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(54) **Title:** COMPOSITE HEAT SOURCE FOR A SMOKING ARTICLE

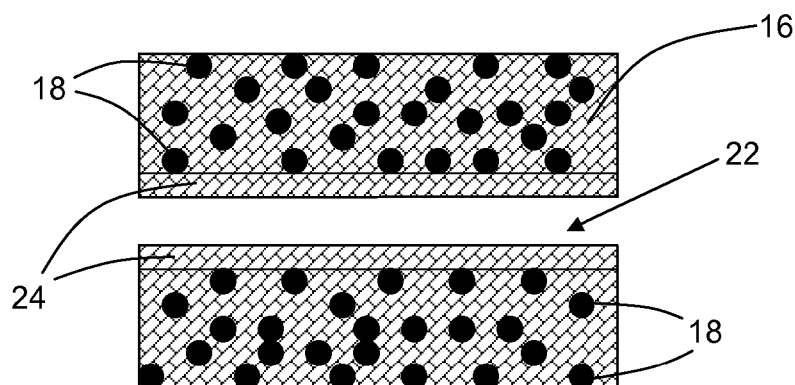


Figure 4

(57) **Abstract:** A composite heat source (6) for use in a smoking article comprises: a non-combustible porous ceramic matrix (16); and a particulate combustible fuel (18) embedded within the non-combustible porous ceramic matrix (16). The non-combustible porous ceramic matrix is formed from one or more particulate materials having a median D50 particle size at least five times less than the median D50 particle size of the particulate combustible fuel. Preferably, the non-combustible porous ceramic matrix (16) comprises one or more transition metal oxides.

