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Waste & Hazardous Materials

Our objective is to minimize all forms of waste generated by our operations and to manage it responsibly. We look for new opportunities to reduce waste, incorporate circular economy approaches, and extend the life cycle of the products we use.

Waste Rock

As part of the environmentally safe management of our waste rock (rock removed from a mine that has no economic value), we identify the short- and long-term risks associated with its storage, including chemical risks such as the risk of metal leaching and acid rock drainage (ARD).

Once we understand the nature and magnitude of the risk, we store the waste rock in specially designed storage facilities based on a waste rock management plan and industry best practices, in order to prevent water contact and mobilization of contaminants.

We also capture any rainfall that contacts waste facilities to prevent migration into the surrounding environment and maintain the geotechnical stability of our waste structures by having them designed and regularly inspected by qualified geotechnical staff and third-party experts.

Hazardous Materials

Through our Environmental Management System, we have programs in place to manage and mitigate all non-mineral waste and hazardous materials across our operational mines and exploration projects.

At Camino Rojo, for example, we use standard industry practices in the transport, storage, and use of various chemicals required for mining and processing. For explosives and cyanide in particular, there are strict regulatory requirements that must be met. All non-mineral waste generated by the site is collected and transported to the on-site

Why it Matters

Responsible management of waste and hazardous materials is critical to protect people and local ecosystems, while reducing risk and environmental liability for our business. Gold mining uses and generates both waste and hazardous materials, which vary depending on the type of mine and operations.



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waste management centre where it is further sorted into hazardous and non-hazardous waste.

Orla complies with all permits and relevant regulatory requirements as a part of everyday operations. The Camino Rojo Hazardous Waste Management Plan was approved by the environmental authority, SEMARNAT in Mexico City. Every year, the operation reports waste management results to the environmental authorities. We conduct inspections and audits to ensure we adhere to our internal standards and regulatory requirements.

Our Camino Rojo site maintains all necessary permits and licenses from the relevant authorities, including the Secretaría de la Defensa Nacional (SEDENA), related to the transport, storage, usage, and disposal of waste, and hazardous materials. Our operational practice is aligned with the International Cyanide Management Code (ICMC) to guide our transport, storage, and use of cyanide in terms of public safety, worker health and safety, and environmental stewardship.

Training and Reporting

We educate our workforce about different types of waste, ways to responsibly manage it, and how to report any environmental incident including spills. Additional training is provided to employees that use hazardous materials, to ensure their safety as well as understanding of the environmental risks associated with the various chemicals used.

Accountability

The Chief Executive Officer has ultimate responsibility for our environmental management and performance. Waste management initiatives and strategies are approved by the Board-level ESHS Committee. Our Chief Operating Officer is responsible for reporting identified risks and opportunities related to waste, and ensuring the sites identify and implement practices to minimize waste and handle it responsibly.

