

THE HONOURABLE ROSA GALVEZ, PH.D., P.ENG.
SENATOR – QUEBEC



L'HONORABLE ROSA GALVEZ, PH.D., ING.
SÉNATRICE – QUÉBEC

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CANADA

January 6, 2020

Dr. Bruno Oberle
École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne
Route Cantonale, 1015
Lausanne, Switzerland

Dear Dr. Oberle,

Since I missed the consultation period, I thought I would write to you directly in support of your panel's mandate to establish an international standard for tailings management. As an environmental engineer and Canadian Senator of Peruvian heritage, safe mining practices and the associated preservation of human and environmental health are at the forefront of my mind in both a technical and policy-oriented capacity. As you may know, Canada has experienced more tailings dam failures in the last ten years than any other country, furthermore over half of the world's mining companies are headquartered in Canada, making this a matter of national and international interest and significance.

A portion of my senate work priorities revolves around the inclusion of climate change considerations in policy and infrastructure design, I was therefore pleased to read that considerations for climate change and its impacts were included in your panel's draft version of Global Tailings Standards, though only in the footnotes associated with two of the 77 requirements. It is my hope that upon review of public comments climate change impacts such as increased frequency and severity of adverse weather events, increased precipitation, and rising sea levels will be explicitly required.

Along with my appreciation for your work, I would also like to request a copy of your panel's conclusions from the consultation period and a copy of any future public versions of the standard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'R. Galvez'.

The Honourable Senator Rosa Galvez, Ph.D., P.Eng., FEC, FCSCE