

SDIMI Abstract

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Topic: *Methods of obtaining social acceptance for mining activities*

The term of Social License to Operate is not widespread in Poland, although the subject of social acceptance of mining is well-known and frequently discussed. The occurring protests and opposition to plans for the construction of new mines lead to the need of developing new methods and tools for gaining social acceptance. The topic is particularly important due to the fact that Poland is rich in natural resources. Investors intend to extract them, but they face opposition.

The research was conducted in four Polish areas – Zawiercie (planned zinc and lead mine); Legnica-Glogow Copper District (ongoing mining activity); Olkusz (ending exploitation); Tarnowskie Góry (former silver mine, UNESCO site). CSR activities used by companies have been verified in terms of their influence on the local community, level of social acceptance was examined, as well as the impact of mine closure and revitalization on the public. It was observed that the level of acceptance is related to the stage of mine operation and it is a part of communities identity.

The study was based on existing methods of measuring social license to operate, but it also included the proposal of adopting the AHP method in social acceptance research. Based on the results, solutions were proposed to improve public acceptance of mining and obtain SLO.