

Title:

On the Use of Oil Shale Beyond Production of Oil and Gas

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This paper presents an overview on the use of spent shale in the production of sodium carbonate, ammonium sulfate, and potassium sulfate as well as many other uses in the cement and construction industries. Apart from the main focus on producing oil and gas products, such uses will be considered as an added value in the overall assessment and evaluation of the oil shale industry.

It is possible to develop suitable equipment for the production of oil from oil shale, but with different conditions to control the temperature of the residue of retorted oil shale to enable the calcium carbonate to dissociate into calcium oxide and carbon dioxide which are the main materials for the production of sodium carbonate, ammonium sulfate and potassium sulfate.

A schematic flow diagram will be presented to form the basis for the construction of a pilot plant that utilizes the process of producing oil on one fold and the production of the said products on the other fold. Further uses of spent shale in the production of cement, building bricks and other construction materials will also be highlighted.

It is concluded that the focus on the production of oil from the oil shale will form a misleading indicator on the oil shale industry if the benefits from utilizing the spent shale was not taken into consideration.

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