

TITLE: THE USE OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION IN THE NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND FEDERAL FACILITY CONTEXT

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ABSTRACT:

Both Federal and private sector experience with Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) show that assisted negotiations can result in faster, more efficient resolution of hazardous waste disputes. When Congress passed the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1990, it mandated that agencies incorporate ADR into their dispute resolution process. DOI has issued an interim plan which requires its constituent Bureaus to create and implement ADR Plans in their resolution of disputes. ADR techniques can be useful tools in resolving both Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) and Federal facility disputes.

Federal agencies have used ADR processes to resolve HAZMAT and NRDA disputes under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Comprehensive Environmental Recovery Compensation Liability Act, Clean Water Act, and Oil Pollution Act. As part of its mandate to incorporate ADR into its decision making processes, DOI is developing a plan to use ADR techniques to resolve NRDA and Federal facility disputes.

TITLE: APPLICATION OF COST ENGINEERING TO THE STUDY OF WASTE REMEDIATION OF MINE TAILINGS

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ABSTRACT:

The U.S. Bureau of Mines has developed a system for methodically estimating mining and processing costs as a function of process feed rate. The objective of the subject study was to apply this system to abandoned mine tailings and to evaluate the benefits, if any, of metal recovery. Cost analysis was applied to the mine wastes of Smeltonville Flats: an extensive area of mine tailings in the Bunker Hill Superfund Site with high concentrations of lead, zinc, and other sulfide minerals. Results from previous site characterization and metallurgical processing studies were used as the input for the cost analysis. This analysis indicated that processing this site at an optimum production rate of 3,500 short tons per day (st/d) could generate a positive cash flow.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
CONFERENCE ON THE
ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY

APRIL 24-28, 1995

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