



Forensic geology applications for the solution of environmental crimes

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Forensic geology is devoted to assist law enforcements and magistrates to solve serious and environmental crimes. After the promulgation of the Italian law n. 68 of the 22th may 2015 introducing in the penal code a new title on the "Crimes versus the environment", we assist to a major involvement of forensic geologists in the resolution of environmental offenses.

Geological analyses completed by remote sensing techniques represent a powerful integrated method to discover and reconstruct illicit activities accomplished in the territory. As a matter of facts, the geological survey together the multi-time reconstruction of the landscape aspect, by means a careful analysis of aerial and satellite photographs, may assist investigation to reconstruct illicit activities accomplished in a territory and to better address investigators during the proceedings search and the consequent analysis. In Italy, serious environmental offenses to the water and soil state are perpetrated as a result of illicit activities related to a criminal management of mines and quarries and of wastes.