

I have been involved with tailings for more than 40 years now, as consultant, contractor and academic. In Southern Africa but also Australia and Canada. I'm convinced that any standard not considering closure will have major shortcomings as most of the facilities are designed simply with cost in mind often compromising on risk mitigation. And operations only consider closure as end of life of mine risk. It is imperative that closure is brought in into the standard and that geometrical changes in the cultural design habits are urgently changed, and this platform may assist in establishing a much more responsible closure practice which will also mitigate future risk and loss of life.

Long term risk such as seepage, erosion, contamination and ecosystem impacts must be considered in this standard as well. You are welcome to involve me in this regard.