

ABSTRACT

METHOD FOR ANODICALLY
DEMETALLATING REFINERY FEEDSTREAMS

The present invention provides for a method for demetallating petroleum streams, comprising: subjecting a hydrocarbon soluble metals-containing petroleum stream and an aqueous electrolysis medium to a sufficient anodic potential and at a pH sufficient to produce a treated petroleum stream having a decreased metals content.

The invention provides a method for enhancing the value of petroleum feeds that traditionally have limited use in refineries due to their metals, particularly Ni and V content.