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Conflict Minerals

Associated Environmental Systems overview and policy statement on Conflict Minerals.

Overview

Associated Environmental Systems support the objectives of the US legislation on the supply of conflict minerals. Conflict minerals are mined in areas where armed conflict and the abuse of human rights are used as a method of control. These mines are mostly located in the eastern provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The minerals extracted from these mines are the "three T's": tantalum, tin, and tungsten, and gold.

The extraction and sale of blood diamonds, also known as "conflict diamonds", is a better-known phenomenon, which occurs under virtually identical conditions.

Policy Commitment

AES respects both human rights and the environment which is why we will comply with the ever increasing demand to avoid conflict minerals from the DRC regions.

- 1. Support the aims and objectives of the U.S. legislation on the supply of "conflict minerals".
- 2. Do not knowingly procure specified metals that originate from facilities in the "Conflict Region" that are not certified as "conflict free".
- 3. Ensure compliance with these requirements, and ask our suppliers to undertake reasonable due diligence with their supply chains to assure that specified metals are being sourced only from:
 - Mines and smelters outside the "Conflict Region" or
 - Mines and smelters which have been certified by an independent third party as "conflict free" if sourced within the "Conflict Region".

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