

WEACAU-III:
Workshop on Environmental Aspects of Coal Ash Uses
Complementary Session
Volcani Center ARO, Bet Dagan, Israel
May 13th 2013

Workshop's objectives

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In this, the supplementary session of the 3rd meeting of the workshop on the environmental aspects of the uses of coal ash, relevant information gathered through research and field application in recent years will be presented. It is expected that the deliberations that will take place in this meeting will facilitate the application of the accumulated knowledge as the foundation for effective environmental regulations that will govern the safe use of coal ash and for methodologies to enforce these regulations. It is also hoped that the presentations and discussions that will take place in this meeting will help to optimize the occupational hygiene requirements and result in recommendations for the proper use of coal ash in its various applications.

In at least two areas the acquired knowledge and experience already led to the formulation of regulations which were adopted by the Ministry of the Environment, or are at least undergoing a review by its staff: Coal ash was removed from the list of hazardous dusts and its definition was changed from crystalline silica to a mere nuisance dust; an advanced draft of the environmental requirements for the use of coal ash in construction materials, infrastructure and agriculture was prepared and is being studied by the staff of the Ministry of the Environment. This draft will be deliberated in the present meeting for the purpose of imbedding in it the experience and considerable knowledge of the participants.

The topics to be discussed in this meeting are:

- Identification of the properties of the ash which determine its interaction with the environment, as a function of the nature of the particular relevant environment (e.g., the properties of the soil to which coal ash is added).
- Assessment of the health and environmental risks involved in every application of the ash, taking into consideration the properties of the ash, the relevant environmental situations and the nature of the application.
- The suitability of the proposed regulatory policy for each of the ash applications, taking into account given health and environmental criteria and the characteristics of the ash.
- The contribution of novel measurement and assessment techniques to the regulation of coal ash applications.