

CERAMAH TEKNIK TECHNICAL TALK

How effective are the peer reviews of groundwater models?

Ehsan Kamali Maskooni
Flinders University, Australia
Date: 23 November 2023
Platform: Zoom

Introduction of the speaker:

Mr. Ehsan Kamali Maskooni is a PhD candidate, holding a Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree in Natural Resources Engineering from Shiraz University, Iran. His academic journey led him to an international research experience as a visiting researcher at Lund University, Sweden, for two years. During this period, Ehsan actively contributed to various research projects, honing expertise in the fields of hydrogeology and remote sensing and published his findings in several international journals, which led him to receive a highly competitive scholarship (FIPRS) to continue his education. Since March 2022, Ehsan is commencing his doctoral research project, titled 'A numerical modelling investigation of mining impacts in the central Galilee Basin (Australia): Conceptual model testing and analysis of threats to an iconic spring complex.' Ehsan's work centres around groundwater modelling, with a specific focus on assessing the environmental implications of coal mining activities on springs, in the Galilee Basin, central Queensland, Australia.

Summary of the webinar:

Around 51 online participants attended the online talk, which is quite encouraging, considering that Malaysia has limited numbers of groundwater practitioner. The talk is aimed to spur the interest of the local groundwater industries, especially the authorities, to look back at previous groundwater reports and maybe re-analyse the reports.

Peer reviews are very important and crucial, in making sure that the earlier reports are accurate and not-biased. Several examples were highlighted by the speaker, and the standout ones probably the case of ADANI Coal Mines, which also caught the attention of international groundwater communities.

In local context, the speaker suggested that maybe LYNAS Pahang case could be a good start for a peer review exercise, as the environmental impact of it will surely be huge.

Throughout the webinar, Prof. Adrian Werner, the Professor of Hydrogeology at Flinders University, also interacts and put out his opinion on several aspect of the talk.

Several specific questions regarding the talk were also answered by both Mr. Ehsan and Prof. Adrian, before the webinar ended at 1.45 pm.

Prepared by,
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Chairperson, Hydrogeology Working Group
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