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Energy policy and the role of oil shale in Estonia

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Mr. Parts will describe the energy policy of Estonia with particular reference to the role of oil shale in meeting Estonia's energy needs. Estonia has mined oil shale since the early part of the 20th Century, both for oil production and for generation of electricity by direct burning. Since recovering its independence, this production has been pursued by both private and state owned companies. These companies have become leaders in oil shale development, and are now reaching out internationally to develop oil shale in other countries in North America, the Middle East and North Africa. Estonia's scientific community has also been instrumental in carrying out the research needed to enhance production capabilities and mitigate the environmental impacts of oil shale production, including development of alternative uses for spent oil shale.