

Approaches for social license to remine in Post-Mining-Societies

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ABSTRACT

Project acceptance and the follow-on social license to operate depends on its societal environment. Precognition and the development of the country and society change the perception of mining and highly influence awareness and acceptance. Regions with a long tradition in mining but highly decreased mining activities differ to “newer” mining region: Those countries e.g. Germany have mostly a Post-Mining-Society which perceives mining as ancient embodied by traditions, artefacts and museums. Furthermore, the awareness is low and mining projects are seen critical. Therefore, the social license to operate is harder to achieve. Also, reopening mines and remining tailings is connected with new challenges, especially in terms of public acceptance.

The paper aims to present strategies for successful post-mining-community communication for remining projects. Using the example of the REWITA project focusing of the remining and reprocessing of the tailings from the former ore mine Rammelsberg in Goslar, Germany, challenges and chances of getting the social license to operate are discussed. Besides the introduction of the framework, the communication and visualization strategy based on a stakeholder analysis is presented. In comparison with conventional mining projects, similarities and differences are analysed to identify promising measures for similar projects.