Special Issue

Mining and Mineral Processing Waste: Transition Towards a Circular Economy

Message from the Guest Editors

More than 70 years ago, V. Vernadsky, who created the holistic doctrine of the Biosphere and the Noosphere, stated that "*Humankind is a geological force transforming the face of our planet*". A vast amount of waste (e.g., mining tailing, mine drainage, etc.) has been generated globally during the last century as a result of mining and mineral processing, and this is expected to worsen with increasing resource and energy demand due to increasing population, industrialisation and urbanisation. The high amount of the materials mined or removed for extraction of Cu, Pb, Zn, Pb, Co, Au, Ag, and REE become waste. Therefore, the transition from the existing linear economy (take-make-dispose) to a circular economy in the mining and mineral processing industry (MMPI) is critical and timely. A holistic approach to integrating a circular economy, an alternative model of growth for a sustainable future, includes interconnection and developments in economics, environment, science, technology and innovation, government, society, and education.

Guest Editors

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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