

## Call for Papers

### New Solutions: A Journal of Environmental and Occupational Health Policy

#### Extractive Industries

In 2012, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights obligations related to environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and waste released a report on the extractive industries. The report highlighted the many ways in which unsound management of hazardous substances and waste in the extractive industries was impacting adversely on human rights and on health and contributing substantially to a growing burden of disease globally.

This report coincided with growing international concern following a number of high profile disasters in the mining and petroleum industries. At the same time, the social impacts of the extractive industries, through displacement of communities, disruption of local economic livelihoods, social disruption and contamination of water and other environmental media, associated with environmental degradation, was increasingly emerging as the target of popular campaigns.

Some have argued that the very act of removing “a natural resource from its natural surroundings for industrial purposes without provision for their renewal in a socially, economically or environmentally viable timeframe” is inherently a destructive practice and incompatible with environmental sustainability. Furthermore, it appears that, in many parts of the world, sectors of the extractive industries, particularly in mining, remain dependent on unskilled labour and the perpetuation of inequality continues through a deliberate absence of skills development. Are there viable and less polluting alternatives to extraction of natural resources as vehicles for sustainable livelihoods?

**New Solutions seeks submissions** for a special issue that will focus on the extractive industries. Extractive industries are defined as processes that involve the extraction of raw materials from the natural environment to be used for consumption and include the mining of precious and other metals (e.g. gold, silver, iron, manganese, tin, asbestos and rare-earth metals, amongst others), and the extraction of energy sources such as coal, uranium, natural gas, oil sources such as oil shale and tar sands, as well as dredging and quarrying for primary materials. Because *New Solutions* is a policy journal, manuscripts, including scientific papers, should include a perspective that addresses relevant policy concerns. Manuscripts are welcome for any of its journal sections, including: Scientific Solutions, Feature Articles, Movement Solutions, Documents, Voices, and Comment and Controversy.

Potential topic areas include:

- Health and safety in the extractive industries – obstacles, opportunities and accountability

- Waste management practices in the extractive industries and their impact on the health of workers and communities;
- Systems for the prevention and compensation of work-related illness and injury in the extractive industries
- Health and environmental impacts of small-scale mining
- Uranium mining and its impact
- The relationship between the growth of extractive industries in Low-Income and Lower-Middle Income countries and social policy impacting on health
- Legal and civil society struggles for health and safety in the extractive industries
- Extractive industries operating in countries experiencing armed conflict
- The role of trade unions in promoting health and safety in relation to the extractive industries
- The human rights impacts of extractive industries and their relationship to health and the environment.
- Gender concerns in the extractive industries
- Labour migration and the extractive industries
- Conditions of work, outsourcing, sub-contracting and living conditions associated with employment in the extractive industries

We encourage submissions that highlight possible alternatives or solutions and examples of positive community responses and activities.

For information about the journal and to view instructions for authors, please visit the journal website: [www.newsolutionsjournal.com](http://www.newsolutionsjournal.com) or <http://baywood.com/journals/previewjournals.asp?id=1048-2911>

Submissions must be made online at [www.newsolutionsjournal.com](http://www.newsolutionsjournal.com) by **March 31, 2015**. Earlier submissions are encouraged to ensure consideration. Pre-submission inquiries may be sent to the editors: [leslie.london@uct.ac.za](mailto:leslie.london@uct.ac.za) and [sophia.kisting@nioh.nhls.ac.za](mailto:sophia.kisting@nioh.nhls.ac.za)

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