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Destructive effects of mining on people's life in the village of Lashtaghan in South Iran

Atefeh Gholami

University Science and Research Branch, Iran

The limestone mine is located in Lashtaghan, a village located in Hormozgan province in the south of Iran. The amount of sulfur and chlorine produced by the mining operation, as well as the sound of the mine explosion, have caused serious environmental issues, noise pollution and neurological diseases for the local habitants. In order to overcome these problems, this study aimed to investigate a new location for the mine in an area outside the village. To this end, 21 samples were taken from the Asmari formation and alluvia and were investigated from the viewpoint of petrography and chemical analysis (XRF). The results showed that the new proposed location with an area of 4 km^2 in Asmari formation had a considerable limestone ore reserve. Moreover, due to further distance from the salt dome, the amounts of sulfur and chlorine were significantly lower than that in the mine. The impact of noise pollution on the local people was also reduced owing to the long distance from the village.

gholami_atf@yahoo.com