

Activities of Industrial Enterprises Processing Resources in Navoi Region in the First Years of Independence of Uzbekistan

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ABSTRACT: In this article, the author provides historical information through sources about the intensive resumption of operations of large enterprises processing basic raw materials in Navoi region during the difficult economic conditions in the early years of independence. The article focuses on Navoi Mining and Metallurgy, Cement Processing and Electricity Generation Enterprises.

KEYWORDS: Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine, Hydrometallurgical Plant, uranium, gold, phosphorite, Muruntau deposit, Cement Plant, Open Joint Stock Company, Navoi Thermal Power Plant.

Introduction

From the first years of independence, the Government of the Republic, taking into account the fact that industrial production plays a leading role in strengthening the country's economy, has taken the necessary measures to develop the former Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine (NMMC). Measures have been taken to ensure the efficient use of mineral resources of the state-owned enterprise NMMC, which has a long production capacity for many years, and to intensify the production of high-demand products.

Materials and methods

In order to increase the economic power and ensure social stability of the republic, NMMC's capabilities have been expanded. In particular, five mines located in four regions (Bukhara, Navoi, Samarkand, Tashkent) are included in NMMC, on the basis of which the cities of Navoi, Zafarabad, Nurabad, Zarafshan, Uchkuduk, as well as the Navoi Machine-Building Plant Production Association and Zarafshan Construction Department were established. These cities were transferred to the balance of the plant and were interconnected by roads and railways, power lines [1.3].

In 1991, on the basis of the Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine, the second largest center of the gold mining industry in the country, the Kyzylkumnodirmetalloltin concern, was established. In 1992, the State Committee for Precious Metals was established on the basis of the Uzbekoltin Association of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In 1993, the need to process phosphorite, which had large reserves, increased. To address this issue, the Cabinet of Ministers has taken appropriate decisions. Based on this decision, work has begun on the third hydrometallurgical plant in Uchkuduk and the second in Zarafshan. Kyzylkum Construction Department "Fosforitstroy" was established. In 1994, it was transformed into the Association of Gold Mining and Diamond Processing Enterprises of Uzbekistan (Uzolmosoltin).

The first stage of № 3 Hydrometallurgical Plant (GMZ-3) was launched on June 14, 1995 on the basis of Kokpatos and Dovgiztov gold deposits of Uchkuduk region, which are part of NMMC's Northern Mining Administration [3.109-114]. Given the insufficient oxidation of ores from the Kokpatos and Dovgiztov deposits, the original technology for sorting mixed ores was developed in collaboration with the plant and foreign experts (INTEGRA GROUP, USA). As a result, up to 50% of the oxidized product was separated from the ore and sent for processing (primarily to GMZ-Z) [4.7].

The launch of this plant, which is strategically necessary for the Northern Mining Administration in Uchkuduk, has been significant for the relatively remote Kyzylkum region. In September 1995, 230,000 tons of ore were processed, and the plan was fulfilled by 121.0%. As a result of the measures taken, the uranium and gold production cycle has reached an advanced stage, where the deposits have been enriched through exploration, mining and processing, as well as the production of pure gold. The plant includes five mining departments, a large construction department, a machine-building plant, a plant for the production of polyvinyl chloride pipes, a plant for processing marble blocks and polished tiles, a jewelry plant, a spinning and textile factory, a sulfuric acid plant and other industrial and ancillary facilities. entered [5,278].

In addition, the technology of bacterial oxidation of sulfide ores in GMK-3 was successfully introduced. The Central Mining Administration has launched a gold leaching plant and an emulsion explosives plant at the Muruntau deposit, a fourth hydrometallurgical plant at the Southern Mining Administration, and the world's only vertical rock conveyor at the Muruntau deposit [6.31]. As a result, the plant's production capacity has expanded, additional jobs have been created, and many young professionals have been hired, with an average age of 32. GMZ-3 was the first gold mining plant during the years of independence, where 1,500 new jobs were created [5,278].

The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 26, 2002 "On measures to improve the management structure of the gold mining industry of the Republic" The Uzolmosoltin Association was liquidated. The Zarmitan and Marjonbulak gold deposits, formerly part of the association, were incorporated into the Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine in May 2002 [4.7].

Ore is mined underground from the large Chormitan deposit, which belongs to the Zarmitan gold deposit, and oxidized ore is mined from the Marjanbulak gold deposit in the open method. In 2001, the mining capacity of the Marjanbulak and Zarmitan deposits was increased to 33.6 and 34.6%, the ore extracted from the deposits of Marjanbulak was processed and the capacity of the gold mining plant was increased to 44.3% [4.7]. Following the inclusion of the Marjanbulak and Zarmitan gold deposits in the NMMC, the necessary measures were taken to bring these deposits to the capacity specified in the project. By this time, 13 deposits had become the main raw material base of gold deposits. This accounted for about 85% of the gold reserves discovered in the republic [1.4].

In order to increase production efficiency at the Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on May 19, 2004 liquidated the state concern "Kyzylkumnyrmetallolitin" and transferred its enterprises to NMMC. As a result, NMMC has become a large-scale powerful industrial complex specializing in the development of mineral resources in the Central Kyzylkum. Its branches are located in Navoi, Bukhara, Samarkand, Jizzakh and Tashkent regions. The development of the industry has become a topical issue for the plant. GMZ-3 accounted for 15% of all gold produced in 2011 [7.5].

In 2009, the construction of a gold mining complex on the basis of the Zarmitan gold deposit began. Builders from all NMMC enterprises took part in the construction of this engraved object. As a result of the construction work started with the initiative of the general public, in 11 months № 4 Hydrometallurgical Plant (GMZ-4) one million. the first stage, capable of processing tons of ore, and in 2012 the second stage was launched. GMZ-4 is the second hydrometallurgical plant built in the country during the years of independence. tons of ore began to be processed [8.103].

GMZ-4 is designed to process ores extracted from the Chormitan and Gujumsay deposits. It generates \$ 250-300 million annually. dollars worth of products. It employs 4,500 people, 60% of whom are graduates of secondary special and higher education institutions of the republic [8.103]. As a developing enterprise, the plant has been able to increase its production capacity on a regular basis.

From the first years of independence, the demand for construction materials in Uzbekistan, including cement, has increased. After the collapse of the USSR and the cessation of relations with the former allied republics, in particular Russia and Ukraine, disruptions in the operation of the Navoi Cement Plant began. As a result, a number of problems arose in the operation of the enterprise, and production declined. As in other enterprises, the transition to market relations was not easy for the Navoi Cement Plant team. The management of the plant focused on strengthening partnerships for the exchange of experience, the introduction of new technologies and the exchange of experience in order to revive production.

In 1993, the plant's (drob) line was reconstructed at the Cement Plant to produce 500,000 tons of tuff products per year. It began to be produced from a local alternative raw material that was used for a number of purposes instead of gypsum imported from elsewhere [9]. In October this year, Tashkent hosted the 3rd International Conference of Cement Enterprises of Central Asia, which was attended by representatives from 22 countries. The conference focused on the modernization of dust collection, cement loading equipment, clinker refrigerators and increase work efficiency [10].

In 1994, the Navoiytsremont plant was liquidated and transformed into the Navoiytsment Open Joint-Stock Company (OJSC) by a special order of the Republican State Property Committee dated December 23, 1994 [11]. Initially, the company carried out repair work at the enterprise, and qualified specialists from neighboring countries were involved in the complex repair process. In addition, trips to the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Spain, Italy, South Africa, where the cement industry is developed, are planned to bring the necessary materials, including durable baked bricks for kilns. In a short period of time, the drying units for additional products in some warehouses were expanded, and an enterprise with a production capacity of 180,000 pieces of slate per year was built [12].

As a result of the measures taken, the volume of production has increased year by year, and the financial situation of workers and employees has improved. In particular, in 1997 it was completed with the production of 1 million 435 thousand tons of cement. This was 81,000 tons more than in 1996. 1998 ended more efficiently for the enterprise, with production growth of 148%. In the same year, the company produced goods worth 4 billion 565.5 million soums, of which 426.1 million soums was net profit [13.343]. For comparison, in 1974, all plants in Uzbekistan produced 3.4 million tons of cement. For many years, construction sites in the republic were supplied with cement due to great difficulties [13.281].

On March 24, 1997, Navoi Cement was transformed into Kyzylkumcement. In a short period of time, JSC "Kyzylkumtsement" has developed measures to revive its activities, has established cooperation with major cement

companies around the world. In particular, by 2000, relations with Moscow, Tolyatti, Yaroslavl were restored, economic relations were established with China and Slovakia, and a number of agreements were signed. As a result, the company underwent technological repairs and upgrades, increasing the volume and quality of production. Almost all production lines are fully computerized. A number of necessary precautions have also been taken in the field of environmental protection [14].

In 1998, JSC "Kyzylkumtsement" carried out extensive work to establish cooperation with foreign companies. In particular, in cooperation with the German company Müllers, a technological line was launched to pack 500,000 tons of cement per year. This has expanded the opportunities for Kyzylkumtsement to export its products to neighboring countries. The Kyzylkum-Tepalik trading house and the Uzbek-Kazakh-Russian joint venture Kyzylkum-Rus-Nur played an important role in this regard [13.344].

One of the ever-increasing demands in a market economy is the constant improvement of production technology. To this end, the world-famous Swedish company Svedola and Kyzylkumtsement have signed an agreement to equip the company with modern technologies to produce products that meet world standards. The establishment of cooperation between the specialists of the company "Svedola" and JSC "Kyzylkumtsement" began to yield effective results [13.344].

As a result of modernization of production, strengthening cooperation with foreign countries, JSC "Kyzylkumtsement" has become one of the largest enterprises in the country and the only plant for the production of dry cement. The company produces 45% of the country's cement. In addition to Navoi region, the plant supplies cement to Samarkand, Surkhandarya, Kashkadarya, Khorezm regions, Karakalpakstan, as well as neighboring countries: Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan. The company's products were awarded the Gold Star Medal and Cup for product quality at the 2000 meeting of the International Committee for Standardization in Madrid. In addition, in 2001, the products of JSC "Kyzylkumtsement" were awarded international prizes in the UK, in 2002 in China [15.52]. Since 2005, the company has been working on the environmental quality system ISO 9001: 2000 in order to protect the environment and reduce damage to nature [11].

In 2014, the company launched a new line. As a result of the launch of this line, Kyzylkumtsement will be able to produce an additional 350,000 tons of cement a year and create about a dozen new jobs. The new line has a production capacity of 80 tons of M 400 cement per hour. In 2015, the second stage was launched and the production of M 500 cement was launched. Along with the expansion of production of consumer goods, the company focused on modernization and production of refractory fireclay bricks on the basis of the localization program of our government [16].

During the years of independence, the economy of Uzbekistan has grown almost 6 times. The share of industry in it increased from 14% to 33%. Over the past 11 years, the average annual GDP growth rate has remained at no less than 8 percent. An active investment policy is being implemented. Brand new, high-tech industries, such as petrochemicals, chemicals, automotive, agricultural and railway engineering, pharmaceuticals, electrical engineering, textiles, modern building materials and others are developing steadily [17].

There are 17 large industrial enterprises in Navoi region. Among them are Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine, Navoiyazot, Kyzylkumtsement, Navoi Thermal Power Plant and Elektrikimyo zavodi joint venture. Today, Navoi region accounts for 10% of industrial output in Uzbekistan, including 45% of cement, 30% of mineral fertilizers and 16% of electricity [18.120].

The Navoi thermal power plant is the main source of electricity for the south-western regions of the country and is powered by natural gas containing sulfur. The power plant supplies electricity to mining and gas companies in Kyzylkum, Navoi Electrochemical Plant, Kyzylkumtsement, pumping stations on the Amu-Bukhara, Karshi main canals, consumers in Bukhara, Samarkand and Kattakurgan. The power plant is connected to the Takhiatash thermal power plant via a distribution device in Urgench with 220,000-volt transmission lines, and to the Central Asian Unified Power System through distribution facilities in Kattakurgan and Samarkand [19.232].

Conclusion

Today, the Zarafshan oasis has become a place of great creative work. The construction of new enterprises on the basis of modern technologies serves to increase the economic potential of our country. In 2017, the construction of the 5th hydrometallurgical plant, the cornerstone of NMMC, laid by President Sh. Mirziyoyev, began.

In his speech on the 60th anniversary of the city of Navoi, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev also spoke about the future of the Zarafshan oasis. "I sincerely congratulate you on the 60th anniversary of the Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine and the city of Navoi.

Thanks to the selfless work of thousands of workers and specialists in a short historical period, a modern production complex has been built in the Kyzylkum Desert, which combines a developed production, transport and social structure, popular not only in our country but also abroad.

The state pays special attention to the comprehensive development of the Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine as a priority. In particular, under the NMMC development program until 2026, about 30 major investment projects worth more than \$ 3 billion will be gradually implemented and more than 30,000 jobs will be created”[20].

Thus, the expansion of basic industries is one of the key factors in the sustainable development of the economy of the Republic. In this regard, the leading industries of the country's economy are large industrial enterprises located in the Lower Zarafshan oasis and specializing in oil and gas production, NMMC, Navoiazot, Elektrikimyo zavodi, Kyzylkumtsement. The establishment of partnerships between these industrial enterprises and the world's largest allied enterprises has made it possible to further increase economic efficiency. At present, the products of these enterprises are internationally recognized.

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