

Special Issue

Radionuclides and Radiation Exposure in Mine Sites

Message from the Guest Editor

The mining of minerals is the basis of a large part of the world economy, and provides the raw materials for most of the infrastructures and tools that we use in everyday life. However, very frequently more than one chemical element is present in metallic ores, and primordial radioactive elements such as uranium, thorium, and their radioactive progenies may be present. Primordial radioactive elements also occur in heavy mineral sands mining, in rare earth mining, in coal mining, in oil and gas exploitation, and in minerals processing activities often implemented by the mine sites. In the last few years, radiation protection authorities started paying more attention to naturally- occurring radionuclides and radiation exposure in mines. And more investigation and identification of radiation issues was also encouraged by the International Atomic Energy Agency, World Health Organization, and European Commission. This Minerals Special Issue has the aim of compiling new information, case studies, and advances and needs in mine sites regarding radioactivity and radiation exposures of humans and non-human biota. Submissions are welcome.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

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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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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 18.2 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).