SLUDGE PROCESSING AND MANAGEMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF MAJOR ACCIDENTS IN MINING ACTIVITIES. THE CASE OF COROIESTI PONDS

Angelica Drăghici, Gheorghe Gheție, Lorand Toth, Marius Kovacs

National Institute for Research and Development in Mine Safety and Protection to Explosion – INSEMEX Petroșani, 32-34 G-ral Vasile Milea Street, 332047 Petroșani, Hunedoara County, Romania

Abstract

The mud-setting ponds from the mining industry unfortunately represent works which certainly bear risks. The size of the risk is given both by the high frequency of registered accidents as well as by the magnitude of the consequences, among which the disastrous ecological effects are the most obvious. This paper highlights the major accidents which may occur when processing the mud from the mud-setting ponds, as well as the importance of an efficient management for preventing such accidents. The SWOT analysis carried out within this paper represents a systematic action for diagnosing the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats which have been identified at mud-setting pond level, having the purpose to properly recover the slime sludge from the waste.

Key words: environment, impact, mining development, mud-setting pond, slime sludge

Received: February, 2012; Revised final: June, 2012; Accepted: July, 2012

* Author to whom all correspondence should be addressed: e-mail: angela.draghici@insemex.ro; Phone: +40 254 541 621; Fax: +40 254 546277