

CANADIAN COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT ON THE GLOBAL TAILING REVIEW (23 JANUARY AGENDA ITEM OF SUBCOMMITTEE):

Canada welcomes this process. The standard is focusing on making tailings storage safer for long term impoundment, which, while crucially important, is only one part of the discussion. The review document discusses the dangers and consequences of poor tailings management, but is silent on how to remove/reduce the production of the very thing that causes the harm.

Perhaps the Global Tailing Standards could include:

- A government//industry approach to decommissioned or abandoned tailings sites as they are the most risky in terms of potential collapse
- An emphasis on reducing the amount of tailings produced from current operations
- A goal of developing new projects with tailings elimination in mind from the beginning of the project's lifecycle
- Ultimately work towards zero tailings impoundment (consider tailings a product that may have added value for other products/industries)