

## **The three Rs of NT Uranium mining: Ranger, Remediation and retirement.**

PW Waggitt

### **ABSTRACT**

As the closure of ERA's Ranger Uranium mine gets underway, and after nearly 40 years in uranium mining (mostly in the Northern Territory) it is timely to reflect on how the industry has changed. Ranger is the longest operating uranium mine in Australia and has been a focus of attention for more than 40 years. Many of the processes and procedures developed and adopted at the mine, as well as lessons learned, have been exported for use elsewhere.

The regulatory system remains complex, and some would say unwieldy,; the level of protection afforded to the surrounding environment is second to none; and the targets set for remediation are under the closest scrutiny. The presentation looks at how the uranium mining world has changed in the NT ( and other places) and what it is we have learned and applied to obtain better and more balanced outcomes for remediation and operations in uranium mining.