

Response Type:

Normal Response

Collector:2011 ICCL Link
(Web Link)[Edit Response](#) [Delete](#)**Custom Value:***empty***IP Address:**

63.241.247.138

Response Started:Thursday, September 1, 2011 7:22:01
AM**Response Modified:**Thursday, September 1, 2011 7:25:52
AM**1. Please provide the following contact information**

Name: - Andreas Bieber and Joerg Frauenstein

Organization: - BMU, UBA

Country: - Germany

Email Address: - andreas.bieber@bmu.bund.de and joerg.frauenstein@uba.de

1. Are cleanup goals used when remediating contaminated mining sites?

Yes

with regard to and in line with the Federal Soil and Water Protection law

2. Is site-specific risk assessment used to clean up mining sites?

Yes

Within two direction, 1. Physical integrity 2. Risk assessment comparable to the contaminated land management methodology (Sources (hazardous substances), pathway, receptor)

1. Are any Best Management Practices (BMP) or Best Available Technologies (BAT) implemented when treating mining waste, mine tailings and/or mine influenced waters?

Yes

Due to the single case related remediation Germany do not have a fixed list in this regard. After the concluding risk assessment a remediation study is indicated. Usual within this study a comparison among feasible and applicable measures will help to find out the best option with regard to the proportionality of measures (suitable, required and adequate)

1. Is mining waste being reused for beneficial purposes?

Yes

It is not excluded by law and depending from the concentration of the substances within the mining waste. For any activity covering soil or coming into soil the Federal Soil protection ordinance is defining relevant values.

2. Are there any initiatives or practices to encourage locating alternative energy facilities at contaminated or active mining sites?

Yes

They are still many sites (re)used, mostly with solar and wind. As long as mining sites are still under surveillance of the mining authority the owner of the site need a special permission (especially concerning geotechnical stability) However it is very much appreciated by site owners and/or mining companies to stipulate such projects, also due to the fact that other beneficiary use is more difficult or prohibited.

3. Are reuse practices (such as carbon sequestration) and/or ecological revitalization activities implemented at contaminated mining sites (e.g., education centers, historical landmarks, commercial or industrial parks, wildlife refuge, etc.)?

Yes

Yes, within a wide range for ecological revitalization. For carbon sequestration activities we are in Germany right in beginning (e.g. planning and preparatory phase)

1. Do you have a regulatory framework(s) or other programs in your country that addresses the cleanup of properties impacted by mining contamination?

Yes

In general the polluter, therefore mostly the mining company. For many abandoned lignite and uranium mining sites the government acts as legal successor of the former GDR.

2. What types of enforcement measures and/or programs are available to recover costs from mining companies that caused the contamination?

Remediation programs for lignite and Uranium mining. As long as mining sites are under surveillance, the mining authority has the financial guarantees from the operator available. Please note, the surveillance will end not before the finalization of necessary remediation

3. Is cleanup and reclamation of mined land part of the mine permitting process?

Yes

4. Is “designing for closure and post-closure” actively practiced?

Yes

5. Is an Environmental Impact Analysis/Statement (EIA/EIS) performed for proposed mining operations?

Yes

These aspect are part of the planning documents the mining operator hast o submit to the mining authority. Without a precise closure plan a permission for mining activities is not possible

1. What are the funding mechanisms used to cleanup abandoned mine/mining impacted areas?

Polluter pays principle in general,

2. How are these mechanisms funded (e.g., public or mining industry contributions)?

e.g. financial guarantees. The mining authority (during surveillance) could always claim for any necessary remediation actions in case of emergencies or accidents.

3. Are there any laws, regulations, and policies and practices setting the approach for environmental financial assurance for mine closure?

Yes

With the implementation of the European Mining waste directive the member states have to implement the system of financial guarantees as well.

1. How does the local community participate in mine permitting, design/construction, financial responsibility calculations and the mine closure process?

The community will be asked as responsible body within the overall impact assessment (integrative part of the permit approval) The community will also be asked as the planning authority regarding the future use of the former devastated land.

2. Are there any regulations/programs that address/manage social impacts of mining and mine reclamation?

These aspects are covered and addressed by the environmental impact assessment which is obligatory to receive a mining permit.