

International Conference

Mineral deposits safeguarding as a basis of mineral raw materials safety

**Land use planning:
a key factor for mineral developments
or
The need to know what we are talking about**



Mineral and Energy
Economy Research
Institute
Polish Academy of Sciences

10-11 May 2022, Kraków, Poland

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MINERAL DEPOSITS SAFEGUARDING lexicon

LUP
Land Use
Planning

Exploration
Permit

Extraction
Mining
Permit

State Owned
Minerals
Private Owned
Minerals

Minerals
Sterilization

Mineral Resources
Reporting

Social License
to Operate

Corporate
Social
Responsibility

Strategic
Environmental
Assessment

EIA
Environmental
Impact
Assessment

MDoPI
Importance
versus
Interest

Two Approaches for the MINERALS SAFEGUARDING CONCEPT

- ▶ Original concept born in the 80's in the UK Land Use Planning policies
 - ▶ The LUP act or process of ensuring that areas containing mineral deposits are not needlessly occupied by other uses that may preclude their future extraction.
 - ▶ "Soft Policy" in line with what is expected during LUP: **fair** weighing of various interests.
 - ▶ Concept rooted in the Common Law legal system where there is always a need to weigh various interests to reach a final decision (judgment).
 - ▶ LUP uses or occupations precluding the extraction of mineral deposits: "**Minerals Sterilization**"

- ▶ Out of original; literal interpretation
 - ▶ The administrative act leading to a strict protection of mineral deposits.
 - ▶ "Hard Policy" translated into legal regulations;
 - ▶ E.g. a Mining concession or an area specially designated for the protection of minerals (a reserve)
 - ▶ Typical interpretation in countries where the Roman-Continental legal system prevails.
 - ▶ It is not a LUP process, but rather an imposition on the LUP procedure.

These two approaches also depend on country-specific issues:

- ▶ When, from the outset, the exploitation of **well-documented mineral deposits** is prohibited for various reasons (environmental protection, forestry, etc. or simply ... "because"): there is a tendency to find ways to strictly protect these deposits (be it inside or outside the LUP procedure)
- ▶ When there are only promising targets for further exploration: “soft” approach inside LUP aiming not sterilize the prospects.

Which deposits should be protected?

Two related, but distinct issues to be considered
(subject of controversy during the definition of MDoPI)

How interesting is the deposit?

(relates to tonnage, quality, etc.)

How important is the deposit?

(relates to the needs of society)

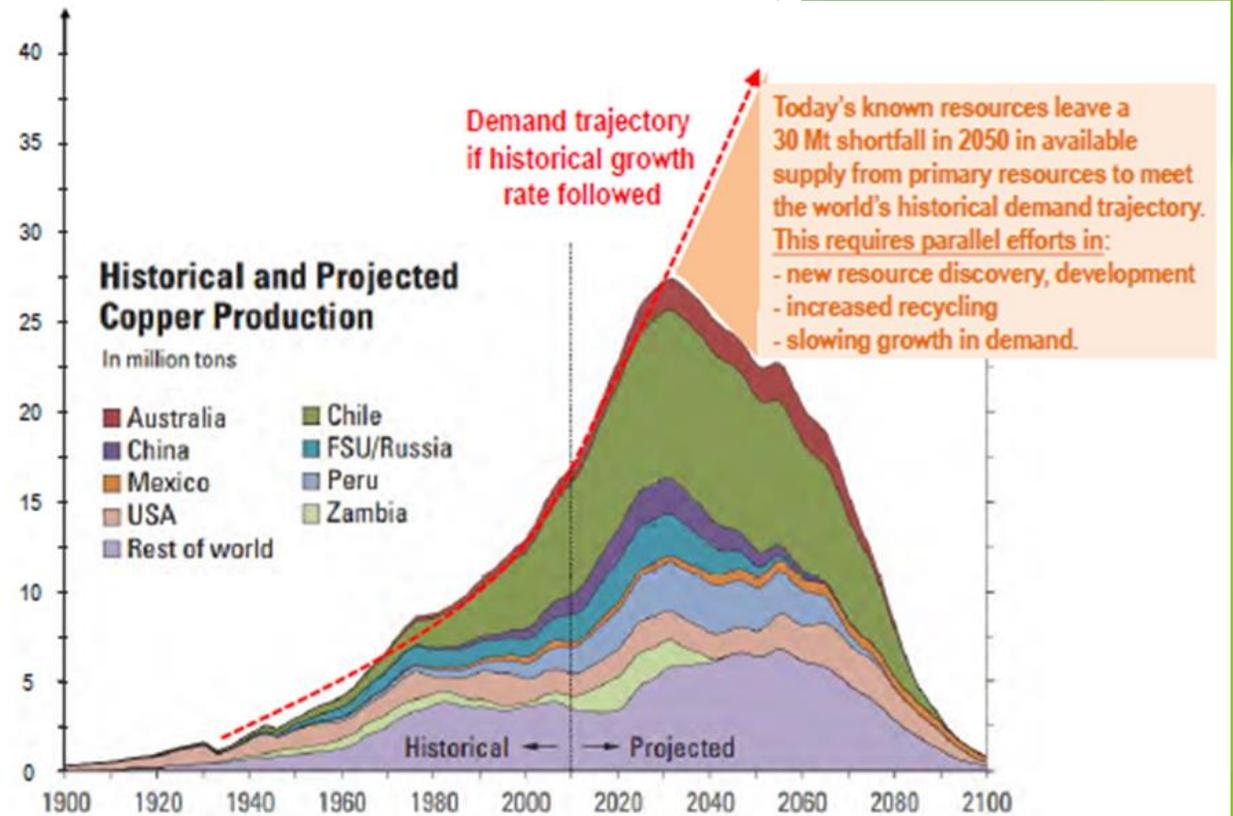
Regardless of whether documented deposits can be exploited in a near future or not, in the strategic perspective of ensuring the supply of minerals to society, it is of vital importance to safeguard areas where undiscovered deposits may occur.

Again “minerals safeguarding”!!!

How to protect mineral deposits whose existence is not proven?

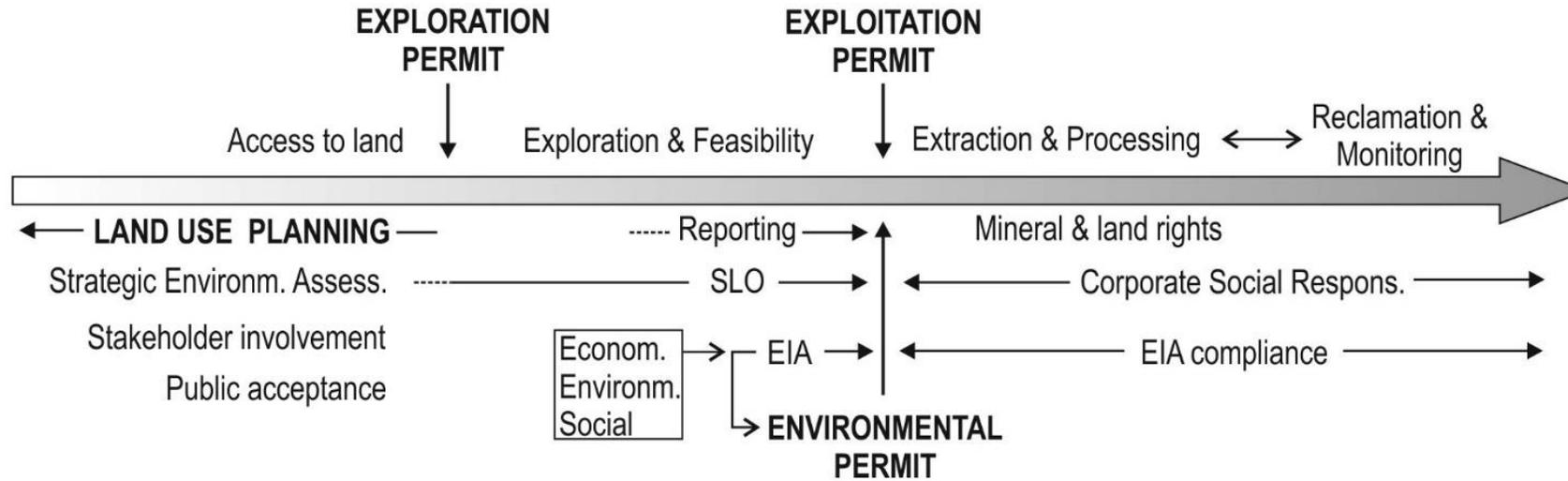
This justifies the need for:

- “soft” policy approaches
- New mineral assessment approaches (Valorization of minerals for LUP)



Nickless, E. et al. 2015. Resourcing Future Generations: A Global Effort to Meet The World's Future Needs Head-on. International Union of Geological Sciences.

Minerals Safeguarding takes place during LUP



Two major administrative bottlenecks:

- Exploration Permit: allows a mining company to get access to land to conduct exploration works;
- Exploitation Permit: In view of positive results, awarding the extraction permit depends on the Environmental Permit.

But none of this is achieved unless mining companies have access to land to conduct exploration works, which is decided during the LUP process, before the start of development of any mining project

Thank you for your attention!