

SUPPLEMENTARY EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 14 85 2686

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	DE 38 24 289 A1 (BATTELLE INSTITUT E V [DE]) 30 November 1989 (1989-11-30) * figure 1 * * column 1 - column 3 * -----	1-9	INV. C02F1/461 B01D17/06 B03B9/02 C10G1/04
A	US 3 767 046 A (HARTKORN K) 23 October 1973 (1973-10-23) * claim 8 * -----	1-9	C02F11/00 C02F11/12 C02F1/469 C02F103/10
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			C02F
The supplementary search report has been based on the last set of claims valid and available at the start of the search.			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 24 May 2017	Examiner Van Ganswijk, J
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04N04)

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present (supplementary) European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present (supplementary) European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present (supplementary) European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-9

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
EP 14 85 2686

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-9

Method for consolidation of tailings (incl. water/clay) by application of AC voltage with DC offset to two electrodes.

2. claims: 10-15

Apparatus and method for electrical conditioning of tailings with (i) means for/ step of providing electrodes with an uninsulated section and an insulated section; and (ii) means for/ step of increasing the area of the uninsulated sections of the electrodes as the level of the tailings rises.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 14 85 2686

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

24-05-2017

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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