



SGM Environmental

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PROJECT CASE STUDY: Periodic Construction Audits of a Three-Level Waste Rock Dump

SGM Environmental Pty Limited (SGME) has a strong and well-established relationship with the mine and has done four years (ongoing) periodic construction audits of a three-level waste rock dump (3LWRD).

Site description: The mine is an underground polymetallic mine located on Tasmania's west coast. The mine stores potentially acid forming (PAF) waste rock in an above ground facility (the 3LWRD) designed to progressively backfill a former open cut mining operation to limit the future potential for acid mine drainage (AMD). The 3LWRD incorporates an innovative approach to PAF rock management because PAF rock and acid consuming limestone are alternatively layered in shallow compacted one metre lifts.

The problem: The mine required preparation of a periodic audit report which included a review of the surface and groundwater to comply with the requirements of the approved environmental protection notice (EPN).

What SGME did: Work was done to ensure compliance with the provisions of the EPN, including an audit of the last six months of construction activity. The audit included a review of the monitoring data to assess the mines progress towards achieving AMD risk minimisation and identifying constituent concentration trends in surface water and groundwater.

