multi professional group to provide oversight, technical advice, budget support and project reporting

- Participated in unprecedented growth of U1 joint ventures resulting in increase in combined production from 3.5 million lbs to over 12 million lbs U3O8 annually (100% basis)
- Significantly raised the awareness of Kazakh joint ventures to safety and environmental issues through regular site visits and meetings
- Member of the Supervisory Board of SKZ-U, the company constructing 500,000 ton per year sulfuric acid plant and cogeneration facility

**JOINT VENTURE INKAI, Taikonur, Kazakhstan**

**2005 – 2007**

A joint venture between Cameco, the world's largest nuclear company and Kazatomprom, Kazakhstan's State uranium mining entity.

**Director, Operations and Construction**

Responsible for the operations of in-situ leach test mine, expansion of same and construction of new, 2,000 metric ton per year in-situ leach mine, including mill complex and well field construction. Acted as company liaison with local and regional government and regulatory officials. Interfaced with North American based engineering firms.

- Successfully created multi profession, multi national team to engineer and construct new mine facility.
- Researched, interviewed and selected local contractors and vendors, ensuring a high quality of work and product.
- Effectively negotiated and administered multi million dollar construction and vendor supply contracts with Kazak and other international companies.
- Developed mine plans, annual work plans, annual budgets for operational and construction activities.
- Supervised staff of over 100 local employees and twelve North American specialists. Organized work of over 300 employees of local contractors.
- Successfully introduced western safety and environmental compliance systems. Achieved a record of No Lost Time Accidents for over 1 million man hours worked.
- Achieved 30% increase in drilling productivity by performing an assessment of the local drilling contractor and initiating changes.

**POWER RESOURCES, INC., Douglas, Wyoming, USA**

**1999 – 2005**

**General Manager, Uranium Operations**

Directed mining, well filed construction and ground water restoration activities a Highland Uranium Mine and Smith Ranch Mine. Participated in property evaluations in North America, Central Asia and Australia.

- Successfully combined staffs of Highland Mine and neighboring Smith Ranch Mine when Power Resources purchased adjacent mine.
- Directed mine planning, well field design, and construction of well fields which included miles of pipeline construction.
- Dramatically reduced environmental spills and regulatory violations by introducing revised procedures.
- Developed and patented method of bioremediation for contaminated ground water; supervised ground water restoration activities.
- Directed the construction of the Inkai test mine in 2001 for parent company Cameco.

**CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC., Crawford, Nebraska, USA**

**1998**

**Vice President, Development**

Responsible for all development activities including design, procurement and installation of well fields.

- Instituted a program of well swabbing that dramatically increased flow capabilities of wells.

**URANERZ EXPLORATION AND MINING, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada**

**1995 – 1997**

**Deputy General Director, Almaty, Kazakhstan**

- Successfully negotiated on behalf of Uranerz and partner Cameco with the Kazak government leading to the development of a new joint venture. Obtained key permits from various regulatory agencies and a mining concession and permit for the joint venture.

**CROW BUTTE RESOURCES, INC.** (and predecessors), Crawford, Nebraska, USA

Supervised all drilling activities including exploration drilling and well installation. Directed test mine and commercial mine construction and subsequent operational activities. Recruited and trained staff for new mine.

- Actively participated in the licensing of the Crow Butte Mine with local, state and national regulatory agencies.
- Developed outstanding record for safety and environmental performance.
- Contributed to Crow Butte being recognized as one of the world's lowest cost uranium producers.

**EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

**BA**, Geology, Amherst College, Amherst, MA

Radiation Officer Training School