

Tailings Management and Heap Leach Management

Objective, Purpose, and Context

Kinross’ business *purpose* is to deliver value through operational excellence, balance sheet strength, disciplined growth, and responsible mining.

Our policy statement *objective* is to manage safely the heap leach facilities at our mining operations and tailings produced. Our priority is the responsible stewardship of tailings storage facilities and heap leach pads through stable and safe containment, mitigation of operational risks, and responsible closure. We have identified tailings management and associated heap leach management as a material Sustainability topic for Kinross and a priority for the Company, of critical importance to our stakeholders and the long- term success of our business.

This policy statement relates to the following material impacts, risks and opportunities (IROs).

Impact	Risk	Opportunity
On lives, human rights, health of communities due to tailings storage facilities failures	To operations, finances, and reputation associated with poor tailings storage management	<i>To ensure continued license to operate through strong tailing storage facilities governance and management</i>
On ecosystems, water quality, and community health from tailings storage facility failures	To social license to operate from failures of tailings storage facilities	
	Financial and operational risk due to tailings management challenges, especially in inherited facilities	

Note: positive IROs are italicized

This policy statement describes:

- Scope and application: who is affected and where they can find information
- Commitments and approach: how we aim to meet the policy statement objective
- Accountability: who is responsible from site level to Board of Directors

All Kinross sites operate in unique geographical, climatic and jurisdictional contexts. Each operation is responsible for meeting a broad range of environmental regulations, complex permit requirements and reporting obligations specific to their location. In parallel, they must meet Kinross’ company-wide requirements to meet the compliance as they relate to the safe management of tailings storage facilities (TSF) and heap leach pads at our mines. For all our sites, stakeholder engagement and proximity to local communities also play a critical role in shaping each site’s approach to managing impacts and mitigating risks associated with TSFs and heap leach pads.

Scope and Application

This policy statement applies to all Kinross geographies and assets and the value chain upstream.

Our stakeholders have been considered in this policy statement as described below:

Stakeholder	Policy statement effect on stakeholder	Consideration of stakeholder in setting this policy statement
Own Workers	To provide clarity on company commitments and approach	Company values and culture
Investors/ Financial	To provide clear governance information	Outreach on Sustainability topics
Communities	To provide clarity on company commitments and approach	Relationship, impacts and local benefits
Media	To provide transparency about our commitments and approach	Response to requests and/or proactive outreach
Governments	To provide transparency about our commitments and approach	Relationship, reporting as required and compliance with applicable regulation
Insurers	To provide clear governance information	Outreach on Sustainability topics
Refiners	To provide clear governance information	Through conformance with the Responsible Gold Mining Principles
Suppliers / contractors	To provide clarity on company commitments and approach	Through engagement on Supplier Standards of Conduct and Sustainability topics
Civil Society	To provide transparency about our commitments and approach	Through partnerships and engagement

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Commitments and Approach

As a senior gold company, Kinross is *committed* to the membership requirements of the World Gold Council through its **Responsible Gold Mining Principles**. Principle 8 refers specifically to tailings management (8.2 tailings and waste management).

We are also committed to support progress towards the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs). Kinross is focused on SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production), and relevant sub-goals applicable to tailings (12.4), pertaining to the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle.

Our *approach* to tailings management is driven by best practice standards including the Mining Association of Canada's (MAC) guidance and the Canadian Dam Association (CDA) guidelines, as well as the implementation of the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (GISTM) and the MAC's Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) at Paracatu. We design, build, manage and decommission tailings storage and large-scale water infrastructure using ongoing management and governance practices in line with these widely supported good practice guidelines. We will not develop a new mine that would involve the use of riverine or shallow submarine tailings.

Kinross' Tailings and Dam Safety Management Standard, part of our Environment Management System (EMS), is aligned with these external guidelines with the goal of ensuring we are best serving the needs of our sites and stakeholders, as well as meeting our regulatory compliance obligations. We incorporate best practices such as periodic independent reviews and detailed Operating, Maintenance and Surveillance (OMS) Manuals.

Our tailings management standards are applied at all Kinross sites across all stages of mine life – design, construction, operation and closure. Our tailings containment facilities are required to be:

- **Strong and physically stable under anticipated climatic and operational conditions.**
- **Designed, constructed and managed to meet or exceed regulatory and international standards of best practice.** Our criteria for site selection and for protecting the environment exclude the use of submarine or riverine tailings disposal methods.
- **Chemically stable** so that the quality of the seepage or surface run-off does not endanger ground and surface water, human health or the environment.
- **When ready for closure**, this is to be done in compliance with the applicable law.



Due Diligence

Our tailings management program is rooted in technical excellence and a rigorous system of oversight, accountability and third-party independent review of our facilities. Independent review panels consist of a minimum of two reviewers, with three reviewers for the Paracatu review panel. Tailings reviews are conducted at minimum every three years, and annually at Paracatu. Internal audits of Kinross’ tailings management program are conducted every three years.

Monitoring and Reporting

Responsibility for the safe design and operation of tailings facilities resides with the General Manager of each of our sites, who in turn designates a “Responsible Person” to coordinate the daily management of tailings facilities including tailings disposal, water management, construction, monitoring, reclamation and closure.

A quarterly Tailings Scorecard, a core strength of our corporate tailings management program, provides a comprehensive and transparent account of tailings operations and management, and identifies potential risks. The Tailings Scorecard is based on site-specific key performance indicators to assess tailings conditions and management including tailings deposition, water management, surveillance and monitoring systems, monitoring data, construction progress, emergency preparedness and response plans, and closure planning. The Tailings Scorecard is reviewed quarterly by the Senior Vice President, Technical Services. At the Board of Directors level, oversight of Kinross’ tailings management and risk, includes quarterly review of the Tailings Scorecard by the Corporate Responsibility and Technical Committee (CRTC).

Kinross maintains a comprehensive [Tailings Disclosure Report](#) detailing the status of active, inactive and closed tailings management facilities, available here. We also report annual performance pertaining to tailings management in Kinross’ Sustainability Report, as well as in our CDP Water response. Achievements pertaining to tailings management are also publicized through our online newsletter Kinross World.

Heap Leach Management

A new standard within our EMS, Kinross’ Heap Leach Management Standard is based on our existing tailings management standard and addresses the unique requirements of heap leach pads. This standard reflects the critical importance of strong governance and oversight in ensuring heap leach pad stability, both for Kinross and the broader industry. The new heap leach standard establishes minimum design requirements, standards for external engineering support and protocols for independent review. In line with our tailings management, the heap leach standard includes a heap leach stability scorecard to monitor performance and identify actions to address any deficiencies.

Accountability

Functional responsibility pertaining to tailings management and heap leach management resides with the Vice-President, Environment. The Senior Vice-President, Technical Services has management responsibility and is a member of the Kinross Senior Leadership Team. Board oversight and governance are the responsibility of the [Corporate Responsibility and Technical Committee](#) of the Board of Directors.

This policy statement will be reviewed annually in parallel with our Sustainability reporting cycle to ensure it accurately describes what we do in practice to manage our Sustainability impacts, risks and opportunities.

Document control

This policy statement forms an integral part of Kinross’ 2024 Sustainability Disclosures, approved by Board resolution on 27-May 2025, and replaces prior document – Management Approach, Tailings Management, dated May 2024.



To learn more about our tailings management and heap leach management, see our most recent [Sustainability Report](#).