

reduce their environmental footprint while simultaneously retrieving valuable metals for reuse, contributing to a more sustainable and responsible future.

Method

Wastewater characterization

Characterize the metal-containing wastewater to determine its composition, metal concentration, pH, and other relevant parameters.

This analysis will guide the selection of cyanide concentration and the appropriate nanostructured materials for the Elevated Barrier Technique.

Cyanidation process

a. **Preparation of cyanide solution**: Prepare a cyanide solution with the appropriate concentration based on the metal type and concentration in the wastewater. Ensure adherence to safety protocols when handling cyanide.

b. **Mixing and reaction**: Introduce the cyanide solution into the wastewater and mix thoroughly to facilitate the formation of soluble metal-cyanide complexes. The cyanidation reaction will result in the formation of metal-cyanide species, increasing metal solubility [4].

Elevated barrier selection

a. **Selection of adsorbent material**: Choose appropriate nanostructured materials based on their selectivity for metal-cyanide complexes. Commonly used materials include activated carbon, zeolites, metal-organic frameworks (MOFs), or modified clays. The materials should have a high surface area and affinity for metal ions.

b. **Preparation of elevated barrier**: Create an elevated barrier, such as a fixed bed, packed column, or a membrane, filled with the selected nanostructured materials. Optimize the barrier design to maximize metal adsorption and minimize pressure drop.

c. **Passage of treated wastewater through elevated barrier**: Direct the cyanidation-treated wastewater through the elevated barrier. The nanostructured materials will selectively adsorb metal-cyanide complexes, capturing the valuable metals while allowing clean water to pass through [5].

Metal recovery

a. **Desorption**: After the wastewater passes through the elevated barrier, desorb the metal-cyanide complexes from the nanostructured materials. This can be achieved through chemical elution or regeneration of the materials, releasing the metals for recovery.

b. **Metal recovery via electroplating**: Precipitate the metal from the eluate using an appropriate chemical precipitation process. Alternatively, electro-winning can be employed to deposit the metal ions onto an electrode for subsequent recovery.

Citation: