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).

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Fang Zhou

1. Key Laboratory for Green Chemical Process of Ministry of Education, Wuhan Institute of Technology, Wuhan 430073, China
2. School of Resources and Safety Engineering, Wuhan Institute of Technology, Wuhan 430073, China

Dr. Yuefei Zhang

School of Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, Key Laboratory of Green Chemical Process of Ministry of Education, Engineering Research Center of Phosphorus Resources Development and Utilization of Ministry of Education, Hubei Key Laboratory of Novel Reactor and Green Chemical Technology, Wuhan Institute of Technology, Wuhan 430205, China

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Minerals
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
minerals@mdpi.com

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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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Leonid Dubrovinsky
Bayerisches Geoinstitut, University Bayreuth, D-95440 Bayreuth, Germany

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