

Review of: "How to search for patents on the recovery of rare earth metals from electronic waste"

Yanbei Zhu¹

¹ National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The present manuscript provides a candidate method for searching patents on recovery of rare earth metals/elements from electronic waste, which is a useful technique.

The following points should be considered to improve the presentation.

1. It is a right way to cover all potential publications and patents by using multiple keywords for searching in databases.
But the author should define and use a unified keyword for rare earth metals in the text, instead of using different ones such as rare earth elements, rare earth metals, and rare earth.
2. Abstract: 2nd line. "...called rare earth..." should be replaced with "...including rare earth...".
3. Introduction: 1st line. "... (REE-Rare Earth Elements) ..." should be replaced with "... (REE) ...".
4. Line 7 from the bottom of Page 2/11. Try to use a declarative sentence.
5. Page 2/11. The keyword REM, a possible abbreviation of Rare Earth Metal, is not included. Does it matter?
6. Graph 2. What are the meaning of blue, orange, and gray bars?
7. The 1st line under Graph 2. "... (Chart 3) ..." should be replaced with "... (Graph 3) ...".
8. Graph 3. The fonts in the graph are too small!