

Sequestering Plastic Waste in Disused Coalmines.

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There are many disused coalmines throughout this planet, and a proportion are very deep. One way of sequestering carbon and preventing it from polluting the environment is to collect plastic waste that cannot easily be recycled, compress it into bales and press it tightly into the worked-out or abandoned coal seams and access roads within disused coalmines. This will have the further effect of preventing or at least minimising the subsidence of the ground above the mine when the pit props and other roof supports have reached the ends of their lives and start to collapse.

It is preferable to use deeper coal workings for this purpose, as the plastic sequestered in shallow coal seams will be more likely to appear on the surface in the future through the effects of geological processes. Also, it is worth considering where future tectonic movements will take the sequestered plastic; it is clearly preferable, for the long term future of the planet, to choose locations that are travelling towards subduction zones.