



Our Responsibility

We have a responsibility to manage the wastes produced by our mining operations in a manner that protects the environment, our workforce, and local communities. We adhere to the waste hierarchy guiding principles and strive to reduce our environmental footprint with regards to waste production, storage and disposal..

Our Commitment

Managing the waste produced at our sites is fundamental to our commitment to environmental stewardship. Through our [Safety and Sustainability Policy](#) and, under our commitment to the **World Gold Council’s Responsible Gold Mining Principles – Principle 8**, Environmental Stewardship, we are committed to identifying, managing, avoiding and mitigating the potential risks associated with the mineral waste, and the hazardous and non-hazardous wastes we generate at our sites.

Responsible Gold Mining Principle



- 8.1 Managing environmental impacts
- 8.2 Tailings and waste management
- 8.3 Cyanide and hazardous materials

Our Approach

We assess and manage our waste in conformance with applicable regulatory systems and programs and look for opportunities to implement best industry practices in waste management. Our mining operations produce a range of mineral wastes including tailings and waste rock, as well as non-mineral wastes. To learn more about our approach to tailings management, see [Tailings Management](#).

Waste Rock

Generation of waste rock is part of the mining cycle, allowing metal-bearing ores to be exposed and mined. Our focus is on the responsible stewardship of these wastes, minimizing the potential environmental effects and ensuring that they do not pose risk to our employees, the environment, and the local community. Our primary focus is on the physical and chemical stability of the waste rock we produce and manage, including the following key measures:

- Extensive studies to characterize the geological materials that will be exposed to weathering by our activities and the potential for acid rock drainage (ARD) and metal leaching (ML) beginning during exploration.
- Integration of management plans for acid-generating drainage and metal leaching into site operations and closure planning during the feasibility phase for a project.
- Development of Geological Materials Management Plans prior to active mining proceeding, as a requirement at all sites to ensure that AMD can be technically, economically, and safely managed. This includes separation of Potentially acid-generating material (PAG) and Non-acid generating material (NAG), with appropriate management and monitoring measures.
- Regular monitoring and inspection to verify that design expectations are being met.
- Reporting publicly on potential sources of ARD and Metal leaching from waste rock and tailings at our sites.

Non-mineral waste

Materials that cannot be recycled or safely reused are disposed of in compliance with local regulations for their safe handling, transportation, and storage and in a manner that is environmentally acceptable. For our remote mine sites, offsite recycling and disposal options are often limited, which results in the on-site accumulation of wastes in storage until disposal permits are granted or opportunities for disposal off-site are available. Our operations manage a range of non-hazardous and hazardous wastes, including:

- Used batteries
- Fluorescent light bulbs
- Cupels and crucibles
- Waste oils and spent solvents
- Grinding media and mill liners
- Truck tires
- Reagent packaging
- Scrap Metal

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All of our operations have recycling programs in place and continue to strengthen programs to reduce and divert waste to recycling programs which have contributed to improvements in the volume of waste recycled. As an organization we are working towards elimination of single-use plastics by 2030.

Accountability and Reporting

Matters pertaining to Waste Management fall within our Corporate Responsibility Management System and as such are the responsibility of the Senior Director, Environment, with dual reporting to both the Senior Vice-President, General Counsel, Global Legal Operations and Major Permitting, and the Chief Technical Officer. Oversight and governance are the responsibility of the Corporate Responsibility and Technical Committee of the Board of Directors.

We report annually on Kinross' management and performance of non-hazardous and hazardous wastes in our Sustainability and ESG Report.



To learn more about performance and initiatives to manage waste, see our most recent [Sustainability and ESG Report](#).