Mining Engineering Weekly Seminar

Wednesday, January 29th, 4:00 pm
Brown Hall Room 125
Ms. Kimberly (Finke) Morrison, PE, RG
Director, Tailings & Water Management at Newmont

Impacts of Recent Tailings Failures on the Industry – An Owner’s Perspective

Abstract:
The devastating failure of Tailings Dam I at Vale’s Córrego do Feijão mine near Brumadinho, Brazil, in January of this year, which resulted in the death of over 250 people, has been a wake-up call to the industry and its investors with respect to so-called “inactive” tailings dams. Within days after the failure, new legislation was enacted in Brazil. In March, the International Council on Mining & Metals (ICMM) for which Vale is a member co-convened a Global Tailings Review. Then, in early April, the Church of England Pensions Board and the Swedish Council on Ethics for AP Funds issued an urgent letter to 683 listed extractive companies, including all of ICMM’s members, demanding disclosures on every individual tailings facility under their control. This presentation will review the chain of events leading to the present, review current initiatives to improve tailings management practices globally, and provide an open forum for discussion of an owner’s perspective.

Bio:
Kim is a tailings, heap leach and water management specialist with over 23 years of experience, providing technical expertise on over 90 mine and/or dam sites spanning the globe, including more than 19 countries in North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Australia and Europe. She serves as the Director of Tailings & Water Management at the corporate headquarters of Newmont in Denver, Colorado. Kim joined Newmont in April 2019, shortly after the devastating tailings dam failure in Brazil that occurred in January 2019. In her role, she is responsible for supporting Newmont’s global operations with tailings and water management, including providing operational support and overseeing development and implementation of governance programs.