

Value added products from oil shale

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Oil shale is more than an energy source. It is also a source for various valuable materials. These materials include pyridine, carbonate minerals, alumina, ammonium sulfate, phosphate, sulfur, uranium, vanadium, and zinc, to name a few, from which numerous value-added products can be manufactured. For example, catalysts are made from vanadium and zinc, while alumina is a widely used material for catalyst support. Spent shale from oil shale retorting has also been used in cement industry. Other potential by-products from oil shale include carbon fibers, adsorbent carbons, construction and building blocks. This paper will review the viable materials that are found in oil shale and their beneficial use.