



The Indian School of Mines University in association with University of New South Wales and The Australian National University

are pleased to announce a jointly organised

1st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

MANAGING THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF COAL MINING IN INDIA

Venue: New Delhi

Conference Dates: 19–21 November 2007

Abstracts Due: 30 June 2007

Full Papers Due: 1 November 2007

Coal is predicted to be the mainstay of India's stationary energy demand for decades to come, with estimated consumption rising by up to 300 per cent in the next 25 years. Concerns about energy security along with continuing impacts of globalisation and climate change, are leading to significant transformations of the coal mining sector in India. Expansion of coal mining to a scale that is required presents enormous challenges not only in ensuring safe and efficient resource extraction techniques, pollution control and road/rail infrastructure development, but most importantly making the coal sector responsive to emerging social issues related to mining. Enormous challenges in this regard include transparent and responsible community consultation, involvement and participatory development, responsible resettlement and rehabilitation of mine-affected populations, and reassessment of several Government regulations, policies and legal instruments relating to land acquisition and mine operations.

The overall objective of this Conference is to address the social, environmental and accountability measures, mechanisms and policies that will be necessary if India is to achieve its coal-related energy goals in a responsible and sustainable way for the foreseeable future. The specific aim is to investigate whether the Indian coal mining industry is in a position to maintain its 'social license to operate' in its future operations.

The target audience for the Conference includes representatives from:

- mining companies (such as: general managers, mine managers, mine planning engineers, geologists, environmental and community development experts);
- government agencies involved in planning and regulating mining operations;
- organisations interested in minerals development (such as: global and national research and development organisations, academic institutions and non-government organisations);
- the investment community; and
- other stakeholders in the coal mining sector.

Major themes	Likely breakdown of themes/topics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socially Sustainable Practices for the Present and the Future • Environmentally Sound Practices for the Present and the Future • Regulatory Regime, Policies and Acts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influence of international initiatives including the GMI • Benefits and costs of globalisation in the Indian mining industry • Co-management of local resources and partnerships • Social Impact Assessments: needs, existing practices and results • Resettlement and Rehabilitation: current measures and policies • Gender issues—in community development and in labour • Labour and industrial relations issues • Environmental Impact Assessments—making them more comprehensive and consultative • Transparency, accountability and responsible mining • National Policies and Acts: rethinking, critiques and changes • Company Voluntary initiatives including Codes of practice • Applicability of International Leading Practice Models in the Indian context • Road-rail infrastructure development—mine to end-user • Pollution control—who polices and with what powers? • Mine safety initiatives, issues and challenges • Spontaneous combustion and surface and subsurface fires—causes, extent, management • Mine rehabilitation and mine closure

Case studies, highlighting the above themes are welcomed. In particular, company initiatives, demonstrating sustainable development practices and experiences, are highly valued.

Abstracts of **not more than 300 words** should be submitted by email to all contacts as Word documents (Times New Roman font 12, single space, with full contact details) by 30 June '07. Full papers should be between 5-6,000 words and are due by 1 November '07. Please request the style sheet before submitting the full paper. A conference proceeding would be published although the organisers reserve the right to select, invite or reject some papers.

Registration Fee: INR 5000.00 **(NGOs, students and retirees may apply for concessions)**

Payments may be sent to Dr. Gurdeep Singh in the form of a Bank Draft favouring the Registrar, ISM, Dhanbad.

Contacts

<p>Dr. Gurdeep Singh Professor & Head Centre for Mining Environment</p> <p>Indian School of Mines University Dhanbad</p> <p>Tel: +91 326 2206372, Fax: +91 0326 2206372</p> <p>s_gurdeep2001@yahoo.com gurdeep_cme@indiatimes.com</p>	<p>Prof. David Laurence Professor School of Mining Engineering</p> <p>University of New South Wales Sydney</p> <p>Tel: +61 2 9385 4597 Fax: +61 2 9313 7269</p> <p>d.laurence@unsw.edu.au www.mining.unsw.edu.au</p>	<p>Dr Kuntala Lahiri-Dutt Fellow Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies</p> <p>The Australian National University Canberra</p> <p>Tel: +61 2 6125 4343 Fax: +61 2 6125 1635</p> <p>Kuntala.lahiri-dutt@anu.edu.au http://home.netspeed.com.au/kuntala.david</p>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------