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UNDERSTANDING ACID MINE DRAINAGE (AMD): CAUSES, IMPACTS, CONTROL AND THE LOCAL SCENARIO

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ABSTRACT

Acid Mine Drainage (AMD) is a well documented worldwide environmental problem associated with mining activities, including coal and base metal mining. Nevertheless, it is a relatively new environmental issue in Malaysia and consequently scientific understanding and experiences on AMD causes, impacts and control is still low. This paper presents a brief overview on the science (chemistry, geology and biology) of AMD formation, its environmental impacts and methods of control, with specific references to the ex-copper mine in Ranau, Sabah.