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Robertson et al.

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(54) **METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR LEACHING A METAL-BEARING ORE**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
None
See application file for complete search history.

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(56) **References Cited**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Related U.S. Application Data

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A system and method for recovering a metal value from a metal-bearing ore material are provided. A metal-bearing ore can be mixed with certain substances and to form an agglomerated ore. In an intermediate state, between agglomeration and heap formation, bacteria can be added to the metal-bearing ore material to produce an augmented ore. The augmented ore can then be formed into a heap. Bacteria from the heap may be fortified to assist in bacterial growth.

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C22B 3/18 (2006.01)
C22B 3/02 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **C22B 3/18** (2013.01); **C22B 3/02** (2013.01); **Y02P 10/234** (2015.11)

9 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets

