



Steven H. Emerman, Ph.D.

Specializing in Groundwater and Mining

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Ugo Lapointe
Canada Program Coordinator
MiningWatch Canada
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Ottawa, Ontario K1R 6K7, Canada
E-mail: ugo@miningwatch.ca

Dear Ugo,

I am writing in response to your request for a list of open-pit mines that have been backfilled with either tailings or waste rock from iron-ore mining. Please see below a table followed by a list of references.

Table. Open-pit Backfill at Iron-Ore Mines

Mining Project	Location	Waste Type	Reference
Arcelor Mittal Minorca	Virginia, Minnesota, USA	Tailings	Schuldt (2020)
Cliffs Erie	Minnesota, USA	Waste rock	LTV Steel (2002)
East Pilbara Iron Ore	Western Australia	Tailings	MINEDEX (2020a-h)
Essar Steel	Near Nashwauk, Minnesota, USA	Overburden, Waste rock	MDNR (2011)
Koolan Island	Western Australia	Waste rock	MINEDEX (2020i-j)
Koolyanobbing Iron	Western Australia	Waste rock	MINEDEX (2020k-l)
Minas Rio	Minas Gerais, Brazil	Waste rock, Tailings	Priscu (2020)
Parker Range – Mt Caudan Iron	Western Australia	Waste rock	MINEDEX (2020m-n)
Phils Creek	Western Australia	Waste rock	MINEDEX (2020o)
Roy Hill Iron Ore	Western Australia	Tailings	MINEDEX (2020p-q)
Samarco	Minas Gerais, Brazil	Tailings	Lima (2020)
Sishen	Near Kathu, Northern Cape Province, South Africa	Waste rock, Tailings	Priscu (2020)
Scram mining in Duncan, Niles, Douglas, and Dunwoody tailings basins	Near Chisolm, Minnesota, USA	Tailings	Barr Engineering (2011)



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- MDNR (Minnesota Department of Natural Resources), 2011. Essar Steel Minnesota Modifications Project—Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, April 2011, 286 p. Available online at:
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Priscu, C., 2020. Global Dam Safety Program and Governance Framework at Anglo American: SME (Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration) Webinar, November 18, 2020.
Schuldt, N., 2020. Personal communication: From Water Projects Coordinator for the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Please note that the only jurisdiction that maintains a database of backfill sites is Western Australia. There are quite likely many more iron-ore open-pit backfill sites than I have listed in the table.

Please let me know if I can help with anything else.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven H. Emerman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steven H. Emerman