

**INTERNATIONAL MINE WATER CONFERENCE :**  
**19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009 – CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria,**  
**South Africa**



***William Pulles, Chairman: Conference Organising Committee***

South Africa, together with the rest of Africa, represents a critical resource for a wide range of minerals to drive the world economy. South Africa has a long history of mining and has limited natural water resources, leading to a situation where it also has a number of significant mine water related challenges. With over 10 000 km<sup>2</sup> of hydraulically interlinked coal mines and over 300 km of interlinked gold mines, mine water challenges are not only at local mine level but at regional level too.

The 2009 International Mine Water Conference, hosted jointly by the **Water Institute of Southern Africa's Mine Water Division** and the **International Mine Water Association** will enable persons throughout the world who have an interest in mine water management to learn firsthand how these 21st century challenges are being tackled. The conference promises an outstanding technical programme covering the following technical themes: environmental best practice guidelines – mine closure – active and passive mine water treatment – management of brines and sludges – integrated water resources management – geochemistry and impact prediction – management and rehabilitation of mine residues – water management issues in underground and open pit mining and management of radioactivity in mine water, with over 100 oral and 60 poster papers presented by authors from: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Korea, Netherlands (The), Norway, Poland, Romania, South Africa, Spain, UK, Ukraine and the USA. All papers will be reviewed by a prestigious International Scientific Committee.

Four optional pre-conference training workshops have been developed to take place on the day prior to the conference: 19<sup>th</sup> October:

- Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) for water resource protection in the South African mining industry.
- The Global Acid Rock Drainage (GARD) Guide.
- Innovative strategies for brine reduction and brine management.
- Regulatory approval of proposals for metalliferous tailings disposal facilities development, alteration and closure: a decision support system

Optional post-conference technical tours include visits to:

- The eMalahleni Mine Water Reclamation Plant (a joint initiative between Anglo Coal South Africa and BHP Billiton Energy Coal South Africa (BECSA),
- The Middelburg Mine Passive Mine Water Treatment Plant; and
- The Eland Platinum Mine (Xstrata Alloys)

In addition, a full social programme, sightseeing tours and companions' outings are planned. The 25-page Final Announcement, Conference Registration Form and the Tours & Accommodation Form may be viewed and downloaded from the conference website: [www.wisa.org.za/minewater2009.htm](http://www.wisa.org.za/minewater2009.htm) and the Secretariat may be reached on: [confplan@iafrica.com](mailto:confplan@iafrica.com).

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