

Peer Review Report

Review Report on We need to talk about mining in the Arctic

Perspective, Earth Sci. Syst. Soc.

Reviewer: Natalia Yakovleva

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EVALUATION

Q 1 Please summarize the findings and viewpoint reported.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this paper. I specialise in CSR in mining and also studied the relationship between Indigenous peoples and minerals projects. The paper is short, it might be due to the word limit of the publication. But also, the paper is a review and based on cases of existing solutions developed between mines and Indigenous peoples' communities. The paper does not touch upon the context of some struggles that Indigenous peoples' communities are going and social movements that emerged as a result of minerals and oil and gas extraction and transportation projects, including in Canada and USA. The paper needs to present a more balanced view of the relationship between Indigenous peoples and mining industry, which had been previously affected by lack of recognition of the rights of Indigenous peoples to land and mineral resources and natural resources. The importance of UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and settlement of land claims that positively contribute to Impact and Benefit Agreements between Indigenous peoples and mines in Canada. Also the recognition and promotion of the Free Prior Informed Consent as an important principle of engaging with Indigenous peoples during mining projects had become very important worldwide, starting with some of the work that International Finance Corporations has done with development and enactment of standards. Even the work by International Council on Mining and Metals with their position statement on the rights of Indigenous peoples, as well as the work of Mining Association of Canada. In addition, Canadian legislation has rigorous assessments prior to project approval, such as Environmental Impact Assessment and Socio-Economic Impact Assessment. In addition, Indigenous peoples' council take part in a dialogue with the mining industry. There is clear separation influence of land title settlements leading to greater regard of mining companies of the interests of Indigenous peoples. Finally, Indigenous peoples' communities become co-owners of the projects, as one of the solutions.

Q 2 Please highlight the limitations and strengths.

I would suggest that authors:

1) Please examine further the literature about Indigenous peoples and mines in more detail. I can suggest few authors to review (this is just a selection, but there is much more on the topic and more on IBA).

- Saleem Ali

- Long-term benefits to Indigenous communities of extractive industry partnerships: Evaluating the Red Dog Mine

Matthew Berman, Robert Loeffler, Jennifer I. Schmidt – Resources Policy, 2020.

- Indigenous employees' perceptions of the strategies used by mining employers to promote their recruitment, integration and retention Joanie Caron, Hugo Asselin, Jean-Michel Beaudoin – Resources Policy, 2020.

- O'Faircheallaigh, C., 2013. Extractive industries and Indigenous peoples: a changing dynamic? J. Rural Stud. 30, 20-30.

- O'Faircheallaigh, C., Corbett, T., 2005. Indigenous participation in environmental management of mining projects: the role of negotiated agreements. Environ. Polit. 14, 629-647.

- O'Faircheallaigh, C., 2020. Explaining outcomes from negotiated agreements in Australia and Canada, Resources Policy.

- Heidi Tiainen, Rauno Sairinen & Olga Sidorenko. 2015. Governance of Sustainable Mining in Arctic Countries: Finland, Sweden, Greenland & Russia. Arctic Handbook.

- Maria S. Tysiachniouk, Leah S. Horowitz, Varvara V. Korkina & Andrey N. Petrov (2021) Indigenous-led grassroots engagements with oil pipelines in the U.S. and Russia: the NoDAPL and Komi movements, *Environmental Politics*, 30:6, 895-917, DOI: 10.1080/09644016.2020.1851534
- Nicole J. Wilson, Edda Mutter, Jody Inkster, Terre Satterfield. 2018. Community-Based Monitoring as the practice of Indigenous governance: A case study of Indigenous-led water quality monitoring in the Yukon River Basin. *Journal of Environmental Management*.

2) I would recommend that authors adopt some sort of a framework to analyse the relationship between mining projects and Indigenous peoples. It might be mine lifecycle (exploration, mine development, extraction and closure), or you would like to go through the political and economic and civil rights of Indigenous peoples, or adopt an SDG framework or triple-bottom line or ESG perspective. Or livelihood approach. So that we have not only examples of best practice, but present a systematic overview of the relationship.

3) Maybe engage in some sort of comparative analysis of the cases that you bring in the paper, what are the factors leading to the development of these initiatives or what are the outcomes of these initiatives. Have they been successful for improving the relationships between mining companies and Indigenous peoples, have they led to improvement of socio-economic conditions of Indigenous peoples' communities, have they improved the democratic participation and voices of Indigenous peoples in industrial planning, have they led to greater understanding of the needs and interests of Indigenous peoples amongst mine employees? There are so many aspects that could be explored when we highlight and examine different cases of best practices.

4) Finally, what are the recommendations, what are the lessons learned for companies or policy makers or industry associations?

Q 3 Please comment on the reported results and data interpretation. If there are any objective errors or fundamental flaws, you should please detail your concerns.

I think the paper finished before it started, and thought it might not be a full-brown research article, I would recommend examining the structure of the paper and demonstrate that you answer the questions that you pose at the beginning:

“How do we balance the global need for minerals with environmental and social concerns around resource extraction?”, and

“can we envisage a future for mining in the Arctic which ensures long-term sustainability, environmental stewardship and Indigenous well-being and collaboration?”

Are there any solutions or suggestions offered not from the mining industry, but from other sectors of society - government, regional organisations, international organisations, Indigenous organisations and communities?

Q 4 Check List

Is the English language of sufficient quality?

Yes.

Is the quality of the figures and tables satisfactory?

Yes.

Does the reference list cover the relevant literature adequately and in an unbiased manner?

No.

If the manuscript includes original data, are the applied methods accurate and comprehensively described?

Not Applicable.

Are the statistical methods valid and correctly applied? (e.g. sample size, choice of test)

Not Applicable.

Are the data underlying the study available in either the article, supplement, or deposited in a repository?

Not Applicable.

Does the study adhere to ethical standards including ethics committee approval and consent procedure?

Yes.

Q 5 Please provide your detailed review report to the editor and authors (including any comments on the Q4 Check List):

See above.

QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Q 6 Originality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q 7 Rigor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q 8 Significance to the field	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q 9 Interest to a general audience	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q 10 Quality of the writing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q 11 Overall quality of the study	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>