

## Lithium Australia granted patent for revolutionary lithium extraction technology



In an overcrowded world hungry for commodities, sustainability is not just a key issue for the mining and processing industries, it's a core responsibility.

Why does society tolerate profligate waste – even the device on which this is being read is not 'sustainable' – and what can be done about it? Currently, such fine spodumene, along with any contaminated material, ends up as waste in mine tailings ... and there goes up to half of the lithium that was actually mined.

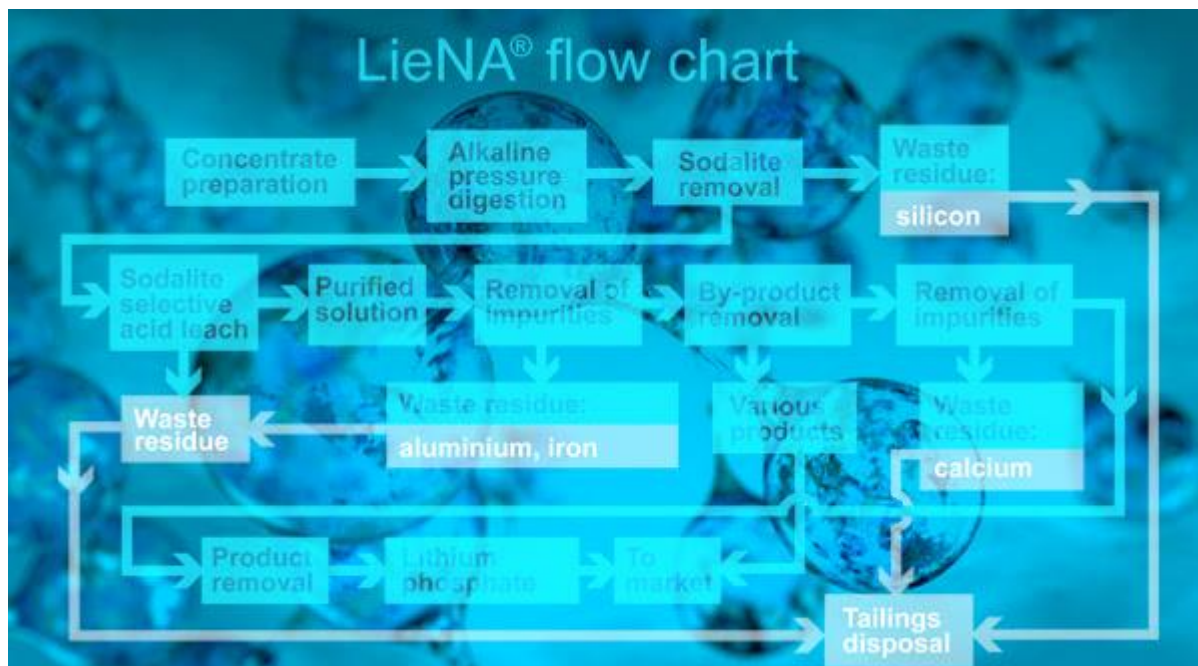
Lithium Australia has some ideas. On 6 April 2019 the Company announced the grant of a patent over its LieNA® technology, which gives lithium concentrate producers a chance to stop squandering precious resources and embrace the ESG standards the investment community expects. LieNA® provides the potential to recover lithium from fine or contaminated spodumene that would otherwise be wasted – and not just small amounts either, but almost half the lithium currently mined.

Being able to utilise vast quantities of 'waste', and in so doing control a significant portion of the supply chain, is a powerful tool in any processing arsenal – one that could, with commercialisation of LieNA® – deliver cheaper batteries to consumers.

With LieNA®, Lithium Australia has found a solution to a vexing issue, but the benefits don't stop there. Options can be added to the process to further refine the lithium chemicals and [reduce the number of process steps](#) required to produce lithium-ion batteries.

The Company's [first steps towards commercialisation](#) of its LieNA® process involve construction of a pilot processing plant at ANSTO's Lucas Heights facility, near Sydney in NSW.

Providing ethical solutions for a more sustainable world is Lithium Australia's raison d'être.



Regards  
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Managing Director

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