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Mineralogy of the Supergene Zone

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (31 December 2022)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Supergene minerals form when rocks or buried primary orebodies are exposed at or near the Earth's surface and undergo oxidation, dissolution and reconcentration of elements. These interactions lead "immobile" elements to be concentrated and the released mobile cations to be recombined, forming supergene minerals. Supergene fluids change the distribution patterns of many elements, which diversifies the class mineralogy. It offers potential new mineral species to be discovered. The study of these minerals is important to reveal key information about earth-surface processes: element mobility, meteoric fluid–rock interactions, the oxidation-reduction process, landscape evolution and geodynamics, and critical roles of global climate regulation. They are also natural scavengers of toxic elements released in the environment and potential hosts of strategic and precious metals. Supergene ore-forming minerals have an economic importance at the first stage of mining activity: they increase the ore grade and ease the extraction process.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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