What is claimed is:

CLAIMS

1. A method of treating a high-solids wastewater, the method comprising:

contacting a wastewater feed from a source of high-solids wastewater with at least one of a coagulant and a flocculant to produce a dosed wastewater;

thickening the dosed wastewater to produce a sludge and an effluent;

treating the effluent with a ballast to produce a treated wastewater;

settling the treated wastewater to produce a solids-lean effluent and a solids-rich ballasted floc; and

conveying the ballasted floc to at least one of the wastewater feed, the dosed wastewater, the effluent, and the treated wastewater,

wherein treating the high-solids wastewater comprises treating wastewater including inorganic solids,

wherein treating the high-solids wastewater comprises contacting the wastewater feed from an industrial source selected from the group consisting of a power plant, a mining operation, a food and beverage production operation, an oil or gas production plant, an oil or gas production refinery, and a general industrial plant.