Special Issue

The Environmental Threats of Water and Soil Surrounding the Mine

Message from the Guest Editor

In mining areas, ore exploitation may generate an important source of contamination in surface waters, groundwater, and soils located in the vicinity of the main mine-waste impoundments. The main consequences of unremediated mine sites containing sulfide minerals are the generation of acidic mine drainage waters and the possible mobilization of metals and metalloids. Some authors have shown the relationship between the types of mineral deposits and their environmental signature. Also, mineral deposits hosted by carbonate sedimentary rocks tend to have mine-drainage water compositions with near-neutral pH; elevated concentrations of dissolved SO42−, Fe, Zn, As, Sb and Tl may be generated under these conditions. The main objectives of this Special Issue are to evaluate metal mobilization and release of toxic elements from mine wastes and mine waters in mining areas from soil, groundwater, sediment and surface water data. Also conducting tests both in the laboratory and in the field may be an interesting approach in order to evaluate the mobility of contaminants. In addition, geochemical modeling used in order to evaluate the geochemical processes is of great interest.

Guest Editor

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