

**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** 6<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MINE CLOSURE  
Connecting Mine Closure Practitioners Around the World

SEPTEMBER 18 - 21 | CHATEAU LAKE LOUISE | LAKE LOUISE, ALBERTA, CANADA

## A Government Regulator's Perspective on Corporate Social Responsibility and Mine Closure

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Goldier Associates | SUNCOR | Cranfield University | IACG

**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** CSR Plenary Session

- Government/CSR/Mine Closure
- Jean-Michel Gires, President and CEO, Total E&P Canada Ltd.
- Glenn Scott, Sr. Vice President, Resources Division, Imperial Oil
- David Parker, Vice President Sustainability, Teck Resources, Ltd.
- Concluding remarks

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**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** Regulator's Perspective on CSR

- Government's expectations
- Mine closure in Saskatchewan
  - Results-based regulation
- Benefits of CSR

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**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** CSR and Mine Closure

- Saskatchewan as example
  - Strong mining province
    - Potash
    - Coal
    - Uranium and
    - Gold
  - Potential for
    - Oil sands
    - Diamonds and
    - Rare earths

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**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** Saskatchewan's Mine Closure Expectations

- Responsibility on Proponents
  - Responsible use of the land
  - Leave it in a stable, non-polluting condition
  - No unusual risks to public or wildlife
  - Return it to a productive use
- Government creates the climate for investment
  - Impose reasonable, fair conditions

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**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** Mine Closure in Saskatchewan

- Environmental Assessment
  - Conceptual plan
- Licensing
  - Firm up conceptual plan
  - Costing for financial assurance
    - Decommission tomorrow
    - Third party
    - No credit for salvage
- Five year review and update

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## Return of Land to the Crown

- Reclaimed Industrial Lands Act
- Lands can be returned if:
  - Demonstrate effectiveness of closure plan
  - Provide a monitoring fund
  - Payment to the Unforeseen Events Fund
- Prefer not to leave everything until the end
  - Design for closure
  - Progressive decommissioning

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## Saskatchewan Legislative Reform

- SK moving to Results Based Regulation
  - All environmental legislation
  - Contemplating a mine closure code
    - Not in first batch
  - Need to define
    - Need in light of other hazardous material codes
    - Qualified persons
    - Objectives/design standards

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## Mine Closure

- Mining Community has worked hard on standards
  - Many national and international
  - Financial assurance an accepted practice
  - Integral to social license model
- Companies bucking this trend threaten responsible mining

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## Corporate Social Responsibility

- It's about relationships
  - Government
  - Public
  - Communities
  - Shareholders; and
  - Employees
- Long-term
- Generate trust
- Supports social license

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## Government and Corporate Goals

- Not dissimilar
  - Reduce future financial liabilities
  - Protect the environment and public health and safety
  - Maintain the productive use of the land
  - Provide stakeholders with assurance that the above are being effectively addressed

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## Government's Responsibility

- Stewards of the Land
- Set the standards and objectives
- Ensure successful mine closure

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**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** **Note to organizers**

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- [insert the slide decks for the three other presenters here – remainder of this deck will follow the third presenter]
- John-Michel Gires
- Glenn Scott
- David Parker
- Remainder of my deck

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**A Government Regulator’s Perspective on Corporate Social Responsibility and Mine Closure: Closing Remarks**

Mark Witttrup, MSc., P.Eng., P.Geo.  
Assistant Deputy Minister Environmental Protection  
Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment

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Goldier Associates    SINCOR    UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA    SUNCOR    Cranfield UNIVERSITY    ACG

**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** **Social License**

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- Mining
  - Potential risks to environment and public health and safety
  - Attracts significant scrutiny
- Government sets conditions for mining
- Mining earns the social license to mine
  - Critical to effective CSR

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**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** **Companies with CSR Programs**

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- Demonstrate strong governance
- Understand what is required
- Employ managed systems
- Develop and sustain community support
  - Value these relationships
- Demonstrate and understand the life cycle of their project through closure
- Are open and transparent in their dealings
- Understand their place in the world

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**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** **Application of CSR Traits**

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- Will facilitate approvals through
  - Complete documentation to government
    - Avoids delays
  - Community support
    - Avoids delays or political intervention
  - Demonstrated stability and management
    - Confidence in proposals
  - Managed systems
    - Confidence in future performance

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**MINE CLOSURE CONFERENCE** **Regulation of CSR**

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- While appealing, not practicable
- CSR aligned with results-based regulation
- If CSR is a desirable end point
  - Reward CSR driven companies
    - Less process
    - Quicker approvals
    - Fewer inspections

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## Social License

- Beyond compliance
- Understand and protect community values
  - Social
  - Environmental
  - Ecological
- Maintain effective long-term relationships
  - Government
  - Community

## CSR Plenary Session

- Heard from some industry leaders in CSR
- Clear that CSR:
  - Critical for large companies
    - At all stages of operation, including mine closure
  - Applicable to all enterprises
- Best practice for any resource extraction business

## Thank Our Presenters

- Jean-Michel Gires, President and CEO,  
Total E&P Canada Ltd.
- Glenn Scott, Sr. Vice President, Resources  
Division, Imperial Oil
- David Parker, Vice President Sustainability,  
Teck Resources, Ltd.