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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE RECOVERY OF REE AND PGM FROM SECONDARY SOURCES

(57) Abstract: The present invention is in the field of metal recycling and concerns a process for the recovery of rare earth elements (REE) and platinum group metals (PGM). The process comprises the steps of preparing a metallurgical charge, comprising PGM-bearing catalysts, REE-bearing swarf and fluxing agents; feeding the metallurgical charge to a smelting furnace operating in reducing conditions; smelting the metallurgical charge, thereby obtaining a liquid Fe-bullion containing the majority of the PGM, and a liquid slag containing the majority of the REE; and, separating the bullion and the slag; wherein the REE-bearing swarf and the PGM-bearing catalysts are smelted simultaneously. The process provides a unique synergy of smelting PGM-bearing catalysts and REE- bearing permanent magnets together, resulting in the recovery of PGM and REE in a single process.