



The More You Know, The Less Gold Glows

Troubled Waters: Facts

- **Every year mining companies dump 180 million tonnes of toxic mine waste, also called tailings, into oceans, rivers and lakes.** That is the equivalent of 1.5 times the amount of municipal solid waste that the United States sent to landfills in 2009.
- **Mine waste contains as many as three dozen dangerous chemicals** including arsenic, lead, mercury and processing chemicals such as petroleum byproducts, acids and cyanide.
- Currently, **10 companies dispose of their mine waste into sources of water** at one or more of their hardrock mines, and **27 more have proposed aquatic solutions** to their waste problem.
- **The top four mines that dump tailings into bodies of water account for 86% of the 180 million tonnes dumped into bodies of water each year.** Those mines are
 - Freeport McMoRan and Rio Tinto's Grasberg mine in West Papua, Indonesia, which accounts for approximately 80 million tonnes of tailings;
 - Newmont Sumitomo Mining's Batu Hijau mine in Indonesia, which accounts for approximately 40 million tonnes;
 - Ok Tedi Mining Ltd.'s Ok Tedi mine in Papua New Guinea, which accounts for approximately 22 million tonnes; and
 - Cliff's Mining Company's Wabush/Scully mine in Labrador, Canada, which accounts for 13 million tonnes of tailings.
- **There is no economically viable way to clean up the polluted waters, and in some cases no engineering solution.**

Read *Troubled Waters: How Mine Waste Dumping is Poisoning Our Oceans, Rivers and Lakes*: <http://nodirtygold.org/troubledwaters.cfm>

Visit www.nodirtygold.org for more information.

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