



# Legal Framework for Cavern Closure in Germany

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# I Introduction

- Relevance of Caverns in Germany
  - Market Stabilization
  - Strategic Importance
- Need for Cavern Closure



# II Applicable Regulations

- Federal Mining Act
- Mining Ordinances
- Administrative Guidelines
- Environmental Laws
- No EU Regulation



# III Key Legal Requirements

- Closure Permit (“Closure Plan”)
- Compliance with other Environmental Laws
- Financial Securities



# IV Operator Liability

- Civil vs. Public Law Liability
- Mining Damage Law
- Liability under Mining Law (“Mining Supervision”)
- End of Mining Supervision
- Liability under Police Laws (“Eternal Liability”)



# V Conclusion and Outlook

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- Low Degree of Regulation
- Importance of Administrative Practice
- Need for Coordination with other Environmental Bodies
- Discussion on Need for further Regulation



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