

07-24-2003



FOR PATENTS

document or copy thereof.

1. Name of Party(ies) conveying an interest: 102504951

J. CARLOS ARROYO
DAVID A. NEUDORF

7-21-03

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?

☐ Yes ☒ No

2. Name and Address of Party(ies) receiving an interest:

Name:

BHP MINERALS
INTERNATIONAL INC.

Internal Address:

Street Address:

1360 POST OAK BOULEVARD

City:

HOUSTON

State/Zip:

TEXAS 77056

Additional name(s) and addresses attached?

☐ Yes ☒ No

3. Description of the interest conveyed:

☒ Assignment☐ Change of Name

Other:

☐ Security Agreement☐ MergerExecution Dates: June 18, 2003; June 5, 20034. Application number(s) or patent number(s). Additional sheet attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is:

Date

A. Patent Application No.(s)

09/864,993 filed May 24, 2001

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, IL 60610
(312)321-42006. Number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)

\$ 40.00☒ Enclosed☐ Authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 23-19258. ☒ Please charge any deficiencies in fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

G. Peter Nichols

Name of Person Signing

Signature

July 18, 2003

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 5

07/23/2003 ECOOPER 00000197 09864333

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40.00 DP

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, **J. CARLOS ARROYO and DAVID A. NEUDORF**, hereinafter called the "Assignors", have made the invention described in the United States patent application entitled **ATMOSPHERIC LEACH PROCESS FOR THE RECOVERY OF NICKEL AND COBALT FROM LIMONITE AND SAPROLITE ORES**, for a full description of which reference is here made to an application for Letters Patent of the United States filed on **MAY 24, 2001** and assigned Application Serial No. **09/864,993**;

WHEREAS, **BHP MINERALS INTERNATIONAL INC.**, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of **DELAWARE**, having a place of business at **1360 POST OAK BOULEVARD, SUITE 150, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77056**, hereinafter called the "Assignee", desires to acquire the entire right, title and interest in and to the invention and the patent application identified above, and all patents which may be obtained for said invention, as set forth below;

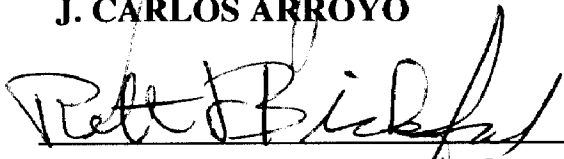
NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), and other valuable and legally sufficient consideration, the receipt of which by the Assignors from the Assignee is hereby acknowledged, the Assignors have sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents do sell, assign and transfer to the Assignee, the entire right, title and interest for the United States in and to the invention and the patent application identified above, and any patents that may issue for said invention in the United States; together with the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and all patent applications and patents therefor in all countries foreign to the United States, including the full right to claim for any such application all benefits and priority rights under any applicable convention; together with the entire right, title and interest in and to all continuations, divisions, renewals and extensions of any of the patent applications and patents defined above; to have and to hold for the sole and exclusive use and benefit of the Assignee, its successors and assigns, to the full end of the term or terms for all such patents.

The Assignors hereby covenant and agree, for both the Assignors and the Assignors' legal representatives, that the Assignors will assist the Assignee in the prosecution of the patent application identified above; in the making and prosecution of any other patent

applications that the Assignee may elect to make covering the invention identified above; in vesting in the Assignee like exclusive title in and to all such other patent applications and patents; and in the prosecution of any interference which may arise involving said invention, or any such patent application or patent; and that the Assignors will execute and deliver to the Assignee any and all additional papers which may be requested by the Assignee to carry out the terms of this Assignment.

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized and requested to issue patents to the Assignee in accordance with the terms of this Assignment.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Assignors have executed this agreement.

DATE:	<u>6-18-03</u>	<u></u>
		J. CARLOS ARROYO
WITNESSED:		
DATE:	<u>6-18-03</u>	<u></u>
DATE:		<u>Robert L. Bickford</u>

DATE:	_____	_____
		DAVID A. NEUDORF
WITNESSED:		
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, **J. CARLOS ARROYO and DAVID A. NEUDORF**, hereinafter called the "Assignors", have made the invention described in the United States patent application entitled **ATMOSPHERIC LEACH PROCESS FOR THE RECOVERY OF NICKEL AND COBALT FROM LIMONITE AND SAPROLITE ORES**, for a full description of which reference is here made to an application for Letters Patent of the United States filed on **MAY 24, 2001** and assigned Application Serial No. **09/864,993**;

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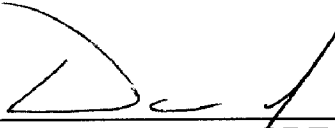
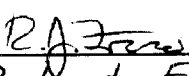
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IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Assignors have executed this agreement.

DATE:	_____	_____
		J. CARLOS ARROYO
WITNESSED:		
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	_____	_____
DATE:	<u>June 5, 2003</u>	<u></u>
		DAVID A. NEUDORF
WITNESSED:		
DATE:	<u>June 5, 2003</u>	<u></u>
		Robert Fraser
DATE:	_____	_____