Response to the Referee 2, 2017/12:
“Simulation of a Coal Stacking Process using an Online X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) Analyser.”

December 7, 2017

We thank the Referee for the constructive comments.
We offer the following response on the comments:

1. First comment on page 1, Section 1 - One of the challenges in publishing an industrial case study is getting approval from the Intellectual Property (IP) department. This is especially difficult if real production numbers are included. Referencing information already in the public domain alleviates this problem.

2. First comment on page 1, Section 1 - The spelling was corrected.

3. First comment on page 2 - 600 m was expanded to 600 meters.

4. Second comment on page 2 - run of mine was updated to run-of-mine.

5. First comment on page 3 - The quotation marks were corrected.

6. First comment on page 5 - The URL was moved to the references.

7. Second comment on page 5 - A citation to Microsoft Excel was added.

8. Second comment on page 5 - A citation to Microsoft SQL Server was added.

9. First and second comment on page 6 - The sentence was rephrased to read “The objective of the stacking simulation model is to provide information on the ash content of the coal stacked across the length of the heap, and to provide approximations of the ash content of the coal blends on the heaps as it is reclaimed.”.

10. Third comment on page 6 - A sentence was added to clarify the assumption that it is assumed that the coal properties for each coal source going to Stacker 4 is representative of the coal properties for the same source going to the other stackers.

11. First comment on page 7 - The duplicate “data” was removed.

12. First comment on page 9 - “at least 10 replications” was replaced with “multiple replications”.

13. First comment on page 11 - The sentence was updated to make it clear that the analyzer is only on Stacker 4.