Rev. 1

Iran could be close to exhausting its supply of uranium oxide whill lacking the adequate resources to sustain indigenous commercial-scall uranium processing and enrichment. Our conclusion, echoed in a recenc jtort by Mark Hibbsd in

exported to a non-nuclear weapon State, the **State shall inform the Agency of its quantity, composition and destination**...." The safeguards agreement also states that "**safeguards shall not apply there under to ma** In the first image, taken on August 24, 2004, there is no indication of mining activity or the presence of ore prepared for shipment for fuither processing:

Saghand mine site.

it was identified by an Iranian opposition group in 2004).² Second, the mine was developed by Kimia Maadan, a private company linked to the so-called alleged studies documents revealing possible nuclear weapons-related research and development.

A DigitalGlobe image from August 22, 2002 in the CNS presentation shows the original unlined³ waste tailings pond used for initial uranium ore processing circa mid-2004. Imagery from June 2005 (figure 7) shows that this original waste tailings pond had been back-filled, with a new pond being prepared.⁴

Conclusion:

The next six months stand to be revealing: Wil7 Iran slow operations at Esfahan in order to conserve a dwindling supply of uranium or even shut down the facility? Wil7 it begin to use its limited supply of domestically mined uranium, which is of unknown quality and could lead to inferior grade uranium hexafluoride? Or wil7 Irantry to find foreign suppliers,