

Foreword

## Protection and Restoration of the Environment VII

This Special Issue of the Journal of Hazardous Materials is a compilation of papers selected by the editors of the “Protection and Restoration of the Environment VII” Conference Proceedings. “Protection and Restoration of the Environment” is a series of biennial International Conferences that started in 1992, by a group of Greek and Greek–American scientists and engineers. This conference, held on Mykonos Island, Greece in July 2004, was the seventh of the series and coincided with the return of the Olympic Games to their birthplace. “Protection and Restoration of the Environment VII” was organized by the Center for Environmental Systems at Stevens Institute of Technology and the Laboratory of Harbor Works (LHW) at the Civil Engineering Department of the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), in collaboration with the Laboratory of Environmental Education and Communication at the Department of Environmental Studies of the University of the Aegean. Although the conference covered a wide spectrum of environmental themes only papers suitable for the Journal of Hazardous Materials were selected for review and publication in this Special Issue.

More specifically, in this Special Issue there are two review papers on emerging hazardous materials topics, one on tungsten which is currently considered an emerging contaminant of concern, especially due to its wide use in military and sports shooting related applications, and one on the use of ettringite as an emerging heavy metal immobilization technology for the treatment of liquid and solid hazardous wastes. The remaining thirteen articles focus on waste characterization, remediation and/or treatment approaches addressing wastes from military activities (five articles), dye-containing industrial streams (three articles), aquatic sediment-related pollution (two articles), waste encapsulation (one article), wastewater treatment (one article) and treatment performance assessment (one article).

The papers presented herein underwent the Journal’s normal comprehensive review process. Publication of this Special

Issue reflects the sustained efforts by both the reviewers and contributing authors. The Editors would like to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of Maria Chrysochoou who is a doctoral candidate at the Center for Environmental Systems at Stevens Institute of Technology. Without her efforts publication of this Special Issue would not have been possible. The Editors remain most grateful to the Journal Editor Dr. Charles Shackelford for his encouragement, understanding and support. Finally, we gratefully acknowledge his executive assistant Ms. Linda Hinshaw for the help she provided during the preparation of the Special Issue.

It is our sincere hope that this publication represents a significant contribution for the benefit of the scientific and regulatory communities that work for the restoration, protection and ultimate sustainability of our environment.

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