



INDEPENDENT REVIEWS & ITRB

Our approach

To ensure that tailings facilities are designed, constructed, and managed safely and effectively throughout their lifecycle, design reviews are crucial components of tailings safety governance. Independent design reviews are often conducted to meet both internal and regulatory compliance standards for tailings and water dam projects.

Higher level, independent technical review boards (ITRBs) are appointed to advise management and leadership teams of the key risks and opportunities for a project or operations.

At HATS, we believe that review services should transcend mere compliance. The review process should add tangible value by offering practical recommendations during the design phase. An independent reviewer must understand the client's objectives, project background, and operational context to ensure the review aligns with the project stage, providing meaningful insights without causing unnecessary disruptions.

We provide a well-informed, beneficial independent design review, incorporating communication with the designer whilst carefully retaining the independent process. We provide early and ongoing updates of our review to allow stakeholders to validate the basis of the review findings and understand and support our review outcomes. Required actions can then be addressed as early as possible to minimise the time and cost impacts to the project.

Industry leaders

We are directly involved in shaping numerous regulatory frameworks and guidelines including ANCOLD Guidelines, ICOLD bulletins, ICMM Guidance Notes and have cooperated in development of the CDA guidelines.

Therefore, we understand the underlying intent and the wider context of the requirements and recommendations in these guidelines that are used as points-of-reference for independent reviews.

We bring this industry knowledge and our technical aptitude to provide high-value independent design reviews and ITRB services.

Our experience

HATS has provided independent design review and ITRB services for projects in Australia, South America and Europe, across iron ore, gold, uranium, and alumina, including:

- ITRB services for Newmont, Rio Tinto and Alcoa, and
- Independent design reviews for RTIO and Alcoa operations in Australia, Brazil and Spain.

Our recent design review of an iron ore project in Australia led to significant risk reduction and over AUD250 million in cost savings for our client.

Contact us

Contact HATS Consulting to discuss how we can provide highly effective independent design review for your next project, or ITRB services for your operations.

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