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(54) Title: SLUDGE TREATMENT METHOD

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the treatment of sludge and, more particularly, to a method for recovering phosphate as a substantially solid component from a phosphate-containing sludge. Some embodiments of the invention relate to a method for recovering phosphate as a substantially solid component and aluminium as a liquid component from a phosphate- containing and aluminium-containing sludge. The method incorporates wet oxidation to decompose the organic components of the sludge to provide a residual sludge. The residual sludge comprises the insoluble components and, in some embodiments wherein the sludge comprises aluminium, the residual sludge further comprises suspended and/or soluble aluminium.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

C02F 1/72 (2006.01) ***C02F 5/02 (2006.01)*** ***C02F 1/66 (2006.01)*** ***C02F 11/00 (2006.01)*** ***C02F 11/06 (2006.01)*** ***C02F 101/10 (2006.01)*** ***C02F 1/58 (2006.01)***

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPI, EPODOC: C02F11/06/low, C02F101/10/low, C02F1/58/low, C02F1/72/low, C02F5/02/low, C02F1/66, C02F11/00 and Sludg+, treat+, (Phosphate or calcium), (Oxidation OR wet_oxidation), pH or (alkalin+) or (base)

Google patents: (wet oxidation), (sludge treatment), phosphate, calcium

Espace: wet & oxidation & phosp+ & calcium and C02F 1/72

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
	Documents are listed in the continuation of Box C	

[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C [X] See patent family annex

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"&" document member of the same patent family

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		International application No. **PCT/IB2013/054257**
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT Information on patent family members	International application No. **PCT/IB2013/054257**

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Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

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