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## **Supplementary materials**

## Long-term acid generation and heavy metal leaching from the tailings of Shimokawa mine, Hokkaido, Japan: Column study under natural condition

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Figure S1 Schematic diagram of the columns used



**Figure S2** Results of mineralogical characterization by XRD of the tailings before experiment (black) and after experiment (red: uper tailings; blue: deeper tailings; green: bottom tailings)



**Figure S3** SEM photomicrographs, optical photomicrograph, and corresponding elemental maps of S, O, Si, Fe, Cu and Zn in the pre-experiment tailings sample



**Figure S4** SEM photomicrographs, optical photomicrograph, and corresponding elemental maps of S, O, Si, Fe, Cu and Zn in the post-experiment tailings sample (Case 1)



**Figure S5** SEM photomicrographs, optical photomicrograph, and corresponding elemental maps of S, O, Si, Fe, Cu and Zn in the post-experiment tailings sample (Case 2)



**Figure S6** SEM photomicrographs, optical photomicrograph, and corresponding elemental maps of S, O, Si, Fe, Cu and Zn in the post-experiment tailings sample (Case 3)



**Figure S7** Saturation indices (*SI*) of effluents from column experiments (Left:  $SIs \le 0$ ; Right: SIs > 0)