Special Issue

Recent Developments on the Leaching Process of Rare Earth Ore

Message from the Guest Editors

Rare earth elements (REEs), also known as "industrial vitamins", are of immense importance. They are widely used in the production of magnets, alloys, catalysts, batteries, medical equipment and superconductors, etc. REEs are made up of 17 elements including lanthanide elements (La, Ce, Pr, Nd Pm, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu); scandium (Sc); and yttrium (Y), which are generally divided into three categories—except Sc and Pm—on the basis of the solubility of rare earth sulfate: light rare earth elements (LREEs) (La, Ce, Pr, Nd); middle rare earth elements (MREEs) (Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy); and heavy rare earth elements (HREEs) (Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu, Y).

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Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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