Pyrite re-processing of critical-metal bearing waste for environmental gain

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ASX: COB

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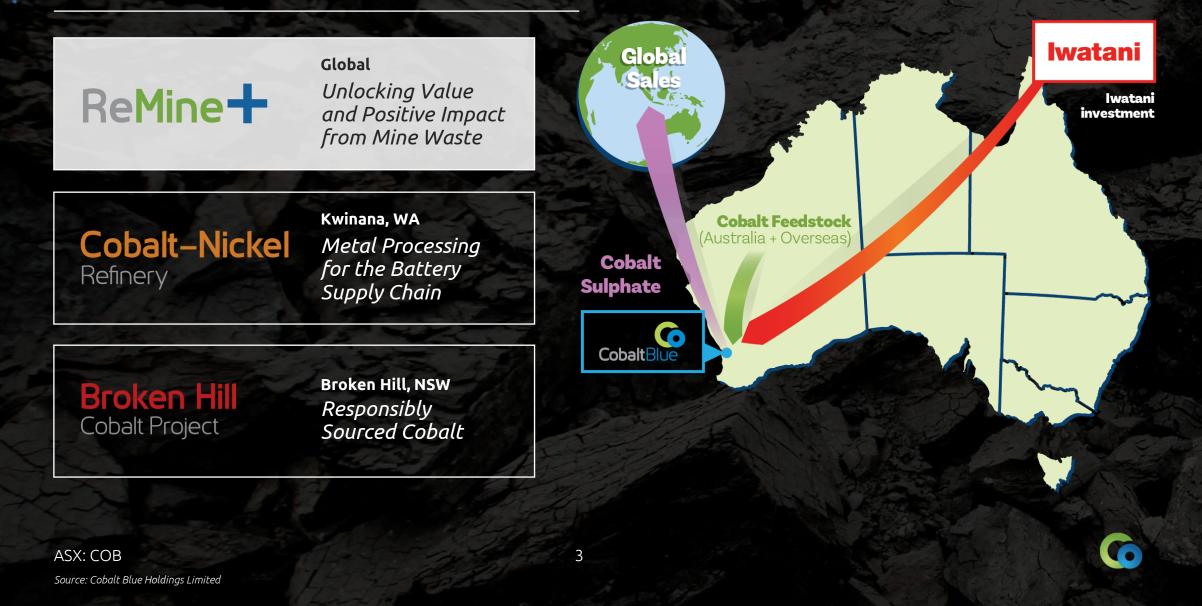
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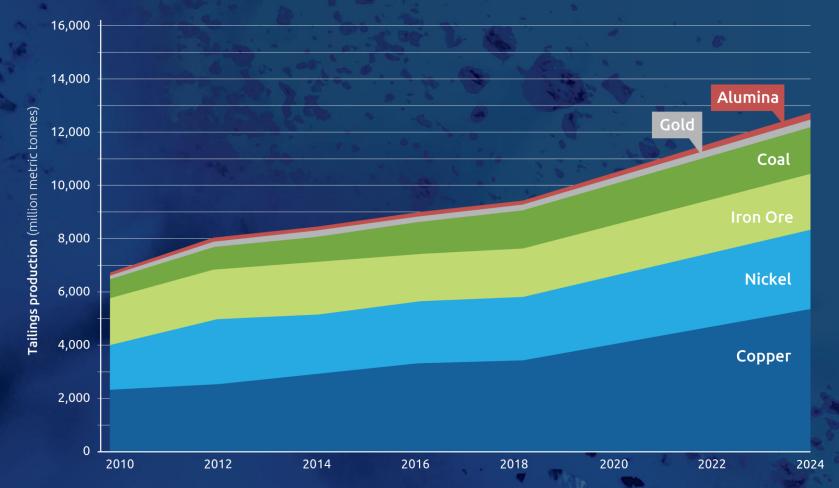
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Strategic Priorities



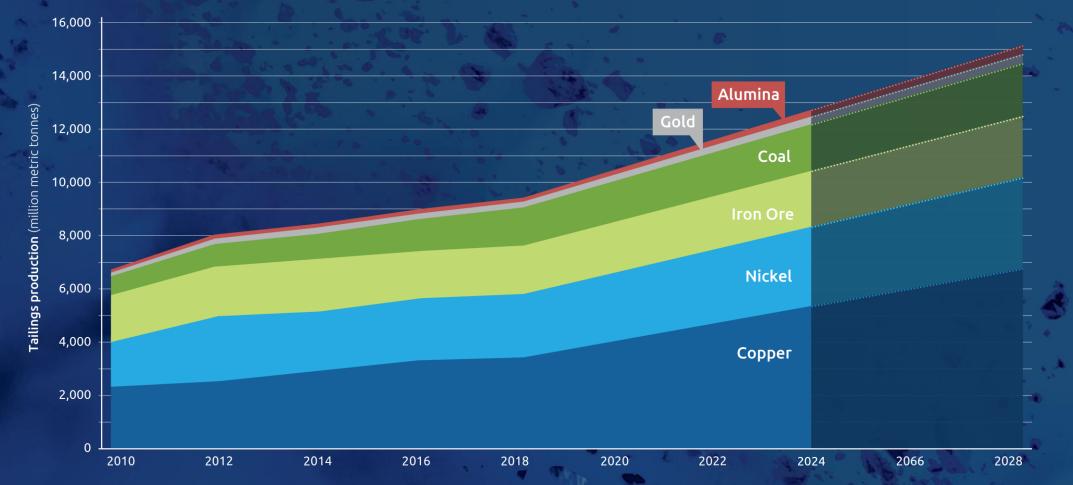
Global Mine Waste



Sources: International Council on Mining and Metals; Roadmap for Tailings Reduction, 2022; Global Mining Review, 2022; Valenta et al., 2023

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Global Mine Waste

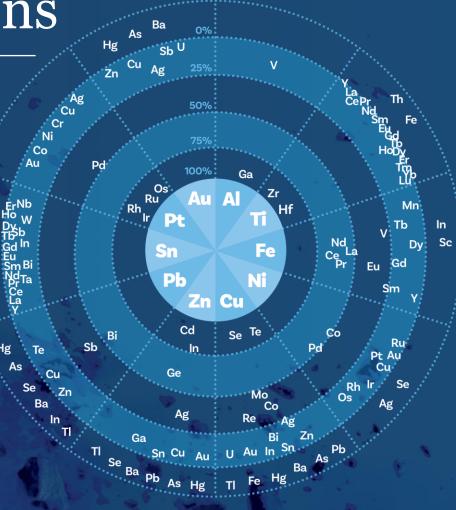


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Predictive metal associations

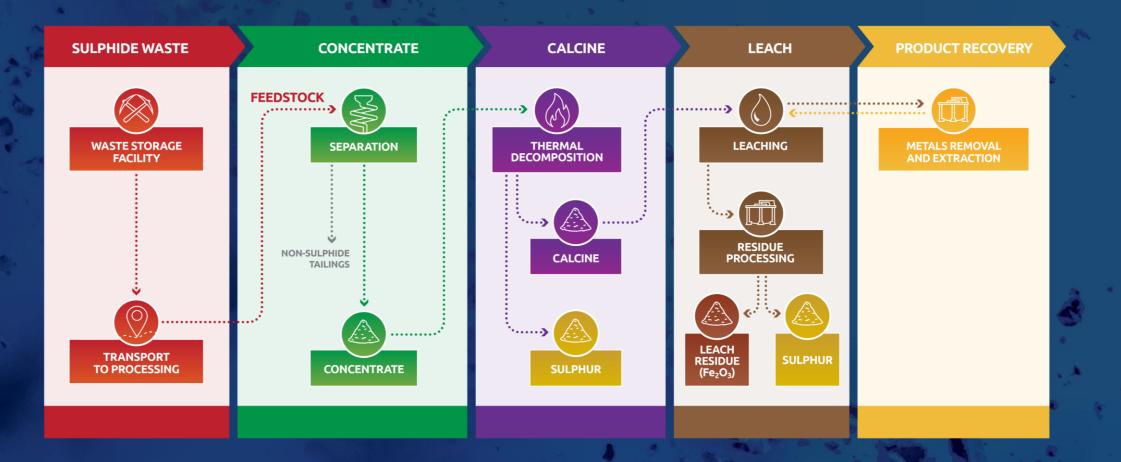
- Natural ore deposits are a mix of commodities, though often with one dominant
- Mining operations focus on one or two commodities
 - The remaining metals are sent to waste
- Valuable secondary metals may be predicted to occur in mine waste based on their known ore associations



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Source: https://www.nordicinnovation.org/2021/nordic-supplypotential-critical-metals-and-minerals-green-energy-transition

The Cobalt Blue flow sheet



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Science of acid reduction

Cobalt Blue's patented process mitigates potential environmental harm and produces saleable elemental sulphur

Key step is pyrite (FeS) to pyrrhotite (FeS_(1-x)) conversion

Sulphur is captured as an off-gas and cooled to form elemental sulphur.

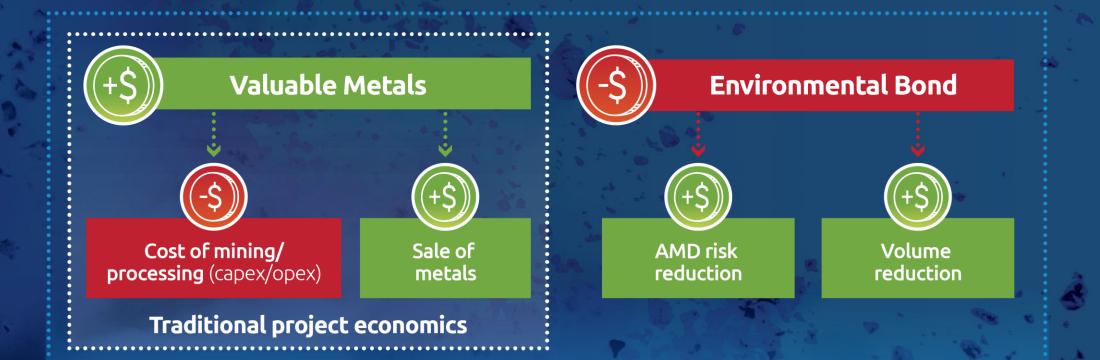
Sulphur is also produced during leaching,

Metals such as Co, Ni, Co, Ag and others are then extracted from the leach solution

New waste is much lower PAF, or even NAF



The Case for Tailings Re-Processing



Wholistic project economics

Case Study: Flin Flon tailings project



Estimated >100 million tonnes contained in tailings dam at Flin Flon. Tailings contains Zn, Cu, Ag and Au.

HUDBAY

Cobalt Blue and Hudbay Minerals collaborating to apply Cobalt Blue's processing technology to the Flin Flon tailings facility, Manitoba.

Testwork results to date have achieved >90% conversion of pyrite to pyrrhotite + sulphur.

An overall flowsheet is now being designed for the final step of testwork.



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Mine Waste in Australia

- Long history of mining
- >3,500 active and inactive sites
- Most will have associated waste
- Potential for valuable raw materials in the waste

Case Study: Osborne Testwork







Two flowsheets tested: Tails \rightarrow float \rightarrow POX Tails \rightarrow kiln \rightarrow POX (C

(COB Process)

	Float	ΡΟΧ	TOTAL recovery
Cobalt	90%	46%	41.4%
Соррег	74%	98%	72.5%

	Kiln	ΡΟΧ	TOTAL recovery
Cobalt	99%	90%	89.1%
Соррег	99%	90%	89.1%

Further recovery of cobalt and copper required from leach solutions.

Image credit and sampling data: A. Parbhakar-Fox, University of Queensland.



ReMine Positive impact from mine waste

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