



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

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| Journal Name:            | <a href="#">International Journal of Plant &amp; Soil Science</a> |
| Manuscript Number:       | 2014_IJPSS_14136                                                  |
| Title of the Manuscript: | Investigating Heavy Metal Pollution in Soils at Tarkwa, Ghana     |
| Type of the Article      | Original research paper                                           |

**General guideline for Peer Review process:**

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



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**PART 1: Review Comments**

|                                            | <b>Reviewer's comment</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Author's comment</b> <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i> |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Compulsory</u></b> REVISION comments |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b><u>Minor</u></b> REVISION comments      | <p>I recommend to accept the manuscript with minor revisions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Revision of Figure 1 is needed. It seems to over-wide and not clear.</li> <li>2. The concentration of As at Old Town is twice of that of IAEA-soil-7. The centration of Ca at Akyempim is 50% higher than that of IAEA-soil-7. The centration of Hg at Mile 101/2 is slightly higher than IAEA-soil-7 criteria. The authors did not interpret the cause of the abnormal sites, but simply neglect them and conclude that the mining did not affect soil.</li> <li>3. I did not see the concentrations of heavy metal in background soil, i.e., soil outside the minning area.</li> <li>4. Three more references may be cited:</li> </ol> <p>Miao, Z.,Marrs, R. 2000. Ecological restoration and land reclamation in open-pit mine of Shanxi Province, China. Journal of Environmental Management 59: 205–215.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                             |



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|                                         | <p>Gao, L., Miao, Z., Bai, Z., Zhou, X., Zhao, J., Zhu, Y. 1998. A case study of ecological restoration at the Xiaoyi Bauxite Mine, Shanxi Province, China. Ecological Engineering 11: 221–229.</p> <p>Miao, Z., Bai, Z., Gao, L. 2000. Researches on ecological rebuilding and land reclamation in surface mines in Shanxi Province, China. Journal of Environmental Sciences 12 (4): 144–156.</p> |  |
| <b><u>Optional/General</u></b> comments | The paper is simple but important for environmental morning of African mining area.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |

**Reviewer Details:**

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name:                            | <b>Zewei Miao</b>                                               |
| Department, University & Country | <b>Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University, USA</b> |