

Mine Closure Wiki

P.M. KAUPPILA^{1*}, T. KAUPPILA¹, M. WAHLSTRÖM², K. TURUNEN¹, H. PUNKKINEN², T. KARLSSON¹, M.L. RÄISÄNEN¹, A. PASANEN¹, L. SOLISMAA¹, A. TORNIVAARA¹, C. LARKINS¹, E. MERTA², S. BACKNÄS¹, E. NIEMELÄINEN² AND J. LAINE-YLIJOKI²

¹*Geological Survey of Finland, P.O. BOX 1237, FI-70211 Kuopio, FINLAND (*correspondence: paivi.kauppila@gtk.fi)*

²*VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, P.O. Box 1000, FI-02044 FINLAND*

Mine closure is one of the key issues in the development of sustainable mining. Once mines close they leave behind mineral waste material facilities and open spaces (ground workings) that may have long-term impacts on the environment, if not closed properly. Successful closure requires wide knowledge on suitable closure technologies and related research methods as well as on the site-specific factors affecting selection of proper closure technologies. To reach the best results, planning of mine closure should start as early as possible - ideally during the mine feasibility study, before mining operations begin.

The Mine Closure Wiki databank (GTK 2015) was developed to provide comprehensive guidance on mine closure to reduce the environmental, societal and economic impacts of mine closure and to facilitate smoother closure planning and permitting. It was published by the Geological Survey of Finland (GTK) and the Technical Research Centre of Finland (VTT) in October, 2015 as part of Closedure; a Tekes funded Green Mining Project.

The Mine Closure Wiki presents an overall description of the best practices and legislation pertinent to closure, provides systematic evaluation of the key methods and technologies of closure, and benchmarks national and international case studies on the performance of closure technologies. It also presents the results of mine closure related research and development (R&D) carried out during the Closedure project, such as the research on the performance of wetlands in treating mine waste effluents in Nordic conditions. Mine Closure Wiki is intended as an every-day tool for mining operators, authorities, consultants and researchers for the planning, permitting, executing and monitoring of mine closure.

References:

GTK 2015. Mine Closure Wiki, Closedure, Geological Survey of Finland. <http://mineclosure.gtk.fi/>. Accessed 3rd November 2015.