

Method for Separating Trivalent Rare Earth Metals from Waste Streams

Disclosure Number

201202811

Technology Summary

Waste streams typically contain many rare earth elements, such as trivalent rare earth metal cations. A process for reducing the content of, and/or removing, the rare earth elements to an acceptable level in the waste streams would be beneficial. The inventors have developed a process to accomplish this task. The invention has important implications for contaminant migration in subsurface environments and suggest a simple approach for recovery of rare earth elements from phosphate production waste streams, and separation from actinides.

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