Orphan and Abandoned Mine Sites

Experiences in Canadian Jurisdictions

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Hudson Bay Mining & Smelting Co., Limited

• 75 years of operation
• 15 decommissioned mine sites
• Plan with closure in mind
• Orphan and abandoned sites legally challenging

Action

• Environmental problems
• Perceived ownership
• Risk Assessment
• Accept Risk

Mandy Mine (before)
Mandy Mine (after)

Attempted Action

- Sold 30 years ago
- Repaired 15 years ago
- Failure likely, not if but when
- Correction not possible
Co-operative Action

- Assistance and advice
- Section 36 (c) warning
- How to stay involved

Standards

- Partial remediation

Summary

As an industry and as part of society, we would like to find a way to correct the legacy of orphan and abandoned mine sites. Elimination of legislative and regulatory barriers would aid in this correction.