

Cyprus-type Volcanogenic Massive Sulphide Deposit and Acid Mine Drainage



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Volcanogenic Massive Sulphide deposits were mined extensively in Cyprus since ancient times. Modern day extensive open-pit excavation resulted in considerable mine wastage and concomitant environmental concerns, particularly the production of Acid Mine Drainage. At Sia, on the northern flanks of the Troodos ophiolite, a hydrologic system consisting of an open-pit lake, waste rock and tailings dumps, a river running into a downstream dam-lake, and localised groundwater circulation, has been investigated to identify the nature and source of environmental contamination, the mechanism and results of acid water generation, and the effects on the system of seasonal climatic variation.

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