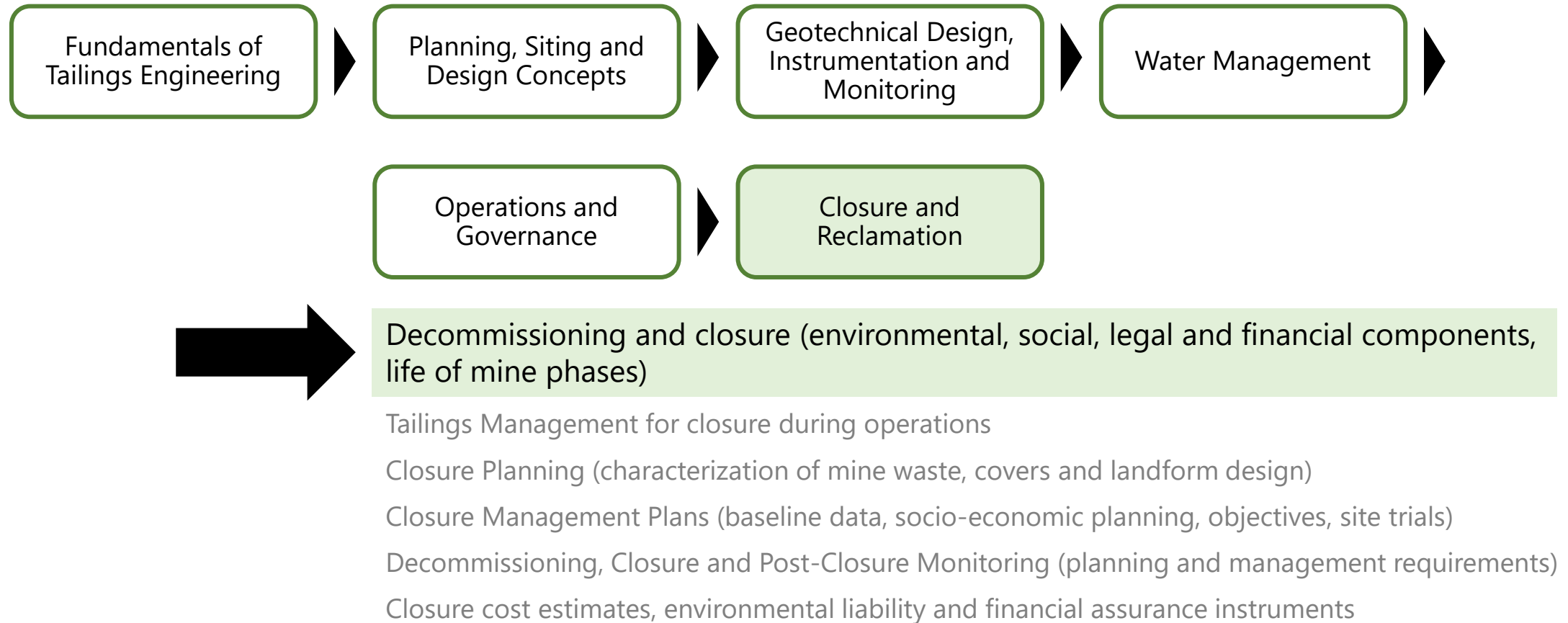


TC Short Course 6: TSF Closure and Reclamation

TSF Closure and Reclamation

Terry Braun, M.S., P.E., RM-SME

The Fundamentals Short Course Certification Program



Instructor Background



Terry Braun, M.S., P.E., RM-SME

 **srk** consulting
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- 30 years of experience in mining and environmental projects
- Various roles involving ESG, Project Finance and project development and closure
- Licensed Engineer (Civil) in Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas
- B.S. Civil Engineering, CU-Boulder
- M.S. Environmental Science and Engineering, Colorado School of Mines

Big Ideas

TSF Decommissioning and Closure

Past to Present Framework

GISTM (again)

Mining Life Cycle Perspective

Environmental and Social –
industry practice and guidance

Long-game



Past to present framework Mining Operations

Legacy Site – Operated and **Closed**
Prior to Modern Era of Mining and
Environmental Regulation

e.g., small to large-scale
disturbance, limited (to no)
engineering controls, NO
operating cash flow or financial
assurance

Long-Term Producer – Operated **Prior to and During** Modern Era of
Mining and Environmental Regulation

e.g., large-scale disturbance, encroachment
of surrounding development, old and new
engineering controls, operating cash flow,
financial assurance

Contemporary Producer – Planned and
Operated **During** Modern Era of Mining
and Environmental Regulation

e.g., planned for surrounding
development, new engineering
controls and closure planning,
financial assurance

Suggested Reference(s):

Legacy Site - GISTM – Towards Zero Harm, Compendium, Chapter IX Addressing Legacy Sites, Page 126
(<https://globaltailingsreview.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/GTR-TZH-compendium.pdf>)



Working Definitions (as applied to TSFs)

Decommissioning – removal of un-needed infrastructure (e.g., pipelines, pumphouses, powerlines, roads)

Closure – act of transitioning the TSF from the operating condition to a post-operational landform that is physically and chemically stable

Progressive/Concurrent Closure – closure activities that can take place during the operating phase of a mining project

Post-Closure – monitoring, maintenance and reporting activities following implementation of the closure program

Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (on Closure)

Affected Communities Topic I

Principle 1

Respect the rights of **Project-Affected People** and **Meaningfully Engage** them at all phases of the **Tailings Facility Lifecycle**, including **closure**

Integrated Knowledge Base Topic II

Principle 2

Develop and maintain an interdisciplinary **Knowledge Base** to support safe **Tailings Management** throughout the **Tailings Facility Lifecycle**, including **closure**

Principle 3

Use all elements of the **Knowledge Base** – social, environmental, local economic and technical – to inform decisions throughout the **Tailings Facility Lifecycle**, including **closure**

<https://globaltailingsreview.org>

Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (on Closure)

Design, Construction, Operation and Monitoring of the Tailings Facility

Topic III

Principle 6

Plan, build and operate the **Tailings Facility** to manage risk at all phases of the **Tailings Facility Lifecycle**, including **closure** and **post-closure**

Principle 7

Design, implement and operate **monitoring systems** to manage risk at all phases of the facility lifecycle, including **closure**

<https://globaltailingsreview.org>

Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (on Closure)

Management and Governance

Topic IV

Principle 8

Establish policies, systems and accountabilities to support the safety and integrity of the Tailings Facility

Principle 9

Appoint and empower an **Engineer of Record**

Principle 10

Establish and implement **levels of review** as part of a strong quality and risk management system for all phases of the Tailings Facility Lifecycle, including **closure**

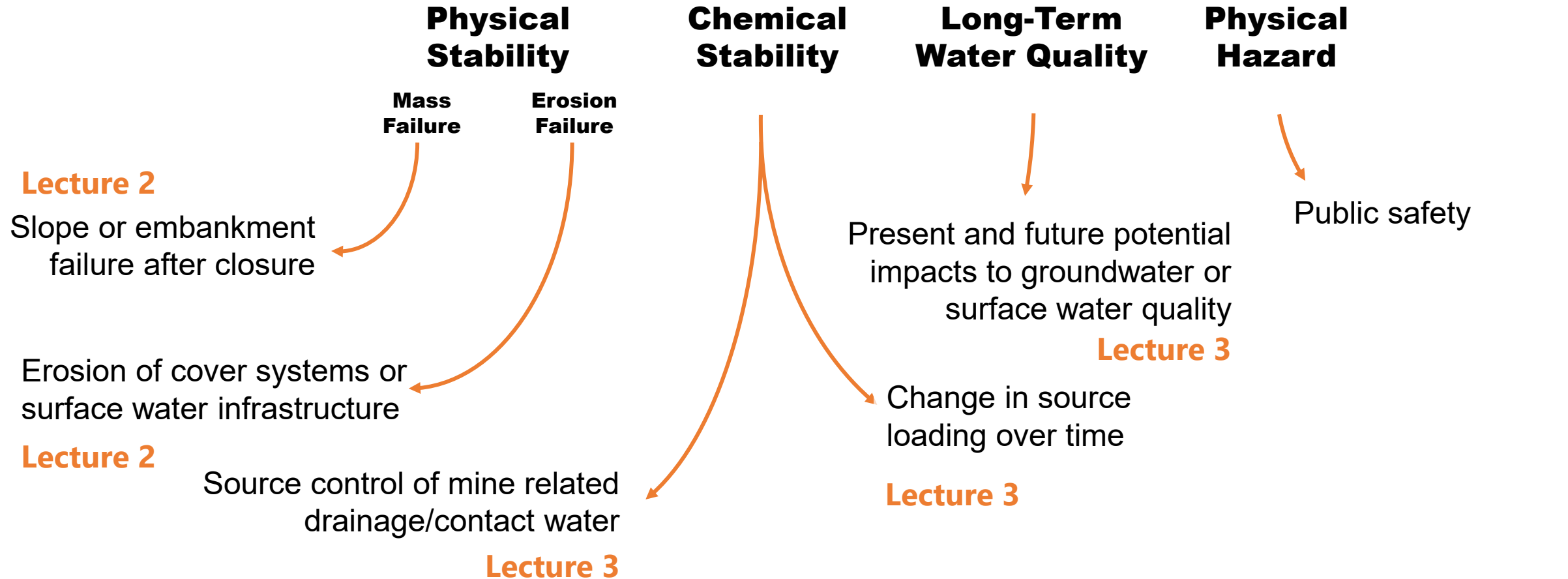
Suggested Reference(s):

GISTM – Towards Zero Harm, Compendium, Chapter VIII Closure and Reclamation, Page 109

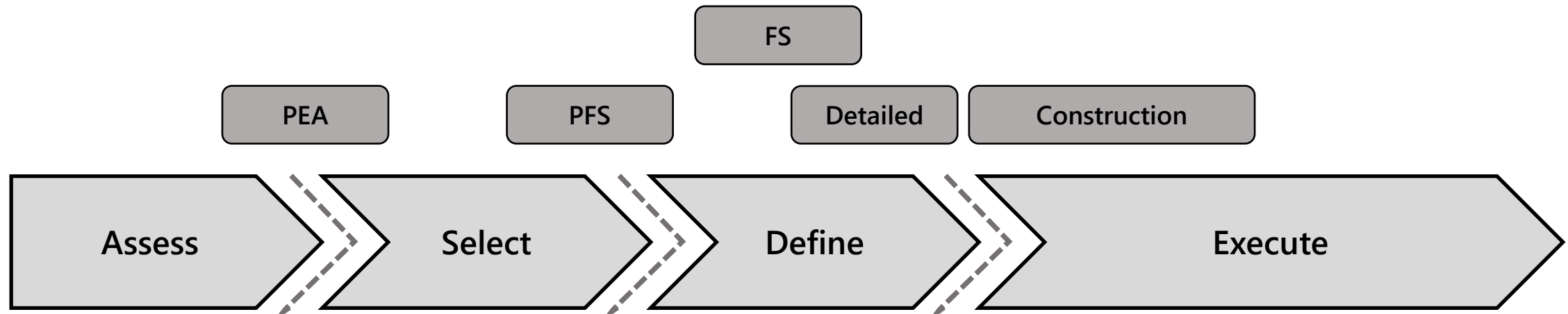
(<https://globaltailingsreview.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/GTR-TZH-compendium.pdf>)

<https://globaltailingsreview.org>

General Risk Areas TSF Closure



Mining Life Cycle Front End Loading (FEL) framework



Stage-Gate Project Development and Delivery Process (After Figure 10.1, Merrow (2011))

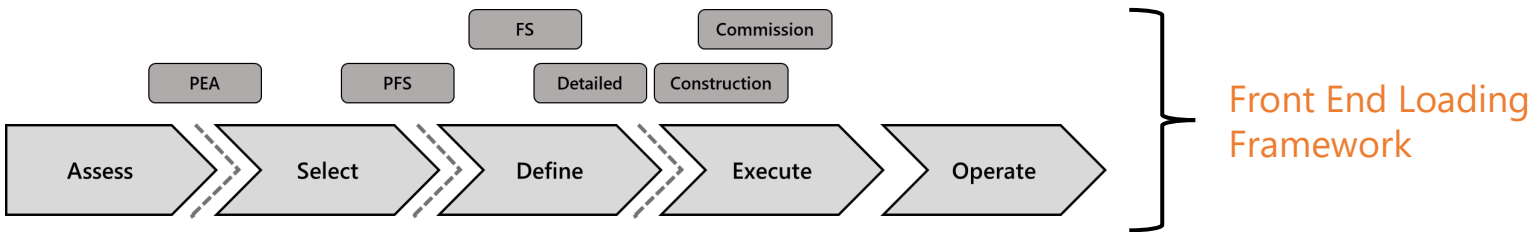
Suggested Reference(s):

Merrow, Edward R. (2011), "Industrial Megaprojects, Concepts, Strategies, and Practices for Success."

Barshop, Paul (2016), "Capital Projects, What Every Executive Needs to Know to Avoid Costly Mistakes and Make Major Investment Decisions Pay Off"

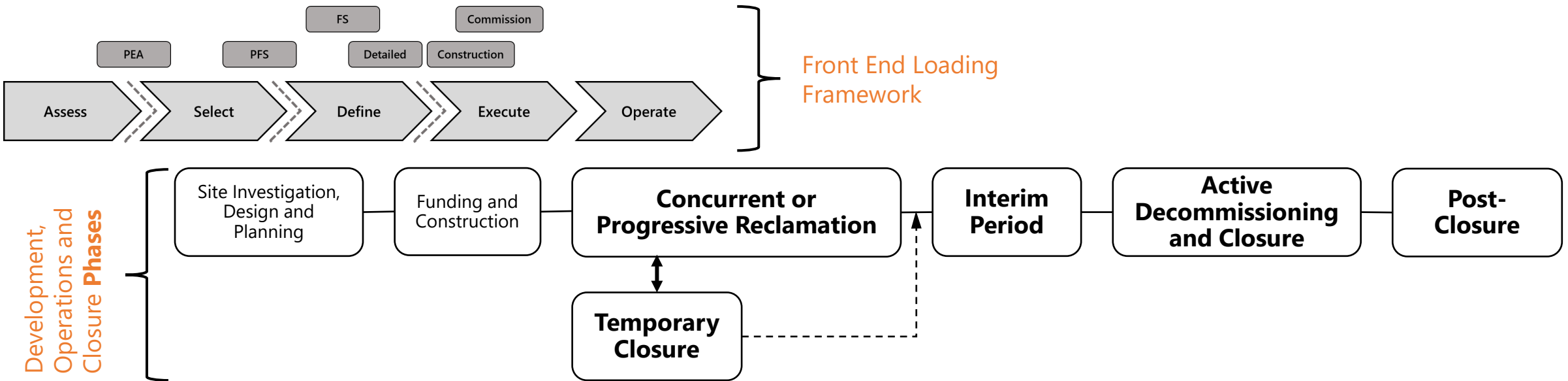
Independent Project Analysis (<https://www.ipaglobal.com/>)

Mining Life Cycle Development and Closure

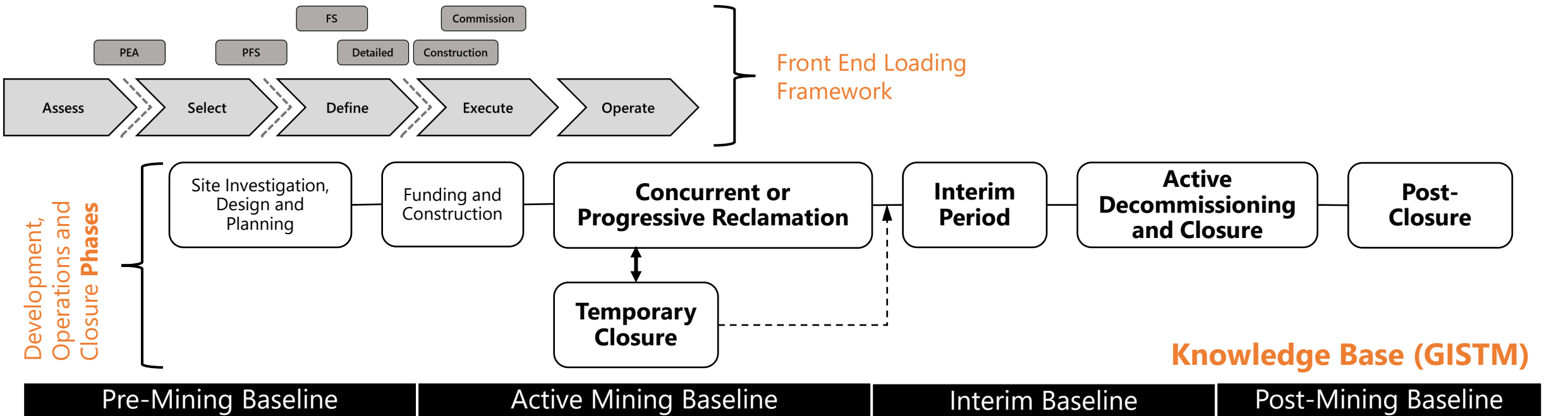


Mining Life Cycle

Development and Closure

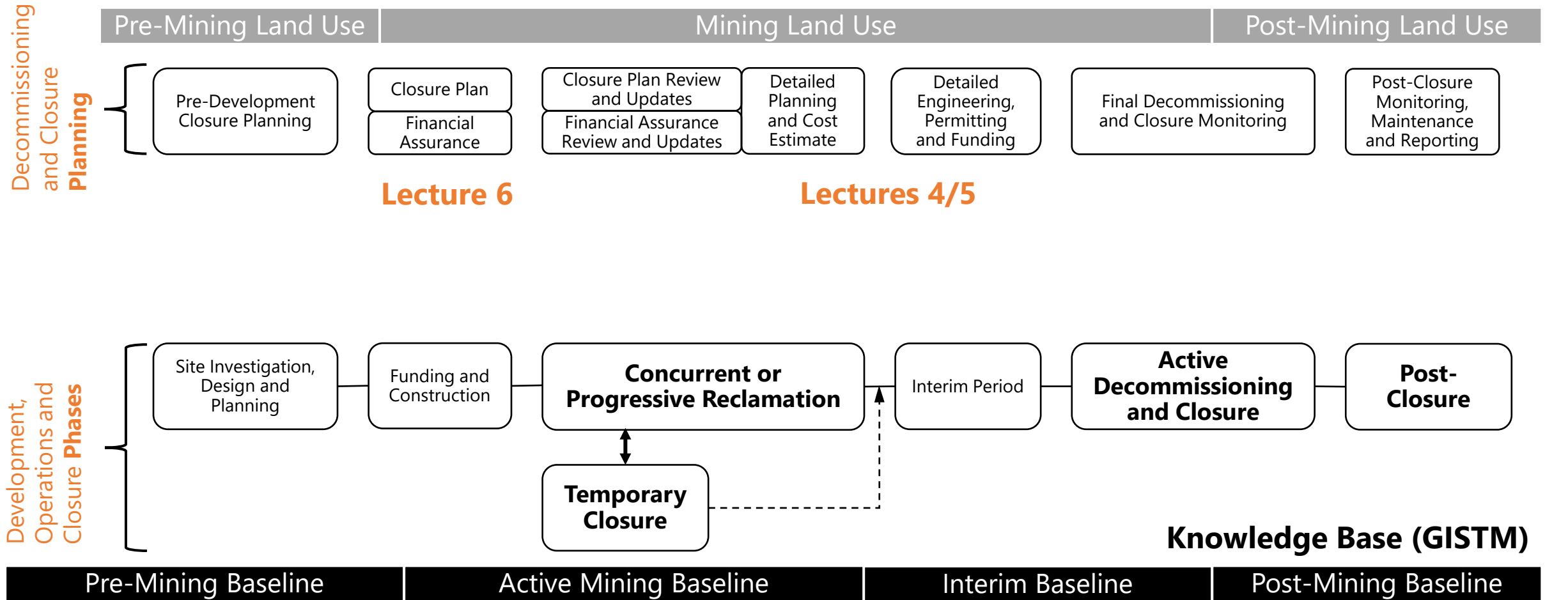


Mining Life Cycle Development and Closure



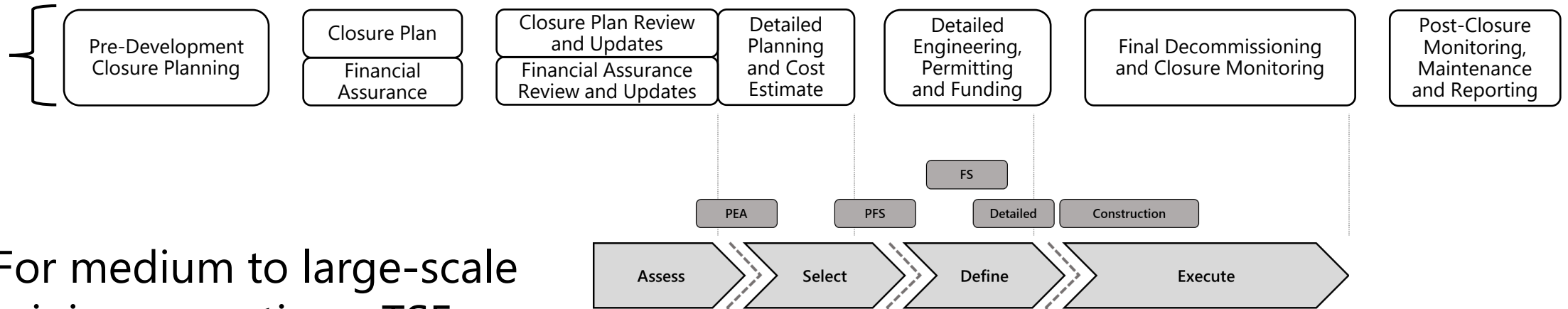
Mining Life Cycle

Development and Closure



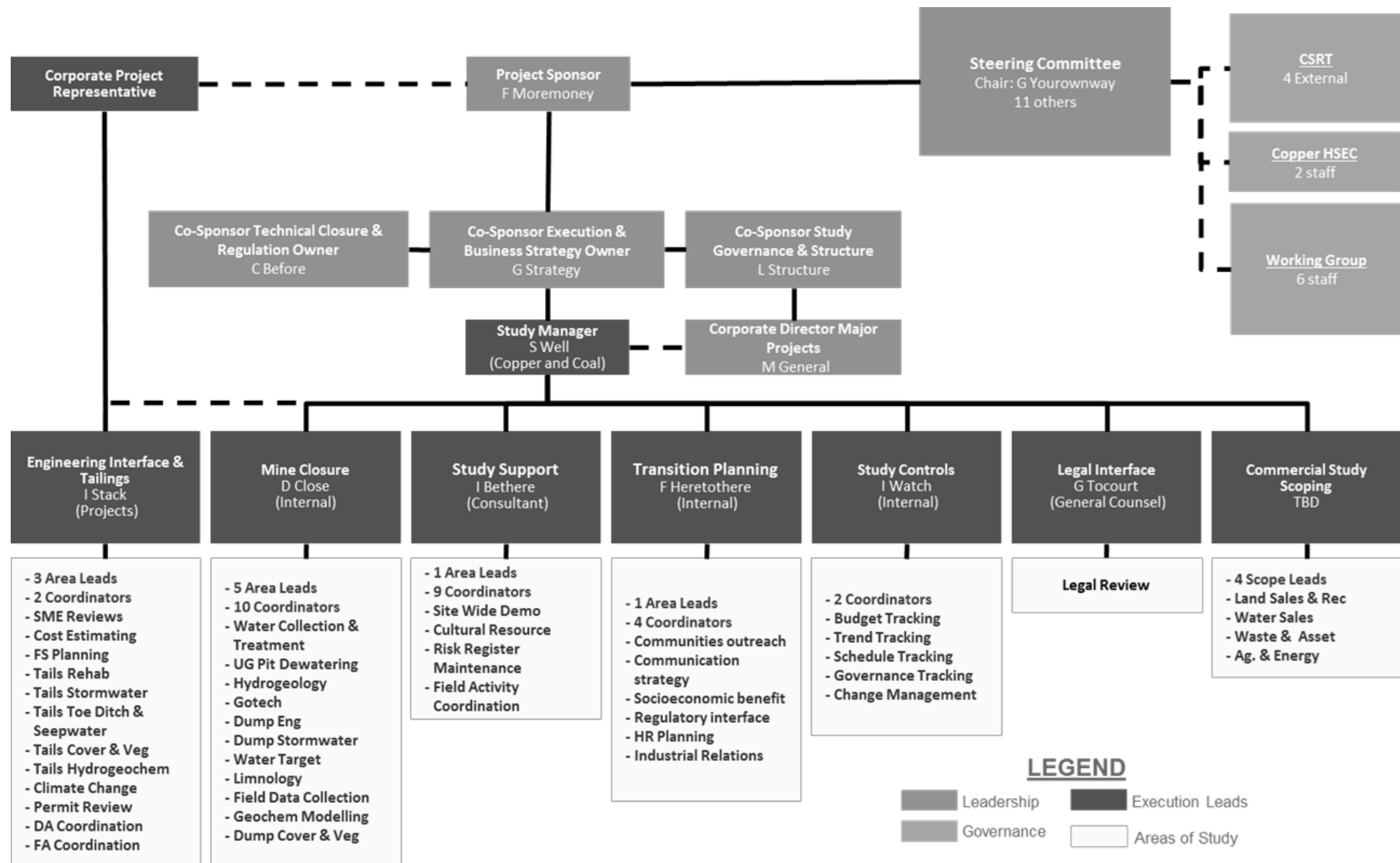
Mining Life Cycle Development and Closure

Decommissioning
and Closure
Planning



For medium to large-scale mining operations, TSF Closure can be part of a **Major Capital project**

Conceptual designs when closure > 5 years in future
PFS designs when closure > 2 and < 5 years in future
FS/Detail designs when closure < 2 years in future



Environmental and Social Industry Practice and Guidance

Environmental performance standards trending toward global applicability, driven in part by Environmental, Social and Governance:

- Responsible Business
- Responsible Sourcing
- Responsible Finance

Broad stakeholder engagement under GISTM

Keyword Search: IFC Performance Standards, Sustainable Supply Chains, ICMM Mining Principles, Towards Sustainable Mining

Useful References

<https://gecamin.com/planningforclosure/>

<https://tailingsandminewaste.com/>



<https://mineclosure2021.com/>

APRIL 2018 MMSA MINE SUMMIT

April 2018 MMSA Mine Summit Flyer

April 2018 MMSA Mine Summit
Proceedings

2017 MINE SUMMIT

2017 Mine Summit Flyer

2017 Mine Summit Agenda

2017 Mine Summit Speaker Bios

2017 Mine Summit Facilitator Bios

2017 Mine Summit Attendees

2017 Mine Summit Summary

2017 Mine Summit Interactive Agenda

2016 MINE SUMMIT

2016 Mine Summit Info

2016 Mine Summit Flyer

2016 Mine Summit Agenda

2016 Mine Summit Bios

2016 Mine Summit Attendees

NOVEMBER 7TH 2018 MINE SUMMIT

November 2018 Mine Summit Flyer

November 2018 Mine Summit Agenda

November 2018 Mines Summit Speaker
Bios

November 2018 Mine Summit
Presentations

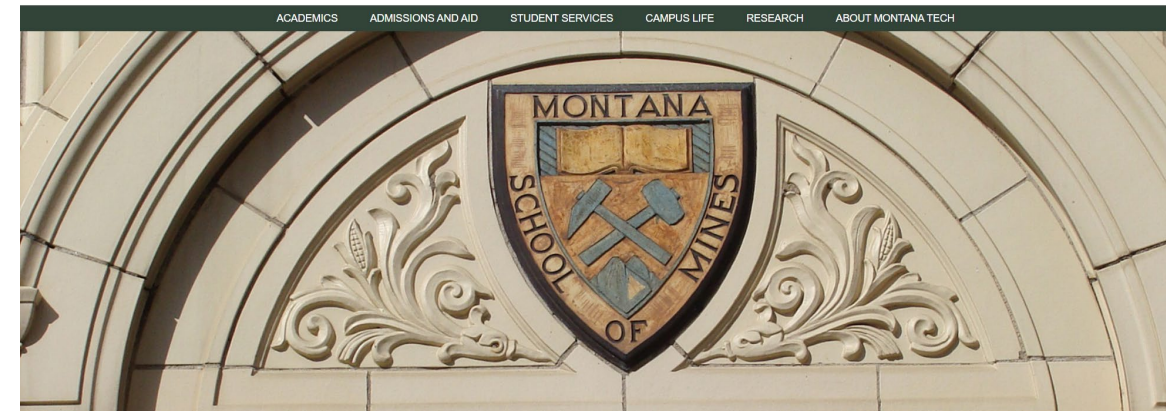
November 2018 Summit Photos

November 2018 Summit Attendees



<https://www.smenet.org/>
onemine.org

MONTANA <https://www.mtech.edu/mwtp/index.html>
TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY



Mine Design,
Operations and
Closure Conference

Mine Design, Operations & Closure Conference
August 22nd - August 26th 2021

<https://mining.mines.edu/mine-summit/>

THE TAILINGS CENTER



Course 6 – Lecture Series

Lecture 1 → Tailings Facility Decommissioning and Closure

Lecture 2 → TSF Closure Planning

Lecture 3 → Geochemical Aspects of Tailings Facility Closure

Panel/Round Table 1 → Designing for Closure

Lecture 4 → TSF Closure Management Plans

Lecture 5 → TSF Decommissioning, Closure, and Post Closure Monitoring

Lecture 6 → Closure Cost Estimates, Environmental Liability, and Financial Assurance Instruments

Panel/Round Table 2 → Financial Assurance for Closure

Takeaways

GISTM contemplates closure (e.g., **integrated knowledge base**)

Engineering TSF risks **persist** in Closure
(keep your notes from Courses 1 through 5)

Mining Life Cycle from a **FEL perspective**

- TSF Closure can be part of larger scope and considered a **Major Capital Project**

ESG trends extend to closure

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Reputation.

Didn't close your last mine "right"?

Prepare for an uphill battle for your next new mine...