

ASSESSMENT OF THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF SOME LIMESTONE RESOURCES FROM THE NORTHERN PERAK REGION, MALAYSIA

K.K. CHEANG

School of Materials and Mineral Resources Engineering
Universiti Sains Malaysia, Jalan Bandaraya
30000 Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia.

An assessment of the quality and quantity of some limestone resources was carried out in the Northern Perak region in order to better plan quarrying operations as well as to control more effectively, the quality of materials fed to the cement plants. The project involved several phases of work including surface mapping and sampling, diamond drilling, topographic projection using aerial photographic surveys and chemical analyses of all major oxides (SiO_2 , Al_2O_3 , Fe_2O_3 , CaO , MgO) using X-ray fluorescence technique. The Northern Perak region under study comprises a series of karst-dominated, irregular hills. This has given rise to various zones enriched in silica, magnesium or calcium and depletion in other elements. The different grades of limestones delineated, may be used for different purposes.