



Session: Solid Waste
Tuesday, Sept. 23
8-10am
Room N259, Las Vegas Convention Center, Upper Concourse

Title: A Waste is a Terrible Thing to Mind – Identification and Management of Solid and Hazardous Waste in the Mining Industry

Presenter: Dean Miller, Attorney, Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP

Abstract:

On October 12, 2007, the United States Environmental Protection Agency announced that the mining and mineral processing industries would be subject to increased regulatory enforcement for FY 2008 through 2010. In its announcement, EPA identified the mining and mineral processing sectors as enforcement priorities, with particular emphasis on the illegal disposal of, and failure to properly characterize, hazardous waste. Given this increased regulatory scrutiny, it is critical that mine management understand the basic principles of hazardous waste characterization and the limits of the protection offered by the "Bevill" exclusion from hazardous-waste regulation. It is a common misconception that all waste generated at a mine site or associated beneficiation and mineral-processing facilities is exempt from regulation as hazardous waste. Dean Miller will describe the basic principles of hazardous waste identification and clarify which mining wastes are and are not subject to the Bevill exclusion. In addition, Mr. Miller will provide guidance on how to preserve the Bevill-excluded status of mining-related waste once it is obtained.