

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT DECLARATION FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR QUALITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, NOVEMBER 29th, 2012, CONCERNING THE MINING EXPLORATION PROJECT, "EMILITA" No. 1221, "CIUDAD DE LANDRO" No. 1454 AND "CIUDAD DEL MASMA" No. 1445, KNOWN AS "GRUPO MINEIRO CORCOESTO", LOCATED IN THE COUNCILS OF CABANA DE BERGANTIÑOS, CORISTANCO AND PONTECESO. PROMOTED BY CORCOESTO MINING, SL (KEY 2011/0169)

BACKGROUND

On the 24th June 2011 the Ministry for Environmental Planning and Infrastructure, submitted by the Department of Industry, Energy and Mining, as the authorized body, received the initial document "*Environmental Impact Assessment. Exploration Project for a Gold Site in Corcoesto, A Coruña, May 2011*", sent by Rio Narcea Gold Mines Ltd, today known as Mineira de Corcoesto, SL, in order to start the process of environmental impact assessment.

The presented project refers to exploration work for auriferous mineralization and later in plant treatment for the recovery of gold, carried out over 391.8 hectares, mainly through a license for "Emilita" No. 1221, and partly through two other licenses for "Cuidad de Landro", No. 1454, and "Cuidad de Masma", No. 1455, excluding the southern landfill and tailing ponds from the licensed area.

On the 12th July 2011 the project is described as submitted to the Environmental Impact Assessment procedure and as being included in Annex I, Group 2, Section 1, 2, 6, and 8 of the Royal Decree, Law 1/2008 of January 11th, for which the revised text in the Law on the Environmental Impact Assessment Project is approved (BOE No 23 of 26th January 2008).

On the 22nd August 2011, in order to give approval to article 8 of the aforesaid Royal Decree, the following bodies and associations were consulted:

Body / Association	Received	Not received
Director General for Nature Conservation		X
Department of Sustainability and Landscape (now the Institute of Territory Studies)	X	
Augas de Galicia	X	
Department of Innovation and Public Health Management	X	
General Directorate of Cultural Heritage	X	
Galician Environmental Federation	X	
Galician Society of Natural History	X	
Galician Society of Ornithology		X
Greenpeace		X
Cabana de Bergantiños Council	X	
Coristanco Council		X
Ponteceso Council		X

On the 15th December 2011 this far-reaching document, together with the reports received, is sent to the authorized body so that the promoter would be able to include the consultation results in the EIA to be written up.

On March 27th 2012 the following documents were received:

1. Gold exploration project in the Corcoesto mine, Volume I: Report and Annexes (December 2011).
2. Gold exploration project in the Corcoesto mine, Volume II: Plans (December 2011).
3. Restoration plan for the Corcoesto mine exploration project (December 2011).
4. Environmental Impact Study for the Corcoesto gold mine project (December 2011).

Once the documentation received had been checked, the Secretariat General for Quality and Environmental Assessment found that it could proceed with the public consultation process, notifying the authorized body on April 10th, 2012.

In compliance with that established in the law, dated May 2nd, 2012, the resolution of 20th April 2012, from the Department of Industry, Energy and Mining is published in the Official Bulletin of Galicia (DOGA) (No 83), which states the exploration project is to be submitted to public consultation together with the study of environmental impact and the restoration plan for the "exploration licenses" for "Emilita No. 1221,"Cuidad de Landro, No. 1454" and "Cuidad del Masma, No. 1455", forming the better known Grupo Mineiro Corcoesto", located in the councils of Ponteceso, Cabana de Bergantiños and Coristanco, in the province of A Coruña and promoted by Narcea Gold Mines SL (today Mineira de Corcoesto, SL) as a strategic industrial project, according to Law 13/2011, dated December 16th, which is the law regulating the industrial policy in Galicia.

During this public consultation period the TreceCatorce Association for Cultural Sport and Ecology, the Galician Society for Natural History, Verdegaiá, EQUO, Adegá, Save Monteferro, Galicia not for sale, municipal groups from the PSOE of the municipal councils of Cabana de Bergantiños, Coristanco and Ponteceso, the Iribo Cultural Association and 65 individuals presented allegations. This declaration has taken into account the allegations received in terms of their considerations of an environmental nature, their answers being in **Annex III** of this EID.

On 5th September 2012 the authorized body sent the environmental record including the public consultation certificate together with the following reports from the various bodies consulted:

Consulted Body	Received	Not Received
Department of Cultural Heritage		x
Department for Nature Conservation		x
Secretary General for Urban and Spatial Planning	X	
Department of Landscape (now the Institute of Territorial Studies)		x
The Forestry Commission	X	
Department of Agricultural Production	X	
Department for Innovation and Public Health Management.	X	
Auqas de Galicia	X	
Cabana de Bergantiños Council	X	

Coristanco Council	X	
Ponteceso Council	X	
The Bureau for Waste and Contaminated Soil	X	

On the 16th and 26th October and the 8th and 21st November, 2012, reports from the Institute of Territorial Studies, the Directorate General for Nature Conservation and Cultural Heritage and from the Bureau for Waste and Contaminated Soils, were received, completing the record.

Having completed this requirement, the Secretariat General for Quality and Environmental Assessment, under the responsibility granted by Decree 44/2012 of 19th January, establishes the organizational structure of the Department of the Environment, Land Planning and Infrastructure, and formulates the Environmental Impact Declaration for the Exploration Project license for "Emilita", No. 1221, "Cuidad de Landro", No. 1454 and " Cuidad del Masma", No. 1454, promoted by Mineira de Corcoesto, SL.

Annex I of this Declaration includes a summary of the expected actions, **Annex II** includes the protective, corrective and compensatory measures of the EIA, **Annex III** includes a summary of the environmental allegations and the promoter's responses, **Annex IV** establishes the parameters and analysis frequency to be taken into account in the "Water Quality Control Plan" and **Annex V** will show a map of the project area.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT DECLARATION

Having examined the documentation from this file, the Secretariat General for Quality and Environmental Assessment considers that the project is environmentally viable, provided that the conditions established in the present EID, in addition to those included in the documents reviewed are adhered to. In the case that there is contradiction between the provisions in the documents reviewed and the provisions of this Declaration, the established in the latter will prevail.

In addition to the required compliance with the provisions of this EID, should there be any kind of impact that has not been considered thus far, this environmental body, on its own initiative or at the proposal of the authorized body, may issue additional conditions to the environmental effects set forth herein.

These conditions may be reviewed ex officio or at the request of the promoter in order to incorporate steps to provide greater environmental protection. In addition, the promoter may request a review in the cases which present serious technological difficulties in its implementation or involves major changes in the activity, provided that the new measures allow for the achievement of the objectives and aims in the EID. In this case the promoter will propose the new measures or conditions to the environmental body, presenting a request for modification of the conditions established in the Environmental Impact Declaration and / or EIA, providing all the necessary information to justify the difficulty to comply with the approved conditions in this EID and a list of the new measures to comply with or improve the objectives set out in the EID.

1.- SCOPE OF THE DECLARATION

This current Declaration exclusively refers to the exploration work that, according to the project sent by the Directorate General of Industry, Energy and Mines will be performed in an area of 391 hectares and in 80 areas, within the perimeter reflected in the attached **Annex V** and with the following boundaries in UTM coordinates:

Vertex	U.T.M. Coordinates Datum: ED 50/H29	
	Coordinate X	Coordinate Y
1	513.086	4.784.917
2	513.086	4.789.943
3	513.115	4.784.984
4	513.104	4.785.018
5	513.066	4.785.018
6	513.026	4.785.042
7	512.882	4.785.338
8	512.894	4.785.350
9	512.986	4.785.215
10	513.082	4.785.054
11	513.125	4.785.022
12	513.134	4.785.147
13	513.203	4.785.147
14	513.238	4.785.294
15	513.261	4.785.506
16	513.364	4.785.562
17	513.469	4.785.583
18	513.553	4.785.590
19	513.650	4.785.648
20	513.701	4.785.684
21	513.714	4.785.794
22	513.701	4.785.848
23	513.720	4.785.895
24	513.758	4.785.925
25	513.774	4.785.941
26	513.787	4.785.965
27	513.789	4.785.988
28	513.803	4.786.024
29	513.764	4.786.069
30	513.764	4.786.069
31	513.726	4.786.094
32	513.615	4.786.080
33	513.550	4.786.110
34	513.480	4.786.151
35	513.484	4.786.208
36	513.532	4.786.276
37	513.608	4.786.326

Vertex	U.T.M.Coordinates Datum: ED 50/H29	
	Coordinate X	Coordinate Y
38	513.760	4.786.442
39	513.802	4.786.442
40	513.808	4.786.451
41	513.855	4.786.442
42	513.897	4.786.430
43	513.939	4.786.455
44	513.995	4.786.467
45	514.095	4.786.471
46	514.198	4.786.454
47	514.229	4.786.420
48	514.259	4.786.074
49	514.145	4.785.993
50	514.343	4.785.933
51	514.440	4.785.900
52	514.507	4.785.853
53	514.582	4.785.843
54	514.654	4.785.805
55	514.682	4.785.642
56	514.680	4.785.592
57	514.618	4.785.468
58	514.589	4.785.339
59	514.534	4.785.214
60	514.659	4.785.220
61	517.767	4.785.229
62	514.752	4.785.129
63	514.762	4.785.041
64	514.785	4.785.007
65	514.780	4.784.957
66	514.703	4.784.924
67	514.588	4.784.929
68	514.576	4.784.805
69	514.627	4.784.805
70	514.735	4.784.712
71	514.825	4.784.664
72	514.848	4.784.497
73	514.842	4.784.443
74	514.830	4.784.386
75	514.851	4.784.308
76	514.866	4.784.203
77	514.852	4.784.112
78	514.879	4.784.090
79	514.903	4.784.050
80	514.901	4.783.983
81	514.893	4.783.906
82	514.916	4.783.871
83	514.961	4.783.868

Vertex	U.T.M. Coordinates Datum: ED 50/H29	
	Coordinate X	Coordinate Y
84	514.986	4.783.879
85	515.000	4.783.857
86	514.975	4.783.828
87	514.932	4.783.820
88	514.897	4.783.841
89	514.873	4.783.883
90	514.865	4.783.929
91	514.878	4.784.000
92	514.877	4.784.057
93	514.842	4.784.066
94	514.745	4.783.982
95	514.712	4.783.954
96	514.611	4.783.962
97	514.564	4.783.951
98	514.470	4.783.897
99	514.415	4.783.835
100	514.354	4.783.730
101	514.273	4.783.660
102	514.130	4.783.565
103	514.021	4.783.490
104	513.995	4.783.386
105	513.861	4.783.147
106	513.852	4.783.090
107	513.877	4.782.928
108	513.884	4.782.713
109	513.739	4.782.674
110	513.618	4.782.705
111	513.517	4.782.735
112	513.488	4.782.724
113	513.487	4.782.675
114	513.462	4.782.657
115	513.429	4.782.698
116	513.400	4.782.818
117	513.433	4.782.891
118	513.522	4.783.006
119	513.529	4.783.140
120	513.489	4.783.153
121	513.468	4.783.192
122	513.442	4.783.368
123	513.489	4.783.511
124	513.488	4.783.566
125	513.470	4.783.613
126	513.397	4.783.639
127	513.376	4.783.649
128	513.357	4.783.702
129	513.421	4.783.726

Vertex	U.T.M. Coordinate Datum: ED 50/H29	
	Coordinate X	Coordinate Y
130	513.480	4.783.725
131	513.526	4.783.742
132	513.569	4.783.802
133	513.576	4.783.849
134	512.571	4.783.915
135	513.549	4.784.021
136	513.556	4.784.157
137	513.540	4.784.243
138	513.503	4.784.228
139	513.457	4.784.105
140	513.363	4.784.148
141	513.361	4.784.209
142	513.263	4.784.176
143	513.197	4.784.176
144	513.132	4.784.202
145	513.076	4.784.315
146	513.042	4.784.405
147	513.051	4.784.510
148	513.034	4.784.536
149	513.016	4.784.592
150	512.999	4.784.592
151	512.995	4.784.838

2.- ATMOSPHERIC PROTECTION

1. The sound pressure levels from the mining activities shall comply with the current regulations, considering where applicable, the municipal ordinance provisions.

Should the limits indicated in the aforementioned regulations be exceeded the company shall take all the proper protective, corrective and compensatory steps required.

Likewise, the plan for monitoring the noise level proposed in the EIA will be carried out by taking into account the results from the performed preoperational campaign that should be incorporated into the environmental monitoring reports. These will be compared with the data obtained in each monitoring period.

Noise measurements will be conducted by accredited and authorized companies for the purpose of.

2. In terms of dust emission, control measures indicated in the environmental impact study will be carried out.

3.-SOIL PROTECTION

Soil protection shall be subject to that specified in the protective and remedial measures referred to in the documentation reviewed, clarified by the following:

1. It is recommended to sow the surrounding topsoil with plants to be used in the restoration, these being plant species of rapid deployment and easy rooting to encourage the land's settlement, and thus avoiding, as far as possible, landslides.

The sowing should be carried out at the end of summer or the beginning of the fall so they will be well rooted before the arrival of rain. In the following years, given the case, legumes could be planted to fix nitrogen to the land.

Also, the topsoil should have a perimeter ditch to prevent erosion of the bank and possible reductions due to landslides.

The legumes will be inoculated with Rhizobium. Gorse and Broom will be sowed independently.

2. Compost, in the restoration phase, will be the following:

- a. The fertilizer doses will be calculated based on previous analysis of the soils to which they will be applied.
- b. The contribution of organic fertilizers will be laid before sowing and in the appropriate weather conditions.

4.-WATER PROTECTION AND THE ASSOCIATED ELEMENTS

4.1.- Formulation phase.

1. Any action or affection of public water, in the area of service and police service, as well as any acquisition or seepage will need the authorization or permission from the authorized river basin body - Augas de Galicia. In this respect, all the limitations and other requirements established by the Royal Legislative Decree 1/2001 of 20th July should be taken into account. This decree approves the revised text of the Water Act and the Regulations of the Public Hydraulic Domain (RD 849 / 1986 of April 11th, amended by RD 606/2003 of 23rd May).

4.2.- Exploration phase.

1. For road transportation of goods required for the process, roads will be chosen that are as far away as possible from the water channels that flow their water directly into River Anllóns.

2. Any type of spill that may affect the quality of inland waters is prohibited. Therefore, in the earthworks stage, in areas close to the river system, there will be landslide control systems on the material removed as a result of mining work by installing sediment filters. As a consequence of the inland waters possibly being affected (River Anllóns) by the project's implementation, (even in dry weather), article 80, which establishes the minimum quality of inland waters, will be complied with, (Decree 130/1997, May 14th, approving the regulations of river fishing management and continental aquatic ecosystems). To control this aspect, automatic meters for the fundamental parameters of water quality (pH, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, COD, BOD5, and temperature) must be installed. The results from the inspection covers in the decantation tanks will be sent to Augas de Galicia with the frequency specified in **Annex IV** in this EID.

3. In no case will any oils, fuels, cement and other solids in suspension coming from the plant seep directly onto the ground or into waterways. Steps will be taken to prevent these situations.

4. In order to prevent erosive phenomena and the seepage of solids into water, there shall be a stabilizing and a revegetation of the slopes and / or embankments of new paths as the work progresses. Also, artificial forms will be avoided in the modeling of slopes so the change of slope is gradual, which will favor its integration into the landscape.

5. Steps shall be taken to minimize erosion of roads and ditches. Similarly, energy dissipaters and sediment barriers will be placed at runoff points from roads.

6. Any disorder that may occur in the river systems and their surroundings should be corrected so as to ensure their protection and conservation. In addition to the protections derived from the laws

above, Law 5/2006, of June 30th, for the protection, conservation and improvement of the Galician rivers will be applied.

5.- WASTE MANAGEMENT.

At different stages the project (preoperational, exploration and restoration), the proper management of waste must be ensured, complying with the following aspects that are enunciated in general:

1. The principle of hierarchy: the principle of hierarchy must be adhered to, as is established in article 8 of Law 22/2011, so that the company shall only be able to send non-recoverable fractions to the landfill. The company is to provide recyclable fractions to authorized waste managers in order to be treated, as is stated in the exploration project in reference to the dismantling of facilities "the material coming from dismantling actions will be taken to authorized landfill sites, adhering to the Royal Decree 105/2008, February 1st, which regulates the production and management of construction and demolition waste.
2. Recycling centre: The project foresees the creation of a recycling centre next to the workshop, where all waste from the workshop, laboratory and other non-mining waste coming from the exploration will be placed. It will have a non-permeable threshold and containers.
3. Registration obligations:
 - a. As 10 t or more of hazardous waste is expected to be generated, according to the documentation provided, registration in the General Registry of Producers and Managers of Waste Materials in Galicia as a producer of hazardous waste must be carried out.
 - b. Should the production of hazardous waste be inferior to the said amount the company will have to be registered in the Registry as a Small Producer of Hazardous Waste.
 - c. Also, should the production be the same or above 1000 t a year of non-mining, non-hazardous waste, it will have to be registered in the Registry as a Producer of Non-Hazardous Waste.
4. Domestic Waste: according to article 12 of Law 22/2011, the local authority will be able to manage domestic waste coming from the industrial activity as the municipal ordinance establishes, without prejudice to the producer company being able to manage the waste itself, according to article 17.3 of the aforesaid Law.
5. Waste transportation: All waste transfer from the place of production to the waste management facilities will have to be carried out by a licensed waste carrier, registered in the General Registry of Producers and Managers of Waste Materials in Galicia or in the Registry of the Autonomous Community, where the company has its headquarters, in order to carry out this activity (transportation of hazardous or non-hazardous waste), depending on the nature of the waste. All waste transportation must meet, in order to check traceability management, Decree 59/2009 of 26th February, which regulates the traceability of waste.
6. At the moment of dismantling, the existing waste must be classified, taken and given to the authorized managers in the shortest period of time.

6 – FAUNA PROTECTION, VEGETATION AND PROTECTED SPACES

The project's location is formed by a group of small valleys and hills, populated mainly by pine and eucalyptus trees and small patches of meadows, with some scattered native trees.

6.1.-Formulation phase

1. Before work commencement a survey of the interesting flora and fauna in the project's area and in the aquatic ecosystem must be carried out.

These surveys will be sent, before work starts, to the Directorate General of Nature Conservation for analysis and, depending on the results, take the necessary steps to prevent any significant change in species. In this sense, it must be mentioned that in the old mining galleries the *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum* species may be found, which would make a specific survey to determine its presence necessary, and, in that case, should it be affected by the project, the correct steps will be taken with the agreement from the Directorate General of Nature Conservation. The same would be the case if flora of interest is found, such as *Narcissus triandrus*.

2. In relation to the times for the cutting and clearing of vegetation, it is suitable for it to be done out of the bird breeding season as this time is the most representative and sensitive time for most vertebrates.
3. In order to analyze the evolution of the exploration and its impact on the natural environment, the following program must be performed in order to monitor and control the flora and fauna that can potentially be affected by the exploration activity. This program will include six-monthly reports during the first two years of activity, later followed by yearly or two-yearly reports (if there are not any incidences to report on the natural values) during the exploration activity or the process of the material's treatment

The aforementioned reports, which reflect the main results, will be presented before the General Directorate for Nature Conservation to be assessed on the basis of its findings in the case and steps applied to avoid or minimize impacts on habitats and / or changes in the species.

4. The new course of the Lourido stream will be constructed in the most naturalized way, with successive backwaters and rapids and the building of spawning for inventoried species in the area's rivers. Also, there will be the establishment of riparian vegetation along the course of the stream; proper of the region's biogeography, which constitutes habitat 91EO *.

The diversion of the Lourido's course shall be subject to the following:

- The contribution of the new course to River Anllóns must be minimal.
 - Naturalization of the course and riparian vegetation must be fast (e.g. initiating work with the layout of the course).
5. As the implementation of the project will affect the habitats of community interest outside the Natura Network 2000 (4030 and 91EO *) the Restoration Plan should consider compensatory measures in order to restore and enhance the surfaces of these habitats, which will be removed during the exploration phase.
 6. Should there be some significant negative incidence in protected natural spaces, in habitats of community interest and protected species, there will be the necessary actions or appropriate compensatory measures to correct the affects and the Directorate General of Nature Conservation will decide on a solution and the correct compensatory measures (including the cessation of works until the observed deficiencies are solved). In this case, the promoter would be required to cover the cost, the environment elements that may be affected by the works and restore everything to its original splendor.

6.1.1. Forest land.

1. There is not any neighborhood or public forest in the affected area

6.1.2. – Animal Crossings.

1. If some of the paths need cattle grids to prevent the passage of livestock there must be measures provided to facilitate the escape of small vertebrates that might fall into the pit and may consist of, without prejudice to other equally effective measures, ramps, a gap with one or with two open sides or drainage channels that allow the escape of small animals.

6.2- Exploration Phase.

Prior to the work of cutting trees and clearing bush and the formation of grasses, the absence of bird and fauna nesting must be checked in the areas indicated. If present, the correct steps will be taken so that they can successfully complete the reproductive period. In particular, the presence of birds of prey (several tree nesting species have been detected in the area (*Milvus milvus*) and other ground nesting (*Circus pygargus*) or any other species that are under endangered species protection.

7.- PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Directorate General of Cultural Heritage finds in favor of the project if the protective and corrective measures specified in the impact assessment on cultural heritage are fulfilled, especially the following:

1. Changing the layout of the "Track W" as well as the position and occupation of landfill to lessen the impact on the environment of the Castro Corcoesto archaeological site (GA15,014,016), included in the general inventory of cultural heritage.

Prior to work commencement, the promoter of the project will present a new proposal for this area which should include a favorable report from the Directorate General of Cultural Heritage. This should be accompanied by cartographic documentation, at a representative scale, which shows the cross layout, the sections and the location of the heritage asset, its area of protection, and the new layout of the road and the occupation of the landfill site.

2. There must be archaeological control and monitoring during the planning, work and land restitution phases. To this end, an archaeological project will be presented, in accordance with Decree 199/1997 of 10th July, regulating the archaeological activity in the Autonomous Community of Galicia (DOGA no. 150 of 08.06.1997).
3. The compatibility of the mining exploration, regarding the actions expected in the protection area of the archaeological site **Mina da Capela de Santa Mariña** (GA 15014048), included in the general inventory of cultural heritage, will be conditional, depending on the results of a specific archaeological study. In any case, the Vial S, which directly affects the protected area of the heritage asset, will have to be planned again and be as far away as possible from the heritage site.

As stated in the assessment submitted in the specific study, there will be a clearing without removing the topsoil and the affected area. Once the clearing is finished an archaeological survey of this area will be carried out.

Prior to work commencement, the project promoter shall submit a report to the Directorate General of Cultural Heritage, a document that will compile the results of the study as well as the proposals for work to be carried out in the area.

4. Archaeological surveys must be carried out in the "mound areas" affected by the mining project.
5. In the sent assessment there is no mention of an element called "Marco do Monte Pedroso" which is in a form from the Directorate General of Cultural Heritage. This is a stone marker of about 1.3 m tall. Prior to the work commencement a study must be carried out to check its cultural value and, if appropriate, to adopt the correct protective measures.
6. In accordance with the proposal contained in the assessment, due to the occupation of the Lourido stream and its deviation, it will be necessary to transfer the following, directly affected ethnographic elements: E09 (Mill 1 of the Lourido Stream), E36 (Mill 3, Lourido stream), remaining the other two, of which there are only remains, pending a new assessment once the covering vegetation is removed, E17 (Lourido Stream Bridge), E19 (Mill 2, Lourido stream), E37 (Mill 4 Lourido stream) and E38 (Fulling Mill - Lourido stream).

For this purpose, prior to dismantling the elements, the promoter will present a proposal for the new course of the Lourido stream, which will define its technical and environmental characteristics and

also the location proposal for the elements to be transferred. In any case, the corresponding technical projects of dismantling, moving and assembly must be accompanied by a favorable report from the Directorate General of Cultural Heritage.

7. The work plans must include the elements included in the assessment catalogue on cultural heritage and its protection areas, established by the urban regulations from the affected councils and thereby in article 30 Article 30 of NN.CC.DD., planning (DOGA no. 72, 04.16.1991).
8. As a generic measure in the protected areas of cultural heritage assets, no work related to the project can be performed (machinery, huts, stockpiles of land and materials)
9. On the basis of the results of the archaeological work the Directorate General of Cultural Heritage, as the competent body, will decide on the suitability of establishing other protection measures.

8.- LANDSCAPE INTEGRATION

1. The design of the project has taken into account the Impact Study and Landscape Integration, included in the Environmental Impact Study, especially that concerning the reshaping of the slopes, the restoration of the vegetation and the conversion of the four decantation tanks into artificial wetlands.
2. All the steps indicated in the EIA for landscape integration of an artificial lake formed in the Petón do Lobo void.
3. In terms of the species used in the restoration:
 - The species will be autochthonous, being always ever-present for their planting in the particular climatic circumstances of the area to be restored and they must come (whether they be trees or shrubs, bushes and herbaceous) from the same or similar area. They must follow the biogeographic, lithological, potential vegetation and climatic criteria. The provisions of the Order of March 17th, 2005, from the Department of the Environment, which establishes the definition and choice of the basic materials for the production of forestry materials and different species in the territory of the Autonomous Community of Galicia must be taken into account.
 - The species must be compatible with the habitat in which they are going to be implemented. The habitat, location or season will be defined by the interdependence and interrelation of climate, physiographic factors (topography, slopes, altitude, exposure), soil or substrate (profile, texture, fauna and flora, nutrient cycles, etc.), and biotic factors.
 - The species must be compatible with each other, in space and time, by applying the appropriate treatments, and, that is to say, the intra and inter-specific competition between the planted species must allow for the success of the restoration, using all necessary treatments in order to achieve this goal (clearings, furrows etc.).
 - The diversity of the restoration area must be maximized, always keeping in mind the surface to be restored and the habitats present.

9.- GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. The project will run according to the documentation provided by strictly applying all protective, corrective and compensatory measures as well as the environmental monitoring program and the restoration plan.
2. In order to protect the natural areas LIC (site of community importance) and ZEPVN (special protection area) "River Anllóns" and to safeguard the natural values from significant and direct mining conditions the mining exploration will maintain a distance of 140 m from the "River Anllóns"

LIC and the diversion of road CP- 1405 will be 120 meters, and no other infrastructure or facility will be allowed in the River Anllóns protection area.

3. The company must have the plans and protocols, established in Royal Decree 975/2009 of 12th June, on waste management for extractive industries and on the protection and restoration of the area affected by mining activities.
4. The company will have financial guarantees and sign the liability insurance listed in articles 32 and 33 of Law 3/2008 of 23rd May, Galician mining law.
5. The project will ensure the structural stability that forms the tailing ponds, as well as its water-tightness and impermeability.
6. To ensure the stability of the tailing ponds' containment dams, the following steps, among others, will be taken into account:
 - a. Monitoring of the quantity and quality of materials to maintain height and sloping angles of the wall in order to make it stable. A good stability will be obtained with slope 3h: 1V.
 - b. In the deposit's interior there must be a sand beach, as large as possible, in order to keep the clear water lake away from the wall.
 - c. The clearance between the top of the wall and the height of the clear water lake must be a minimum of 2 meters.
 - d. There must be a routine check to detect any deformation or settlements, abnormal wall leaks or the presence of cracks etc.
 - e. There must be a comprehensive topographic control of the geometry of the tailing ponds' dams. In this respect, a permanent topographic network that can be checked at any time for any displacements of dams will be established.
7. The activity to be carried out in the treatment plant is included in epigraph 2.5a of annex 1 of Law 16/2002, 1st July, on pollution prevention and control. Therefore, this facility must have integral environmental authorization, in the terms established in the aforesaid Law.
8. The company will evaluate the risk analysis in accordance with the methodology established in regulation of partial development in Law 26/2007, of October 23rd, Environmental Responsibility, approved by Royal Decree 2090/2008 of 22nd December, as well as the UNE regulation 150 008 or any other equivalent.
9. The company shall notify the Secretariat General for Quality and Environmental Assessment on a yearly basis, on the date established by this body, giving precise information for the elaboration and update of the European Registry for Emissions and Pollutant Release.
10. The slurry leaching pond will be encapsulated at the end of its useful life.
11. Prior to commencing activity in the treatment plant the promoter must join the "*International Code for Cyanide Management for Manufacture, Transfer and Use of Cyanide in the Production of Gold*", thus fulfilling the established procedure regulations and principles.
12. The storage of supplies for the activity must be maintained in good condition in order to avoid risks to the environment and people; storage areas must have:
 - a. Waterproof and non-slip floors.
 - b. Retention pools with a capacity to contain any spills.
 - c. There must be dry outlets in order to avoid spills in the transfer of bulk materials.

10 - MONITORING PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

10.1.-Formulation Phase

10.1.1. Cultural Heritage.

1. In relation to the protection of cultural heritage, the reports and projects required in point “**7-Protection of Cultural Heritage**” of this Declaration will be sent to the Directorate General for Cultural Heritage. Work shall not commence until approval has been given to the assessed documentation by the Directorate.

10.1.2. The drafting of a monitoring program and environmental monitoring.

1. The program of **Environmental Surveillance and Monitoring** proposed in the EIA, considering all the circumstances of impacts that can arise throughout the formulation phase, all proposed and derived from the fulfillment of the subject in this EID and with the "Water Quality Control Plan" that must be completed.
 - The aforesaid program will be carried out with the aim of guaranteeing, over time, the corrective and protective steps established in the EIA and in the Declaration, and new corrective measures will be carried out depending on any new problem that should arise.
 - A set of executable actions are integrated into the documents, including those relating to environmental actions and the heritage assets that must be properly reflected in the appropriately scaled plans and be provided with the relevant budget.
 - The "*Water Quality Control Plan*" will include the control measures proposed in the Environmental Impact Assessment Study, submitted and adding those derived from the report by the Directorate-General for Nature Conservation and the proposals in **Annex IV** in this EID.
 - In the new "Water Quality Control Plan" control, points will be established and the list of parameters that will be controlled shall be documented by the discharge authorization and a discharge declaration to be presented in due course. The concentration of each of these discharge parameters resulting from the activity must indicate the average values and the daily maximum. It must express its concentration in mg/l and its load in kg/day. In addition, the parameters of these lists will also be referred to in the definition of conditional discharge limits of the authorized discharge.
 - Also, the "Water Quality Control Plan" will include the following:
 - A proposal of a piezometric perimeter network in the slurry flotation and leaching ponds.
 - Pre-operational controls of the parameters established in Annex IV.
 - Justification through a specific study or through a simulation model of water quality which will not affect the water quality in the receiving environment, taking into account the composition of all waters produced in the exploration, coming from the mining voids, from the landfill and from the foreseen drainage.
 - A study of the elements present in the groundwater in the area, which can worsen the water quality for human consumption, must include:
 - Natural characteristics of the water in the area and what type of process is causing the condition.
 - If these processes are, or are not, related to human activities.
 - Both real and potentially possible steps to be taken (possible drinking water treatment, search for alternative supplies etc.) depending on the magnitude of the problem.

2. The authorized body will be responsible for the program that will eventually be developed, allowing the achievement of the purposes stated above. Also, the following considerations will be taken into account:
 - With the aim of achieving maximum co-ordination and efficiency in the fulfillment of this declaration, the company must appoint a qualified person to oversee the fulfillment of this Declaration.
 - All the measurements and/or analytics of the program – **Surveillance and Environmental Monitoring** will be carried out by accredited, authorized inspection bodies or accredited and approved bodies and the results will be signed by a technician from same authorized body.
 - The environmental indicators must be given for all stages, the control frequency and limits (permissible, warning and unacceptable) which will be used in each case.
 - The samples and measurements, which will be taken by accredited companies under UNE-EN-ISO 17020 or UNE-EN-ISO 17025, must be representative. Due to this fact, the samples will be taken during work on the major incidences.
 - If, during the program of **Surveillance and Environmental Monitoring**, unforeseen impacts or alterations are detected and exceed the limits established in the applicable legislation, the authorized body will propose the suitable corrective measures needed to emend. If there are severe or critical environmental impacts the Secretariat General for Quality and Environmental Assessment must be informed.

10.2.-Exploration Phase and Closure

Environmental Monitoring Program

1. The Directorate General of Industry, Energy and Mines shall be responsible for the surveillance and environmental monitoring program to be carried out and for the stated in this EID. As the authorized body, it will be liable to article 18 of the Royal Legislative Decree 1/2008, 11th January, which approves the revised text in the Environmental Impact Assessment Law for projects.

In each stage the following monitoring reports will be completed, with minimum content, as shown below:

10.2.1 “Preparatory Work” Phase

Quarterly

- Description of the actions carried out and a timeline of the work done and to be done until the following report.
- Environmental monitoring report carried out and fulfilling that established in the environmental study and established in this EID.

In this report, the results of the protective, corrective or compensatory measures, incidences or unforeseen events, variations in the project, restoration work, site waste management, etc. must be specified. On the whole, the report will show the fulfillment of the Declaration in all aspects considered herein.
- A detailed photographic report and cross layout plans showing the most important environmental aspects, together with the protective and corrective measures adopted.
- A copy of the generated environmental documentation (environmental procedures performed during the quarter, justification for the proper management of waste ... etc.)

10.2.2. Exploration Phase.

Biannually

- Description of the activities carried out and timeline of the work done and to be done until the following report.

- Environmental monitoring report carried out and fulfilling that established in the environmental study and established in this EID.
- In this report, the results of the protective, corrective or compensatory measures, incidences or unforeseen events, variations in the project, restoration work, site waste management, etc. must be specified. On the whole, the report will show the fulfillment of the Declaration in all aspects considered herein.
- A detailed photographic report and cross layout plans showing the most important environmental aspects, together with the protective and corrective measures adopted.
- A copy of the generated environmental documentation (environmental procedures performed during the biannual, justification for the proper management of waste ... etc.)

10.2.3. Closure.

1. Once the exploration activity has finished, the following documentation must be submitted:
 - a- A description of the exploration at the moment of closure. This document shall be accompanied by photographs and plans on a sufficient scale, a description of the restoration works done and an EID compliance report thus far.
 - b- Work to be carried out for the exploration's closure (a timeline for the work to be done, including the backfilling of the void must be included). A proposal for protective, corrective, compensatory measures, together with a closure plan, including these measures, must be completed.
2. Biannually
 - Description of the activities carried out and timeline of the work done and to be done until the following report.
 - Environmental monitoring report carried out and fulfilling that established in the environmental study and established in this EID and the actions indicated by the promoter in the **closure plan**.
 - A detailed photographic report and cross layout plans showing the most important environmental aspects, together with the protective and corrective measures adopted.
 - A copy of the generated environmental documentation (environmental procedures performed during the biannual, justification for the proper management of waste ... etc.)

In the first quarter of each natural year, the authorized body will send the Secretariat General for Quality and Environmental Assessment a report on the fulfillment of this Declaration.

If during the program of **Surveillance and Environmental Monitoring**, or as far as this EID is concerned, unforeseen impacts or alterations exceeding the limits established by applicable law or this Declaration are detected, Mineira de Corcoesto SL will propose the suitable corrective measures required to emend. If there are severe or critical environmental impacts the Secretariat General for Quality and Environmental Assessment must be informed.

Santiago de Compostela, 29th November 2012

Secretary General for Quality and Environmental Assessment

Justo de Benito Basanta

ANNEX I

SUMMARY OF EXPECTED ACTION

1.- Objective and Location

The presented project consists of an open-pit gold mining exploration project in the Corcoesto mining site, in the councils of Cabana de Bergantiños, Coristanco and Ponteceso.

The open-pit mining exploration is planned for a period of little more than 8 years, which as a rule will average 1.6 g / t, meaning an expected total of 1,095 million ounces of gold.

This project expects an annual extraction to the order of 2,100,000 t of ore and an average of 9,000,000 m³ tailings.

2.- Surface Concessions

Once the prospection is done, those having more technical and environmental problems were discarded, thus reducing the project to:

- Southern open-pit: Corresponding to the union between the Cova Crea, Pozo do Inglés and Petón do Lobo voids, over a total surface of 77 hectares and 10 areas.
- Northern open-pit: This covers a surface of 25 hectares and 85 areas, corresponding to the Picoto-Fonterremula void.

3.- Exploration Design

The geographic-mining research carried out in Corcoesto has shown the existence of several ore bodies. The gold mineralization is mainly linked to veins and seams which are grouped in strips and follow a N70°E direction, constituting the main ore bodies in the mining site. In accordance with the ore's distribution, the project area can be subdivided into 5 independent mining sectors.

1. Pozo do Inglés.
2. Petón do Lobo.
3. Cova Crea.
4. Fonterrémula-Montefurado
5. Picotos-Lamprieira.

As stated in the previous point, only the exploration of sectors in Cova Crea, Petón do Lobo, Pozo do Inglés and Picotos-Fonterremula is expected.

4.- Alternatives

Two options were initially proposed for this mining exploration; underground mining or open-pit mining. After considering all the aspects it was decided to choose the option of open-pit for the main points that are as follows:

1. The existence of various independent ore bodies, requiring a greater interior mining infrastructure for the exploration of such a given tonnage.
2. Given the widespread nature of the mineralization, the exploitable limits are geochemical and are conditioned by the cut-off grade.
3. The proximity of the mineralization to the surface.

4. The low efficiency and lateral continuity of the high grade areas.

Once the type of mining to be carried out had been defined, the location of the landfill sites and tailing ponds had to be considered: the alternatives of either *Val do Lourido* or *Val do Batán*.

The main advantages and disadvantages of the two sites are as stated in the following table:

	Advantages	Disadvantages
Alternative 1 Val do Lourido	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A more compact layout of the exploration and its infrastructure. 2. Better topographical features of the Val do Lourido; only one impoundment for the landfill. 3. Use of the Val do Lourido enables the reduction of the landfill sites and less visual impact. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Diversion of the Lourido stream. 2. Diversion of a high voltage line 3. Creation of new sections of track to maintain the permeability of the territory
Alternative 2 Val do Batán	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevents the diversion of the Lourido stream. 	<p>Disadvantages :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The exploration elements are scattered so the transport distances are greater, being necessary a greater number of dump trucks and trips between the voids and the treatment plant. 2. The Lourido stream will be affected by traffic traveling from the cut-offs to the tailing ponds of Val do Batán. 3. The River Batan and its tributaries will have to be diverted. 4. The tailings pond would have a dam at the front of great length and with less availability of space to close the front of the landfill. 5. At its maximum development the back of the slurry pond would be close to homes, requiring the construction of a dam at the rear in case of extension. 6. Three landfill sites will be necessary. The western landfill will be bigger and will be more sloping than alternative 1 because there is lower filling capacity in Val do Batán, thus presenting a bigger visual impact. 7. Diversion of a high-voltage line. 8. Creation and maintenance of new track sections.

After considering the stated, Val do Lourido has been chosen as the best alternative.

5.- Exploration System

The exploration system will be an open-pit mine, obtaining the materials through perforation and blasting in working areas of 5 meters high in mineral and 10 meters in tailings with final 40 meter high slopes, except in the higher area, which will be 30 meters high.

The exploration will be carried out downwardly, advancing to the void. The cut-off advances will be from east to west, firstly ending in Cova Crea. The eastern slope will be finished first whereas the northern slope will be advancing as the eastern and western slopes of the mined area reach an end.

Given the volume of tailings to be extracted, the project presents the completion of a transfer mine, backfilling the already mined areas with tailings from the previously mined area as the exploration advances. The tailings coming from the first mine will be placed in a landfill located in the Val do Lourido, south of the mining void.

The loading system will be with an excavator filling 100 t dump trucks. Transport will be performed with dump trucks from the working area to the treatment plant in the case of minerals and to the landfill or void filling in the case of tailings.

Tailings will also be loaded from an excavator filling 100 t dump trucks. Transport will be performed with dump trucks from the working area to the landfill site where tailings will be spread or will backfill the voids. If needed, part of the tailings will occasionally be used as aggregates.

6.- Exploration Phases

The exploration will be in five phases, although prior to commencement the following preparatory work will be performed for six months:

- Construction and preparation of site access
- Surface preparation for the landfill, facilities, roads and cut-offs in Cova Crea.
- Surface preparation for facility requirements.
- Construction of various buildings for the mining operation.
- Construction of the treatment plant.
- Completion of the transportation road for the exploration in Cova Crea, for both materials and tailings.
- Removal of topsoil and stockpiling in the location provided.
- Diversion of the Lourido stream and roads.

In this preparatory phase the topsoil from the areas, affected in the early stages (Cova Crea and Pozo do Inglés East) by the mining development, by the landfill area to be used during the first year, by the dam and ponds area and by the transport and facility areas will be removed. After, the plant area will be excavated to allow the creation of a platform where the facilities will be located, roads will be built, access and drainage will be prepared and the platform's facilities will be made ready.

The diversion of the Lourido stream requires special attention at this stage because the project location's surface is on its course. Its diversion will be carried through a naturalized course of about 2.730 meters long with a similar slope as the current course (3% average) and it will flow to the east of the current course.

Below are the five exploration phases:

PHASE I (Year 1.4): During this first phase there will be the exploration of the Cova Crea cut-off and the southern part of the Pozo do Inglés cut-off, up to a peak of 160.

In addition, an impoundment to the South of the landfill and another to separate the flotation waste from the leaching will be done (with a volume of 6,211,430m³).

At the end of this phase the landfill and the impoundment will occupy an area of 98 hectares.

PHASE II (year 3.3): Mineral exploration in the Pozo do Inglés will be carried out. The volume of the tailings will enable the backfilling of the Cova Crea void until leaving the affected surface with a similar topography to that of the original.

The landfill will only be increased by 5 meters in comparison to the previous phase. A road to connect the exit of the future Picoto cut-off with the plant and with the previously built road surrounding Peton do Lobo cut-off, which will be mined in phases 4 and 5, will be built.

PHASE III (year 3.8): All the mining in the Picotos cut-off will be carried out using the tailings to backfill the Pozo do Inglés void, up to a peak of 130.

PHASE IV (year 4.8): The mining of the Peton do Lobo cut-off will be carried out, obtaining sufficient tailing to backfill the Picoto void and change the topography for its subsequent restoration.

PHASE V (year 8.4): All the mining of the Peton do Lobo cut-off will be carried out, using the tailings to remodel the area occupied by the Pozo do Inglés and Cova Crea cut-offs.

The backfilling projected in order to remodel the areas occupied by the Pozo do Inglés and Cova Crea cut-offs will not cover the road to the west of the said cut-offs until the end of the exploration.

At the end of this phase the landfill built in phases 1 and 2 will join the surface remodeling of Cova Crea and Pozo do Inglés cut-offs, occupying a surface occupying an area of 196 ha, with a total capacity of 78,314,000 m³ of compacted material, 95% of its volume and an absorption co-efficiency of 3%.

7.- Mineral Treatment

Regarding the mineral treatment process, from a metallurgical point of view, the gold present at the Corcoesto mining site is easily accessible by conventional treatment methods. In general, the process consists of leaching with cyanide solutions to 0.5%. The rock must be broken into adequate size.

A plant with a capacity for 6,000 t/day is foreseen, using the dynamic leaching in agitator tanks as an extraction system. The method will consist of the following stages:

1. Trituration: the extracted material will be transported to an ample storage area and classified or the material will be fed into the mining crusher chute. At this stage the extracted material is dry ground to 150 mm.
2. Grinding Mills: the previously ground material then passes to the wet milling section which uses a classification circuit in order to reduce size in two stages through the use of 3 grinding mills (one semi-autogeneous, SAG) and two ball mills (MBO). At this stage the ore is reduced to between 1 and 10 mm and some gold particles are released, between 100 and 500 microns, and can be recovered by Gravity, given the difference in density.
3. Gravimetric: the thickness of the cyclone batteries used are dealt with in this circuit, both the SAG mill discharge and the recirculation of the two MBOs, the typical working charge is around a 1/3 of the MBOs circulatory charge. All the gravity tailings return to the ball mills.
4. Flotation: the mineral, once ground to a size 80% less than 74 microns and after gravimetric analysis still contains significant amounts of gold and varying amounts of sulfides (mainly Arsenopyrite). Almost all the metals and sulfide contents will be recovered through a flotation process. It must be emphasized that the gravimetric and flotation tailings represent 93% of the total, so the proportion of mineral to be leached (treatment in cyanide solutions) is reduced to the minimum.

- 5 Leaching / CIL / Detoxification: After flotation the recovered gold is found in two concentrations – gravimetric and flotation. These will undergo a leaching process. This carbon in leach, (CIL process), recovers this gold through dissolution and absorption of the activated carbon in the deposits.

The absence of competitive metallic sulfide competing with gold in the cyanide process enables low cyanide consumption and favors the possibility of a pre-concentration through gravity or flotation. The pre-concentration enables the reduction of the mineral tonnage to which the cyanide process is applied. This will significantly reduce the use of cyanide and tailings in the process. The consumption of SO₂, (Sodium metabisulfite) required for cyanide destruction before its transfer to the pond and, above all, the size of the slurry pond from the leaching process will be reduced to less than 10% of the total. The leaching waste will go through gravity to a specially designed tank for detoxification. The tailings will be detoxified through the addition of SO₂ or through another composition in the tank (Sodium metabisulfite). These products, a pH, will be controlled through the addition of lime acting as an oxidant to convert the cyanide into cyanate. The amount of SO₂ to be added is regulated by automatic controls, taking the cyanide analysis as data at the entrance and exit points. The detoxified waste must contain less than 10 ppm of CNWAD, (Cyanide Weak Acid Dissociable) as stated in the *"Royal Decree 975/2009 of 12th June, on waste management from extractive industries and the protection and rehabilitation of space affected by mining activities."* After detoxification the tailings will pass through gravity to the screening sieve where any carbon particle in the tailings will be retained. Finally, the tailings are pumped to the *Leaching Waste Pond* which will be completely separate from the flotation waste and will eventually be completely encapsulated.

- 6 Activated Carbon Desorption: Carbon, once loaded to the maximum level in the CIL tank, will be extracted and separated from the pulp through a sieve. It is then fed into a column, called "elution" where the carbon will undergo a process in which gold is returned to the solution. As a result of the whole process, a part of the solution, called electrolyte, will be obtained and will be subjected to electroplating and the other discharged carbon will be sent for regeneration and subsequently to CIL tanks.
7. Gold Procurement: The primary dissolution resulting from the loaded carbon elution is stored in an electrolyte tank in the electroplating process. Gold present in the solutions is reduced and the gold plates are deposited onto the cathodes. These are disassembled weekly and washed to obtain a slurry containing 70-80% of gold. Then the slurry is dried (or calcined if necessary) in a kiln that operates up to 750 degrees before direct fusion. The fusion is performed in a tilting kiln with crucible of clay-graphite at a temperature of 1200 ° C. The gold concentrations from the cathode, once calcined, are mixed with exact flux amounts for its fusion. For a typical fusion mixture silica is used as flux and borax is used as an oxidant for all the compounds that must pass to the slag phase. Washing is performed step by step in ingot moulds.

8.- Exploration Elements

The exploration elements depend on the exploration methods and treatments. Therefore we have:

1. Open-Pits: the exploration will be performed in:
 - a. Southern void: This will correspond to the joining of Cova Crea, Pozo do Inglés and Petón do Lobo pits, over a total area of 771,000 m₂.
 - b. Northern void: This will occupy an area of 258,000 m₂, corresponding to the Picoto-Fonterremula pit.
2. Landfills: The project is expected to create 3 initial landfills, with 2 in operation at the end of the exploration, one to the northern side of the exploration, of 11.6 ha and 140 lmsl and one to the southern side, of 77 ha and 240 lmsl. The backfilling of the voids and landfills will lead to two elevations integrated into the landscape and will share very similar heights in the surrounding environment. The total volume of the tailings for the backfilling will be 89Mm³.

The Corcoesto landfills will be situated in the exploration voids, the northern landfill will be situated in the Picotos pit and the southern landfill will be located in the Cova Crea and Petón do Lobo pits. The latter will be bolstered on the external face of the slurry pond's impoundment.

The maximum dimensions of landfills are as follows:

Landfill	area of occupancy (m ²)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Height above the original ground (m)	Height max (m)
North	335 961	749	620	70	145
South	1,879,735	2,087	1,095	160	240

As far as possible the mining pits will be used to store mine tailings generated in the exploration process. Landfills will be created above these backfilled voids with the same material. Depending on whether the material is used for the formation of a landfill or for backfilling a void, two different backfilling methods will be used: in order to have more stability the landfill will be backfilled in sections; dumping will be used to backfill the void to the original height. Due to the nature of the tailings it will not be necessary to have any hard-coat layer or any encapsulation system.

The topography obtained allows for a suitable restoration of the affected area. Therefore, the backfilling process will be the first restoration stage.

The landfills will be designed with the suitable morphology, respecting the shapes and heights of the land, facilitating water drainage and the requirement of the integration of a proper replanting in the area.

3. Tailings Pond

The tailings pond will be located in the Lourido Valley, near the mining area. The tailings pond will be divided into two parts through a tailings dam for the flotation and leaching waste and is to be completely independent.

The flotation tailings pond is composed of a tailings dam, which varies between the peak 150 and 238 (85 meters, maximum height) and 1,084 m. maximum length for which 6,211,430 million m³ of mine tailings will be used for its construction. Also, a second separation dam will be constructed between the flotation and cyanide waste, its highest peak will be 235, with a maximum height difference of 35m.

The annual waste production of 2,100,000 t, of which 2,000,000 t will be floatation waste and 100,000 tons of leaching, will be stored independently.

The estimated total of waste production will be 17,080,751 t during the mine's working life.

There will always be enough storage capacity to amply collect wastewater from the rainstorm run-off surface, as well as an assignment of freeboard.

There will also be an emergency landfill at every stage of plant development. The water from the flotation tailings pond will be recycled and will be pumped back to the processing plant, located in the south-western part of the facilities. A second pump will be located in the south-eastern part of the facilities in order to transfer water to the main pond area in the south-west. The supernatant water from the leaching tailings pond will also be recycled for the leaching process.

It is foreseen that the flotation tailings pond will be replanted with hydrophyllum vegetation, whereas the leaching pond will be encapsulated at the end of the ponds' working life.

4. Transport Infrastructure: In addition to creating an internal road network in order to connect the different mining areas, the conditions of existing roads will be improved in order to facilitate the transit of vehicles.
5. There will be drilling equipment, loading, transportation and other necessary equipment for the work of landfill preparation and infrastructure maintenance.
6. Energy distribution system: A high tension power line crosses the project area sector 2810 Union Fenosa, of 66 kV from Cabana de Bergantiños to Carballo. This line will be diverted so as not to be affected by the operation.
7. Auxiliary Facilities: Main office, laboratory, access and security, machine parking, workshop and warehousing, pump, recycling area, weighing machine, wheel wash, emergency generator, compressed air systems, preparation of reagents, health control.
8. Water Processing System: The water processing circuit will be a closed one, with zero discharge. Water processed in the leaching area will be managed in a totally closed circuit and independent from the rest of the plant. There will be no possibility of pollution to the rest of the systems.
9. Command, communications control, fire extinguishing services and fencing-off of the plant are other exploration elements.

9.- Plant Water Balance

During the treatment plant's commencement phase, water accumulated in the tailings pond built in the preparatory stages will be made use of so it will not be necessary to obtain water from natural sources.

There will be a shortfall in the balance throughout the years, in the first three years the deficit will be between 380,000 and 440,000 m³/year, descending to 250,000 m³ from years four to eight.

The aforesaid, regarding the water management process, affirms:

- The non-existence of water excess in any operational situation throughout the mine's working life, neither yearly nor accumulated.
- The need to incorporate water from the other project systems, allowing minimization of the project's net discharge quantities.
- The water from the bottom of the pit floor and landfill drainage will take preference.

Both points represent significant benefit to the project in respect of the minimization of waste and the ability to consume water bearing a high pollutant load, leaving pumped water from the pits and surface runoff as waste

Waste quantities will be reduced by sending the water from the excavated project areas to the pond, so they will be consumed in the plant's water replenishment. This criteria for water management can be applied in a seasonal way so that the total amount of infiltrated water from the landfill will be sent to the pond in the dry periods, given this period is the time of greatest burden.

10.- Consumption of energy, fuel and reagents.

The following table shows the electrical power requirements for the exploration's development.

Process /facility	Electricity power (Kw)
Primary crushing	365
Secondary and tertiary crushing	7,325
Flotation	1,120
Concentration	695
Auxiliary facilities	1,080
Pumping	640
Workshop	400
Laboratory	200
Offices	150
Dining & dressing rooms	230
Total	12, 205

Fuel consumption is as follows:

Fuel	Quantity	Process / Use
Propane	30,000 kg/year	Carbon desorption, Carbon regeneration, Ingot fusion
Type B diesel		Heavy machinery

The use of reagents is as follows:

Designation	Consumption (kg / year)	Maximum stored (t)	Process
Promoter, Aero 208	150,000	20	Flotation
Collector, PAX	52,000	20	Flotation
Foaming agent, Aerofroh 65	117,000	20	Flotation
Hydrated Lime	655 200	25	Leaching and detoxification
Cyanide	546 000	50	Leaching and elution

Caustic Soda	798 000	50	Elution
Hydrochloric Acid	357 000	30	Elution
Activated Carbon	210,000	10	Leaching
Copper Sulfate	16 650	2	Detoxification
Sodium Metabisulfite	512 400	40 (m3)	Detoxification
Antifouling	21,000	3	General water process
Flocculants	86,400	10	

11.- Mining waste.

The Corcoesto mining project contemplates the generation of 5 types of mining waste:

- Waste from the road network.
- Mine tailings from the open-pit
- Plant tailings, coming from the mineral processing
- Flotation waste
- Leaching waste

Volumes of waste are as follows:

residue	Total(m3)	Activity generated
Construction of roads	533 900	Creation of infrastructure
Mine tailings	72,738,735	Start of drilling and blasting materials
Flotation waste	10,606,061	Benefit processing to obtain marketable products
Leaching waste	341,460	

The waste generated in the creation of roads and mine tailings will be used to backfill the voids and create landfills that are located therein. The destination of the plant's tailings will be the slurry pond.

It must be remembered that mining waste is composed of the same rock that forms the subsoil. The mine tailings only undergo a disintegration treatment through means of blasting or crushing. The flotation and leaching tailings are smaller than 100 microns, the latter through a process of leaching with cyanide and the subsequent destruction of this with SO₂/ air.

The heavy metal content that the mine tailings have will be of the same natural source as the subsoil in the location. The content is expected to be higher in the flotation and leaching tailings coming from mineralized areas. However, in the case of flotation tailings the metal content could be even less to take the sulfide flotation concentrate.

12.- Non-mining waste

The following waste, considered as dangerous, will be generated during the exploration:

	LER Code.	Kg / year
Lead batteries	160601	100
Used oil	130 206	10,000
Oil filters	160 107	250
Cloths and towels	150 202	200
Grease	120 112	4,500
Fluorescent tubes	200 121	25
Electrical and electronic equipment	160 213	250
Toner cartridges and ink	80 317	15
Empty cyanide bags	110 301	950
Empty packaging	150 110	1,000

Those indicated correspond to the exploration's forecast in the initial and final phases, the same waste will be generated but in smaller quantities.

13.- Emissions

There will be three different sources of emission:

- Fixed emissions sources: coming from gas capturing (4 electrolysis cells) and thermal processes from small equipment (fusion kiln, carbon regeneration kiln and thermal oil boiler for elution).

This equipment operates discontinuously, completing less than 30 hours a week.

- The emission of combustion gases from mobile sources are generated by vehicles and heavy machinery.
- The diffuse emission of particles originate from the operations involved in movements of land (clearing, blasting, loading and unloading supplies) and by vehicle traffic on unpaved surfaces.

14.- Noise.

Activities at the exploration site will be carried out in day and night shifts. The main activities that can potentially generate noise during mining are as follows:

1. Mine: blasting, loading and unloading of material, circulation of machinery and vehicles
2. In Plant: unloading trucks on the all-in-one chutes, feeder plates, mills, crushers, cone crushers.

15.- Drainage System and Water Treatment

Design of a complex drainage system for surface water and groundwater generated in the exploration area and the establishment of the necessary treatment procedures.

At the end of the exploration, the drainage system will remain active, leaving all naturalized ditches. Concrete ditches and decantation tanks are to be dismantled and broken up. The resulting material will be loaded and transported, along with that obtained from the demolition of the facilities, to an authorized landfill.

Drainage systems, in accordance with the exploration areas, are as follows:

1. Mining voids, the drainage systems in the open-pits are based on two types of systems, with different but complementary functions:

a. Perimeter Depression Survey (PDS): The mission is to lower the water level in the open-pit area, the water that is drawn from these sources will be clean groundwater and will be sent to the closest delivery points.

Given that these waters are clean, they can be used in the treatment plant or channeled to residents to replace the dried up springs.

b. Pumping from the mining void: The water arriving at the open-pit that, either as rainwater or from the runoffs, has been in contact with the mined areas must be carried to the decantation tanks and later discharged in various points.

2. Landfills

The landfill drainage system has two drainage networks, one on the surface trenching for draining water from the runoff and the other to drain water from the landfill body. The latter water will be collected by the drainage system, centralized by a watercourse at the bottom of the site. This must have an outlet in order to reduce the time the water is infiltrated into the tailings to the minimum.

This drainage outlet from the water at the bottom of the site will be done through a longitudinal ditch on its northern bank.

The waters infiltrated into the landfills will be treated in the decantation tanks prior to its discharge in the Lourido stream.

3. Surface Drainage and decantation tanks

The maximum surface drainage structure size will be done depending on the project's catchment area, this shall be produced in phase 3.

Structures are foreseen as follows:

a. Drainage of External Waters: the design of the project's ditch network has two main types:

i. Three Protective Perimeter Canals: to collect and drain the water from external sub-tanks, being of clean water or without contact with excavated areas. These waters will be carried to delivery points.

ii. The project's Internal Ditch Network: there will be ditches to drain access and transportation roads to supply platforms and the treatment plant level.

These canals will lead the waters towards the northern and eastern parts of the project so that the water will be drained in gullies leading to River Anllóns and the Lourido stream.

b. Drainage of Roads and Adjoining Slopes: The drainage subsystem in roads and their slopes consists of a network of ditches, accesses, roads and areas for vehicle transport.

Waters collected by this main drainage network will lead to the decantation tanks so as to be later poured into two tributary streams of the River Anllóns.

c. Drainage of the Treatment Plant Platform: The platform where the treatment plant is located must have a simple drainage network in order to drain rainwater. Perimeter ditches were designed to join the decantation tanks.

d. Drainage of Hydrocarbon Areas: The water from this area will be treated in a hydrocarbon separator with a decanter and a coalescent filter. There will be an inspection cover at the exit of the potentially hydrocarbon areas.

4. Decantation Tanks: The project foresees the construction of four decantation tanks in order to collect the water from the canals and the exploration ditches. The water will then be poured into the canals. In the restoration phase, the decantation tanks, once naturalized, will become ponds for amphibians, for which the banks will have to be redefined.
5. Wastewater Treatment: Wastewater treatment equipment consisting of a digester tank with a biological filter will be installed in areas where there is a physical and biological aerobic process on the water line and an anaerobic stabilization on the slurry line (digestion); it is a medium-high type of purification with a reduction of 65% in BOD₅ and 75% of solids in suspension.
6. Water characteristics in the finally restored lake: Once the exploration and the tailing transfer process have ended, there will be a final void to be restored as a lake, creating a free sheet of water of 18.47 ha. It is estimated that the void will be backfilled in four years, once the work is completely finished.

According to EIA the lake waters in the Petón do Lobo void, the final concentration of As, and that of Mn, will be lower than the reference levels for the receiving environment; in the case of Fe the estimated concentrations for the lake will be 10 times lower than that specified in the standard (RD 927/1988) and in the case of Ni, concentrations 100 times lower than that indicated standard are foreseen.

16.- Natural Environment

1. Geology: The area has been divided into five independent mining sectors: Cova Crea, Pozo do Inglés, Petón do Lobo, Fonterrémula-Montefurado and Picotos-Lamprieira.

Lithologically, there are igneous rocks, metasediments, sub volcanic rocks and filonian rocks in the studied area.

Tectonically, the project is part of a right sided cutting band, directions N25 ° E, which deforms the materials heterogeneously. The mineralization is closely linked to the cutting, giving way to the formation of quartz veins or quartz replacements in the host rock with arsenopyrite. The aforesaid 5 mining sectors correspond to mineralization areas and correspond to ductile and brittle ductile cutting bands.

2. Geomorphology: The area is characterized by gentle undulations (0-12% slope) and altitudes between 50 and 100 meters above sea level.
3. Hydrogeology: The climatic characteristics show an average annual rainfall of about 1200 mm and lithological features with a minimum porosity determine the low importance of the use of water resources in the area.
4. Surface Hydrology: The most important river in the area is the Anllóns that flows to the north of the project. Also, this river composes of the LIC "Rio Anllóns" from which the exploration will be 140 meters away. To the east of the mining site are the Portocelo River and the Lourido stream, directly affected by floating and leaching tailing ponds: the Lourido stream and River Batán tributaries, at the same time, are tributaries to the River Anllóns.

To the west of the project, crossing “Ciudad del Masma” is the Regueira or Santa Maria stream, a tributary to River Anllóns.

5. Climate: the study environment is an area with a predominantly oceanic climate, characterized by its gentle temperature and not too high rainfall.
6. Air quality: due to the good atmospheric conditions in the area, the distance and type of the main emissions, it can be said that the air quality in the studied area is good.
7. Environmental sound quality: the noise levels in the studied area are typical of those in traditional farming areas, they are characteristic of a rural environment with reduced activity and distinctly family farms.
8. Vegetation: The area’s plant cover will feature the following types of plant cover:
 - a. Expanses of Galician pine and eucalyptus in a proportion of 80/20 respectively.
 - b. Grassland mosaics and crops with small species of hardwoods or conifers arranged in hedges bordering plots or paths, usually associated with shrub species, such as Ligustrun Vulgare or the Rubus.
 - c. In addition, the Directorate General for Nature Conservation indicates that there are the following habitats listed in Annex I of Directive 92/43/EEC in the study area:
 - i. 4030 Dried European Heather
 - ii. 91 EO * alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior*.
 - iii. 9230 Portuguese Galician Oak expanses with *Quercus robur* and *Quercus pyrenaica*.
 - iv. 3260 Rivers with lowlands and highlands, vegetation of *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion*
9. Fauna: The working area is located in the Euro Siberian Galician region, in a hilly area. This fact determines, firstly, the vertebrae fauna composition, although other factors need to be considered, for example anthropogenic factors.

Regarding the protected species that can be found in the environment, the Directorate General for Nature Conservation lists the following species included in the Galician Endangered Species catalogue (Decree 88/2007, of April 19th, which regulates the Galician Endangered Species Catalogue, amended by Decree 167/2011 of 4th August) with the category specified:

(E) In danger of extinction

(V) Vulnerable

(1) Nesting Population

INVERTEBRA	
Geomalacus maculosus	V
Echinus esculentus	V
FISH	
Alosa alosa	V
Gasterosteus Gymnurus	

AMPHIBIANS	
Chicoglossa lusitanica	V
Iberian Frog	V
BIRDS	
Circus cynaeus	V
Circus pygargus	V
Vanellus Vanellus	^E (1)
Numenius arquata	^E (1)
Gallinago gallinago	^E (1)
Milvus milvus	^E (1)
Scolopax rusticola	^V (1)
MAMMELS	
Galemys pyrenaicus	V
Rhinolophus hipposideros	V
Rhinolophus Ferrumequinun	V

On the other hand, in the technical area, proposals for the conservation / recovery plans being drawn up by the Biodiversity Conservation Service. It is shown that the area of the present project is affected by the following zoning:

Species	zoning
Emberiza shcoeniclus lusitanica	Potential distribution area

10. Cultural Heritage: The consultation for the inventory of the archaeological sites, assets and properties and the ethnographic sites from the Galician government verifies the existence of the following real property listed in the study area:

Chapel of Santa Maria and the adjacent mine. (GA 15,014,048)

Corcoesto Tower. (GA 15,014,015)

Corcoesto Castro. (GA 15,014,016)

The Tumulus of Pardo do Batán. (GA 15,029,001)

Also, there are mills, bridges and so on in the area.

11. Landscape: the nearby environment of the exploration can be described as typically rural in Galicia, with a more or less uniform altitude that does not create contrasts since they do not present significant gradients.

Vegetation covers most of the surface only interrupted by the road network, power lines and buildings in rural nuclei.

ANNEX II

SUMMARY OF PROTECTIVE, CORRECTIVE AND COMPENSATORY MEASURES OF THE STUDY ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

1.- Potective measures on superficial and underground hydrology.

- a. Precise purification treatment will be carried out in order to ensure no surface water will affect the River Anllóns or groundwater.
- b. The water discharge from runoff systems must have the necessary physicochemical characteristics to meet regulation limits.
- c. Rainwater that directly affects the cut-offs of the mining void will be re-directed to the runoff system, avoiding its direct discharge.
- d. The decantation tanks must be regularly cleaned in order to maintain their functionality.
- e. The septic tank to collect wastewater proceeding from the hygiene service for exploration staff must be cleaned periodically. The waste must be managed in accordance with current law.
- f. Should there be roads in the hillside that cut across the water supply, they must be equipped with a sufficient number of cross drains to ensure the contribution of runoff water to the bottom of the hill.
- g. In addition, in order to maintain the quality of natural water resources, the reduction of the water consumption to the minimum is recommended, as it is a limited resource, by means of a closed-circuit recirculation, being reused through the use of decantation tanks.
- h. The machinery used for transportation must pass all the regulatory controls in order to prevent oil, grease and fuel spills.
- i. The water treatment plant will have a perimeter ditch for the collection of rainwater. It will be connected to a hydrocarbon separator.
- j. The water collected in the landfill drainage must be controlled and, if necessary, it will have to be treated before discharge. Should the regulatory controls show anomalies or the treatment plant has a supernatant water demand on the flotation pond's capacity, the collected drainage water can be pumped into the flotation pond for its use in the treatment plant.
- k. Periodic discharge controls shall be performed in order to verify if the waste is below the limits established under current law.
- l. Discharge into inland water resources shall not be permitted without the authorization of the governing body (Augas de Galicia).
- m. Water sources and springs affected by the project must be restored.
- n. Drainage under the ditch edges must be placed.

2.- Soil Protection measures

- a. The topsoil will be removed before work commences in a new area. It will be stockpiled for its use in the restoration. Should the topsoil be thick, two stockpiles will be made. The two stockpiles will be for high and low quality topsoil.
- b. Should the vegetal soil be stored for an extended period of time, the organic soils will be treated with appropriate care so as not to lose their essential features.

- c. The extracted soil will be stockpiled, forming furrows that shall not exceed 2 meters in height. Should it be necessary, crop-care work must be carried out so as to prevent water and wind erosion.
- d. In those areas where there is soil compaction, due to the passing of machinery, the soil shall have non-permeability.
- e. As the exploration facilities occupy land near “protected rustic valleys and canals” no activity will be carried out in the protected area. The land near the river must not be occupied.
- f. There will be no type of disorder beyond the limits established in the project and authorized project limits and take into account the accurate topographic control.
- g. In addition, in order to preserve the quality of the soil it is recommended:
 - 1) Conduct periodic inspections of the fuel tanks so as to avoid unwanted seepage that may affect soil.
 - 2) Choose, to the extent possible, previously degraded areas rather than natural areas.
 - 3) Promote the implementation of the lower slopes to the minimum gradient possible in order to minimize drag and erosion of materials.

3.- Protective Measures on Air Quality

- During the extraction and loading process, the exploration will run without discharges between banks. During the transport to the treatment plant, and when deemed possible, the necessary vehicles shall circulate at a low speed.
- During transportation the following measures will be adopted:
 - 1) Watering of the roads and tracks.
 - 2) Proper road maintenance.
 - 3) Vegetal planting in the areas adjacent to the roads more exposed to the wind.
 - 4) Trucks carrying the material will be washed before access to public roads.
- The effect of the wind will be taken into account when choosing the stockpile points.
- The machinery used must comply with current legislation on exhaust emissions from motor vehicles.
- The drilling equipment will be equipped with dust collectors.
- Suitable caulking will be used in the blasting.
- Purchased machinery must be environmentally friendly.
- Machinery must travel at a low speed
- Machinery and equipment must be switched off when not in use.
- The implementation of best available techniques to reduce airborne dust, such as:
 - 1) Transportation of material on extraction belts rather than on traditional trucks.

2) Avoid airborne dust in the unloading of material, either by minimizing the unloading height or by telescopic unloading systems.

3) Containment of the transported material on extraction belts with cowlings.

4) Water spraying with foam and / or surfactants.

5) Dry mist systems.

6) Asphalted roads whenever possible.

- Other Measures

- 1- A moisture sheet must be kept on the decantation tank surface in order to prevent the decanted solids from becoming dry and the possible dispersive actions due to windy conditions

- 2- Avoid the use of machinery when not in use.

4.- Corrective Measures for Sound Quality.

- There will be preventive maintenance of machinery.
- Verification that machinery does not emit noise above that permitted by law, and there will be periodic maintenance of the engines.
- Only low sonic equipment will be used for drilling.
- The blasting design will strictly respect that expected in the exploration project (A or B), above all the maximum functioning load, in order to keep the noise within the noise pollution limits.
- The caulking will have the indicated minimum length and be done with materials that have good gas containment in order to avoid blast point openings.
- Should the blast design be varied due to production reasons of either physical or geometric vein characteristics, the blasting must be revised by means of a preliminary vibration and airwave study.
- Should there be any complaints from the neighborhood residents about noise and vibration emissions during any phase of the project, there will be an inspection of the area and a check on the proper operation of the equipment and the corrective and protective measures will be taken into account.
- Work plans likely to cause discomfort in the surrounding areas will be announced prior and in a systematic way.
- The attenuation of sound by surrounding vegetation will be taken into account.

5. Vegetation Corrective Measures.

A restoration project that focuses on the following points:

- Analysis of soils.
- Selection of autochthonous species, taking into account: habitat, climate, morphology, edaphology and compatibility between species.

- Type of sowing or planting.
- Fertilizer to be used.
- Machinery and work scheduling.
- Maintenance work, replanting and repetition of hydro seeding areas.
- Current vegetation shall be protected.

6.-Protective Fauna Measures

- The project's construction access will be limited and will not to affect either vegetation or fauna.
- Speed will be limited at access points and the appropriate signage will be installed.
- Electricity supply line pylons to the mine will be selected after assessing the risk of electrocution for birds.

7.-Protective Measures on the Landscape and Morphology

- The restoration work will be implemented gradually, in line with the advancement of mining work.
- The excavation products will be used to backfill the voids (transfer mining).
- Older topography will be remodeled and altered so that it suits the natural environment.
- The slopes will be rounded so as to avoid edges and flat surfaces.
- The new orography will avoid excessive slopes, the formation of watercourses and valley rafters. Smooth transitions between the different slopes will be sought so as to reduce to a minimum the need to backfill the trenches.
- The diversion of Lourido stream will be carried out through a naturalized channel.
- The walls of decantation tanks, restored as small lakes, will be subject to a morphological re-profiling for their final naturalization.
- Trees and shrubs shall be planted so that they act together with the morphology of the terrain in order to act as visual screens from the early stages of exploration.
- Topsoil will be spread which, together with the vegetation screen, will diminish the visual impact.
- Local materials will be used.
- Colors will be used to help decrease the contrast (usually mattes and dark colors).
- In accordance with the restoration project, the surfaces will be replanted with autochthonous species (50% of deciduous hardwoods) and there will be a suitable plantation system so as to adapt the affected area to the surrounding landscape.

8.-Social Cultural Protective Measures

- The affected areas will be adapted so that they can recover their traditional uses.
- Danger signs will be placed.

- If during the opening phase of void openings and / or exploration there is any archaeological site found, the exploration will be stopped and the authorized body will be notified.
- New roads will be laid due to the occupation of two rural roads. One connecting Corcoesto with the chapel of Santa Marina and another that connects Laverde.

9.-Compensatory Measures

The following compensatory measures are included in the project:

Environmental improvements:

- I. Collaboration with governments for the financing of clearing campaigns and waste management of illegal dumps located in the mining area.
- II. Preparation of the runoff decantation tanks for wetland surfaces and the establishment of amphibians, once the working life is finished.
- III. Incorporation of autochthonous species in the plantations of the restored surfaces.
- IV. Conducting of campaigns to release of young fish in coordination with local authorities and other organizations.
- V. Participation or cooperation in activities to improve the ecological status of River Anllóns.

Local Commitment

- I. Recruitment of companies and personnel from the area.
- II. Public transfer of mining lands, once restored to farming, forestry and leisure use.

Training and Research

- I. Educational programs to promote the mining project. There will be various groups and the development of educational programs will be facilitated.
- II. Programs and training courses for specific mining work in collaboration with the Mining Chamber of Galicia and other institutions will be reserved for company employees and the unemployed in the area of influence.

ANNEX III

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS ALLEGATIONS

These are the most relevant environmental aspects submitted during the public consultation process:

1. **On the high content of arsenic (As) in mine waste;** the promoter provides analysis of the natural values of the soil in As which ranges between 26 and 4090 ppm, with an average of 494 ppm, which is higher than the generic reference levels for industrial soil in Galicia.

In addition, the promoter indicates that arsenic levels will be lower than the natural levels since arsenopyrite is associated to the minerals treated in the plant and it is not discharged with the tailings when backfilling the void.

2. **On arsenic leaching;** the promoter indicates that:

- a. There are not any established reference values to waste mining.

- b. The quality criterion for surface water are established for canals, which is where the criteria must be fulfilled, they are not applicable to discharges, which can have higher contents if the limits are respected in the canal.

- c. The arsenic content in the calculated discharge (0.077 mg / l) presents a content clearly inferior to the values of some of the springs in the area (up to 0.191 mg / l) and much lower than the value of deep groundwater (0.593mg / l) as well as being of the same order of magnitude in the criterion of quality channels.

3. **On the use of cyanide;** the promoter indicates that:

- a. If it is true that in Annex VIII of the Framework Directive on water policy (directive 200/60/EC) cyanide is considered as one of the main pollutants there are also other commonly used substances (biocides, pesticides etc).

- b. Cyanide is not included in the directive 2008/105/EC concerning the regulations on environmental quality on water policy, which establishes a list of priority substances. However, it is included in a list of substances to be possibly included in the aforesaid list.

- c. In the proposal from the European Commission, dated from 01/31/2012, to modify the Directive 2000/60/EC (Framework Directive) and 2008/105/EC (environmental quality standards) cyanide is not considered as a priority substance.

In terms of the use of cyanide, it should also be noted that the European Commissioner for the Environment issued a statement, dated 23rd June 2012, stating that current law includes specific requirements guaranteeing suitable waste mining facility safety levels.

Also, Mineira de Corcoesto SL will join the International Cyanide Management Code, which regulates the manufacture, transportation and cyanide use in the production of gold. The adherence to this code compels them to following numerous controls and specific preventive measures, even in the facility's design.

4. **On the transport of reagents;** the promoter states that all the requirements established by European law, in particular, that of developing ADR will be fulfilled. On the other hand, the European regulation REACH compels the companies which manufacture and import chemicals to assess the risk from their use and to adopt the appropriate steps to manage any identified risk.

5. **Seismic risk is not a consideration;** the promoter indicates that the waste management plan is linked to the restoration plan included in section 8.8 - The Seismologic and Seismoresistant Study. This study assesses seismic danger.
6. **On the possibility of impounding the flotation slurry pond;** the promoter indicates that this possibility is under consideration.
7. **On possible water seepage in the final void lake;** the promoter indicates that the prior work is at higher heights than that of the lake flooding height.
8. **On the use of springs and land irrigation restrictions;** the promoter states that the company is under obligation to restore all water resources, registered or not.
9. **On disorders to the continental and maritime water;** the promoter indicates that, based on the annex about Characterization of Mining Tailings and Implications to the receiving water source, it is proved that water quality in River Anllóns will not be lessened. If the river water is not affected, the sea water will not be either.
10. **On the underground water system;** the promoter indicates that the project will only affect 23% of the total groundwater resources in the established basins. However, the pumping flow rate involved does not affect the water system of River Anllóns.
11. **On the public road system;** the promoter indicates that the public roads will be restored so as not to block the current accesses. Their route will be diverted or modified and transferred to the appropriate councils for their use and enjoyment.

ANNEX IV

WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN (parameters and frequency of analysis)

1. Groundwater.

The following analytical groundwater controls will be performed.

PARAMETER	LOCATION	FREQUENCY
<p align="center"> Ph Suspended solids Redox potential Conductivity Groundwater DQO COT Oils and grease Ammonium Nitrates Nitrogen Kjeldahl Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons Sulfates Chlorides Total hardness Cations and anions majority Phenols Cyanides the total As As species * NI Total Fe Disolved Fe Mn Cu Zn Al Cd Hg Pb </p>	<p align="center"> 1.-Perimetral sampling 2.-Springs considered in preoperational control 3.-Perimeteral network of piezometers </p>	<p>Monthly</p>

***For being indicative of redox conditions and the processes that control its concentration.**

2. Surface water.

The following controls for surface water will perform.

a. Physiochemical and chemical:

parameter	placement	period
<p style="text-align: center;"> pH Conductivity Temperature Oxygen dissolved Solids in suspension COD BOD Nitrogen forms Phosphorus forms Polycyclic aromati hydrocarbons Total As Ni Total Fe Mn Cu Zn Al Cd Hg Pb </p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> 1. Points of delivery 2.-Receiver environment Affected by discharge points </p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monthly</p>

The continuous measurement readings established by the Directorate General for Nature Conservation shall be sent to Augas de Galicia monthly and, if necessary, the periods will be shorter.

b. Biological Controls

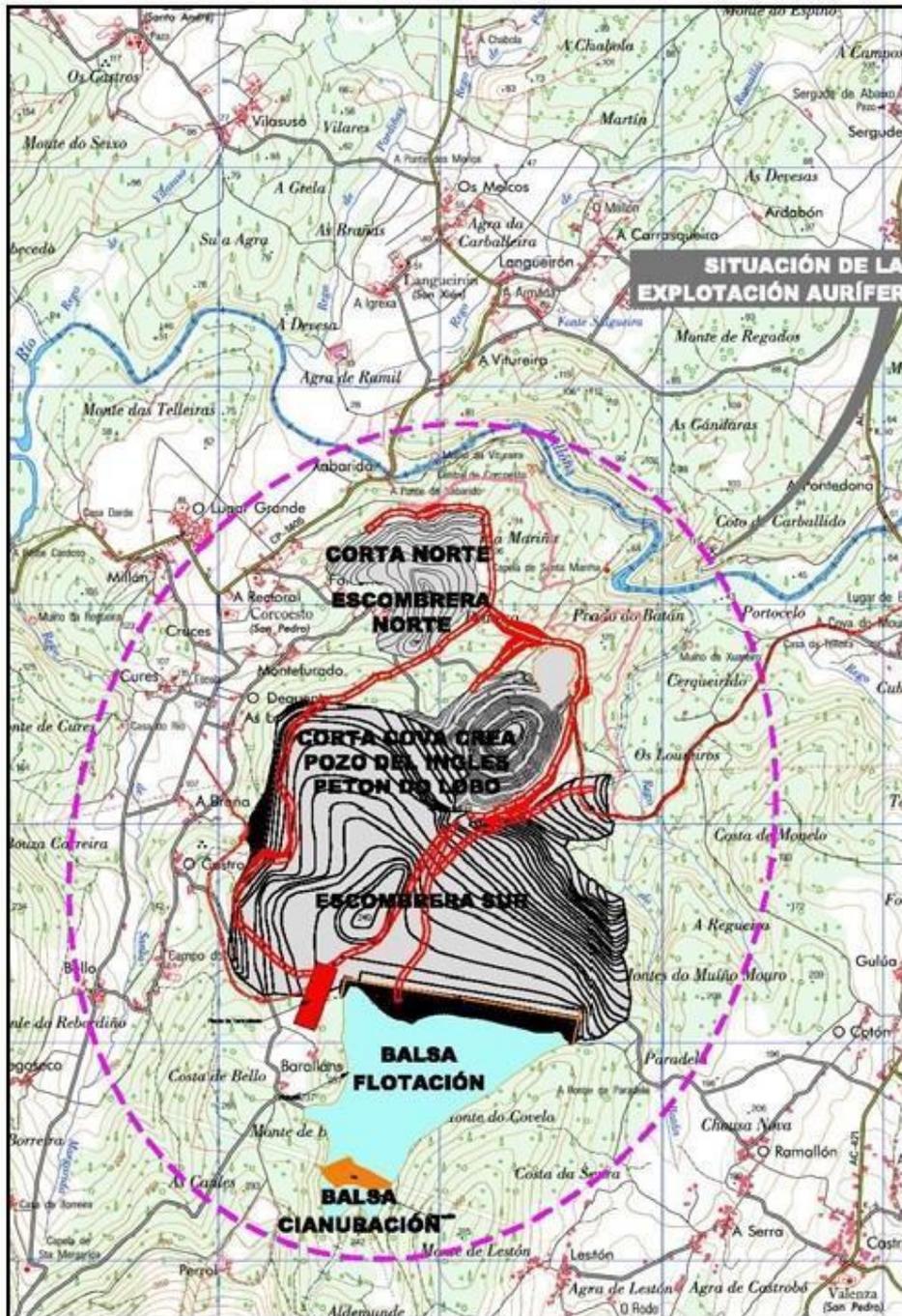
- I. The assessment of the biological element, benthic invertebrates, will be performed with the multimetric indices developed for common rivers included in the River Basin District on the Galician coast (Pardo et al, 2007), carrying out an assessment in accordance with the directive established in Order ARM 2656/2008, from 10th September, which approves the hydrological planning direction (HPD). The frequency for this biological element will be twice a year, in spring and at the end of summer or the beginning of the fall.
- II. The assessment of the element, ichthyologic fauna, will be performed under index EFI+ developed by the EFI+ consortium (<http://efiplus.boku.ac.at/summary.htm>). The frequency of this indicator shall be annual.

c. Hydromorphological Controls

For the assessment of this element the indices established in order ARM 2656/2008, from 10th September, which approves the hydrological planning direction (HPD) will be taken into account. The frequency of this indicator will be annual.

3 The delivery of the monitoring reports will be submitted two months (2) after the accomplishment of the controls

CROQUIS DA ZONA DE ACTUACIÓN



- OPERATIONAL SITE MAP
- LOCATION OF THE FUTURE CORCOESTO AURIFEROUS EXPLORATION
- NORTHERN OPEN-PIT
- NORTHERN LANDFILL
- SOUTHERN LANDFILL
- FLOTATION POND
- CYANIDE POND

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT DECLARATION FOR THE CONCESSION OF THE EXPLORATION MINING PROJECT, "EMILITA" No. 1221, "CIUDAD DE LANDRO" No. 1454 AND "CIUDAD DE MASMA" No. 1445, KNOWN AS "GRUPO MINEIRO CORCOESTO ". PROMOTER: MINEIRA DE CORCOESTO S.L.
LOCATION: THE COUNCILS OF CABANA DE BERGANTIÑOS, CORISTANCO AND PONTECESO. KEY 2011/0169**