



Solar powered water
reuse and resource
recovery in mining



Water reuse and resource recovery in mining industry

LIFE REMINE WATER: <https://www.reminewater.eu/>

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#RemineWater
[reminewater.eu](https://www.reminewater.eu)

LIFE+ programme

Duration: October 2018-
October 2023

Total Budget: 1.8 M€

Partners:

CETAQUA
WATER TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

 **Sandfire matsa**

 **Łukasiewicz**
Instytut Metali Niezetalnych

newHeat

solar heat generation for industrial applications

CONVENTIONAL WORKFLOW

Demonstration site

Caso de estudio

Aguas Teñidas Mine

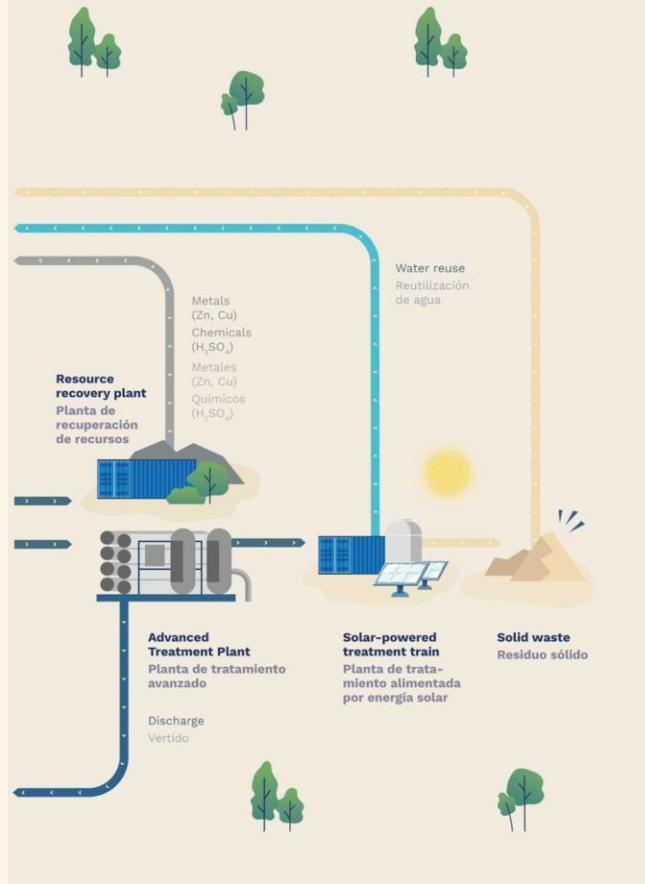
(Huelva, Spain)



REMINE WATER



**Remine
Water**



Context



MATSA WWTP

pH= 2-3
 $[SO_4^{2-}]$ = 3500-4000 ppm
 $[Ca^{2+}]$ = 500-800 ppm
COD = 150-400 ppm
 $[Cu^{2+}]$ = 2 ppm
 $[Zn^{2+}]$ = 50-60 ppm

FeCl₂ Flocculant
H₂O₂ Lime

FENTON PROCESS
Thiosalts oxidation + Sulphates precipitation (Gypsum)

pH= 9.5
 $[SO_4^{2-}]$ = 2500-3000 ppm
 $[Ca^{2+}]$ = 500-800 ppm
COD = 50-100 ppm
 $[Cu^{2+}]$ = <1 ppm
 $[Zn^{2+}]$ = <1 ppm

Lime
AlNa

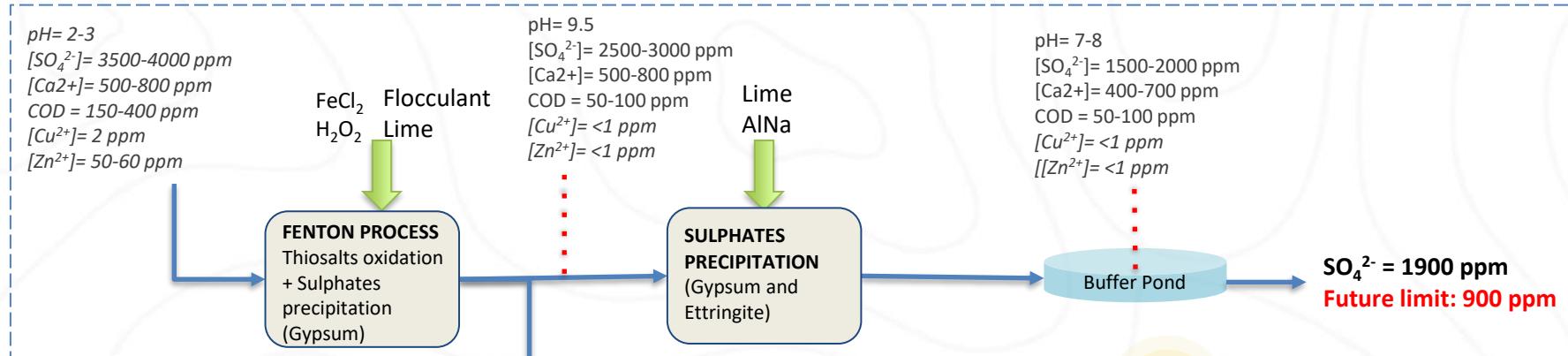
SULPHATES PRECIPITATION
(Gypsum and Ettringite)

pH= 7-8
 $[SO_4^{2-}]$ = 1500-2000 ppm
 $[Ca^{2+}]$ = 400-700 ppm
COD = 50-100 ppm
 $[Cu^{2+}]$ = <1 ppm
 $[Zn^{2+}]$ = <1 ppm

Buffer Pond

$SO_4^{2-} = 1900 \text{ ppm}$
Future limit: 900 ppm

CONVENTIONAL WORKFLOW



REMINE WATER



Mining
dumps

Resource recovery plant

Landfill
leachates

Solar powered MLD treatment train



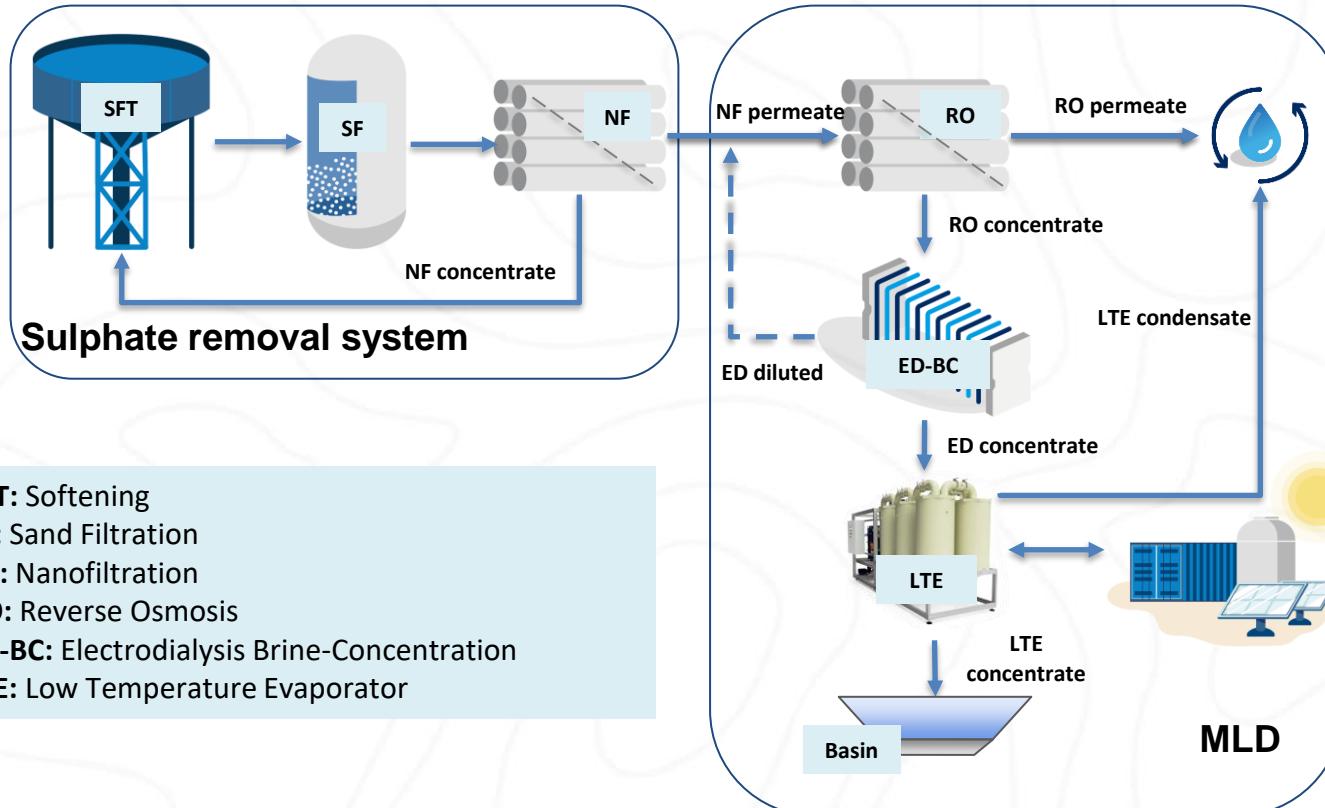
Virtual tour: https://www.cetaqua.com/wp-content/uploads/LIFE_RemineWater/video.html



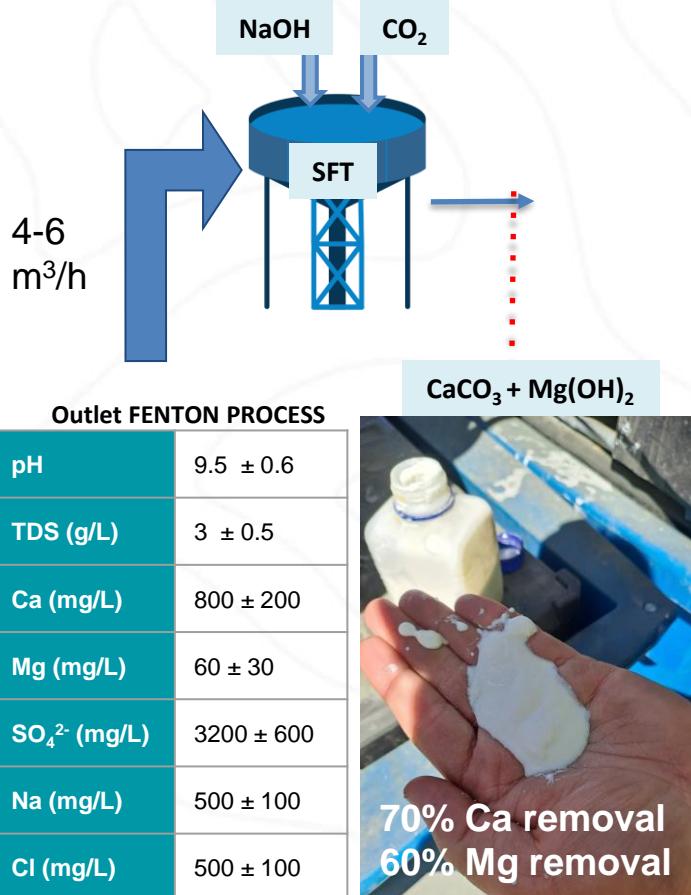




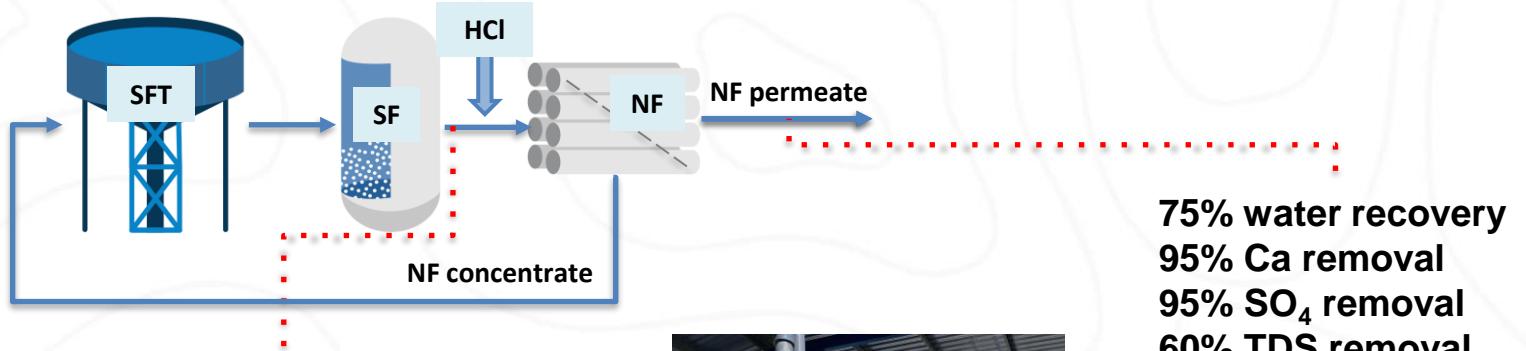
Water Reclamation Plant (Sulphate Removal & MLD)



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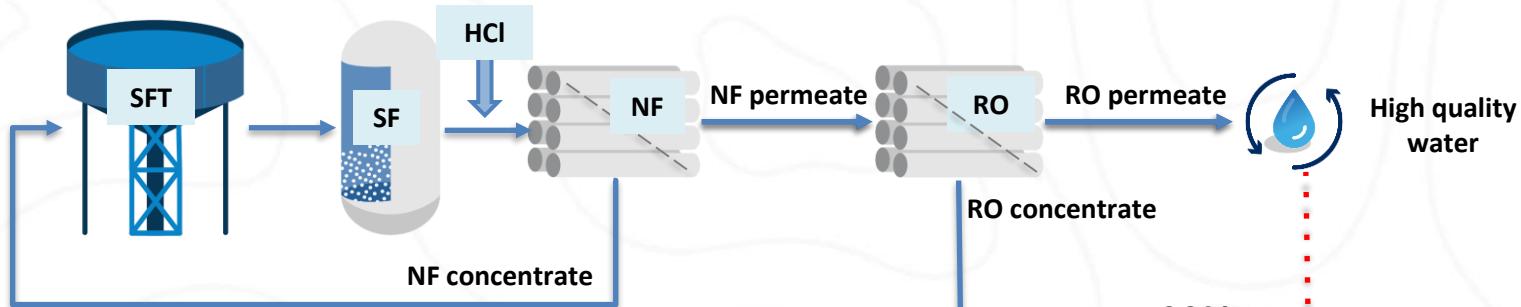


pH	6.5 ± 0.7
TDS (g/L)	3.7 ± 0.4
Ca (mg/L)	300 ± 200
Mg (mg/L)	15 ± 8
SO_4^{2-} (mg/L)	3000 ± 1000
Na (mg/L)	1200 ± 1000
Cl (mg/L)	800 ± 500



pH	7.1 ± 0.8
TDS (g/L)	1.5 ± 0.5
Ca (mg/L)	30 ± 20
Mg (mg/L)	4 ± 3
SO_4^{2-} (mg/L)	30 ± 30
Na (mg/L)	500 ± 100
Cl (mg/L)	1100 ± 300

Water Reclamation Plant (Sulphate Removal & MLD)

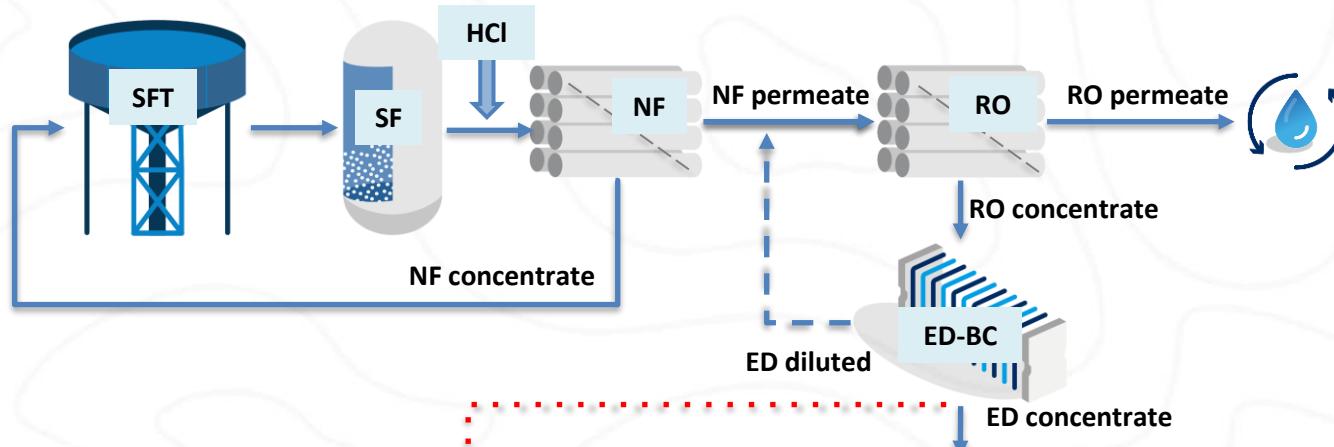


TDS (g/L)	4.3 ± 0.4
Na (mg/L)	1200 ± 200
Cl (mg/L)	1800 ± 700

**90% water recovery
97% TDS removal
96% Na removal
98% Cl removal**

pH	6.3 ± 0.3
TDS (g/L)	0.04 ± 0.04
Na (mg/L)	18 ± 8
Cl (mg/L)	20 ± 10

Water Reclamation Plant (Sulphate Removal & MLD)

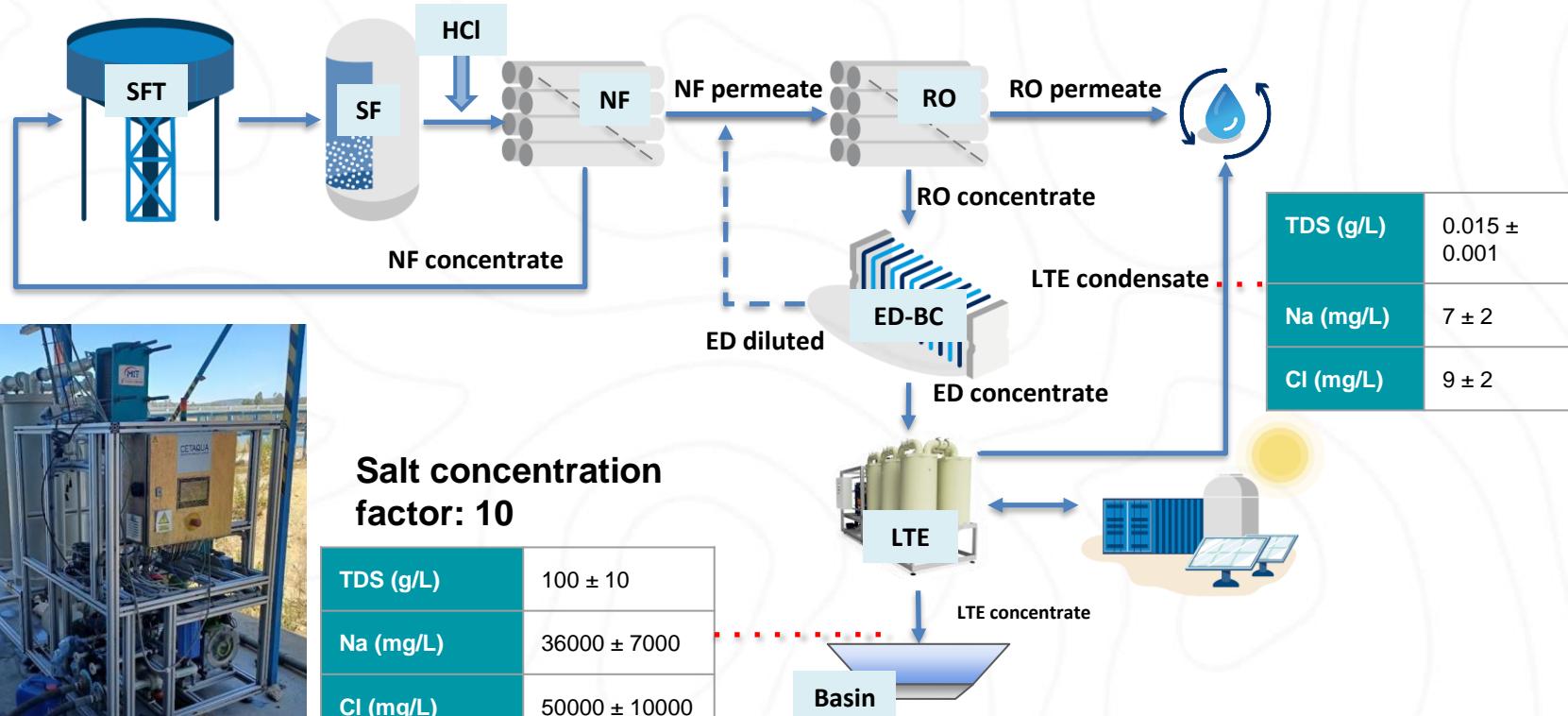


Salt concentration
factor: 2

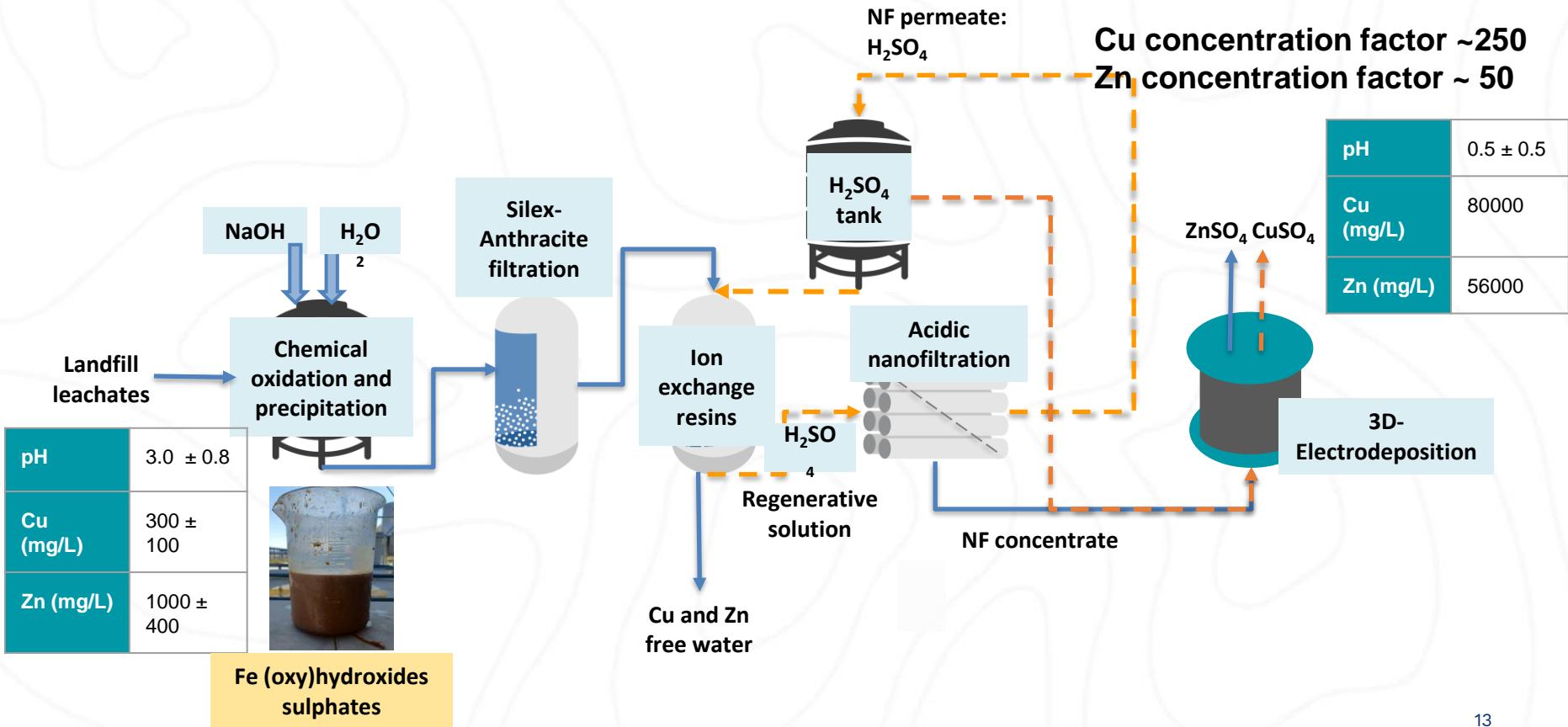
TDS (g/L)	10 ± 1
Na (mg/L)	3600 ± 700
Cl (mg/L)	5000 ± 1000



Water Reclamation Plant (Sulphate Removal & MLD)



Resource recovery treatment train



CONCLUSIONS



Development of **two innovation treatment trains** that allow to :

- **Reduce the freshwater consumption by 50%** compared to the current water treatment scheme in the mine
- **Recovery of 95% of water from reverse osmosis concentrates** through the implementation of minimum liquid discharge technologies
- **Brine concentration** from ~5 g/L TDS in the reverse osmosis up to 100 g/L in the evaporation concentrate
- **Metal concentration** from 300 mg/L Cu and 1000 mg/L Zn in the resource recovery treatment train up to 80000 mg/L Cu and 56000 mg/L Zn.



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Thank you!