

DECOMMISSIONING STANDARDS WORKSHOP

1. Gained an understanding of an acceptable approach to achieving decommissioning/reclamation "standards" using consistent terminology.

2. The approach recognizes three levels of detail:

- ▶ Objective - Generic
- ▶ Criteria - Accepted limits
- ▶ Standard - Adapted limits

3. Objectives include:
- ▶ Reclaim to an acceptable use
 - ▶ Ensure public safety
 - ▶ Minimize off-site effect on the environment
 - ▶ Aesthetically acceptable
 - ▶ Maintenance free

4. Criteria include:
- ▶ Broad based limits
(SSWQO, MMLER)
 - ▶ Industry specific
 - ▶ Recognize age of operation
(grandfathering, retroactivity)

5. Standards include:
- ▶ Site specific adaptation of Criteria
 - ▶ Based on background conditions
 - ▶ Modified by local requirements
 - ▶ Recognize risk assessment to modify Criteria

6. Important to write Objective into legislation.
7. Important to keep Criteria and Standards out of legislation to ensure flexibility.

8. Any Criteria or Standards need to be science based - apply common sense and research supported.

9. Public involvement is crucial at all three levels:

- ▶ Easier in Objectives
- ▶ Less in Criteria and Standards due to lack of technical expertise
- ▶ Involvement in Objective and Criteria development
- ▶ Information/education in Standard development

10. Overlapping jurisdiction between level of Government
 - ▶ Need to minimize and/or harmonize
11. For new projects the planning needs to recognize and incorporate decommissioning and reclamation.

12. Reclamation activities are more cost effective when done throughout the operating life/progressive.

13. Orphan sites
▶ recommend topic for future session

14. QUESTIONS

- ▶ When does decommissioning reclamation end?
- ▶ How long does monitoring go on?
- ▶ When does company's liability end? Does it?
- ▶ Does liability end for certain aspects?

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT FOR
MINING**

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