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(54) Title: ENERGY-EFFICIENT PYROMETALLURGICAL PROCESS FOR TREATING LI-ION BATTERIES

(57) Abstract: The present disclosure concerns a 2-step smelting process, for recovering of Ni and Co from batteries and other sources. The process comprises the steps of: - defining an oxidizing level Ox, and a battery - bearing metallurgical charge; - oxidizing smelting of the metallurgical charge by injecting an O<sub>2</sub>-bearing gas into the melt to reach the defined oxidizing level Ox; and, - reducing smelting of the obtained slag using a heat source and a reducing agent. The process is more energy-efficient than a single-step reducing smelting process and provides for a higher purity alloy and for a cleaner final slag.

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