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[54] **PROCESS FOR RECOVERY OF GOLD FROM REFRACTORY GOLD ORES USING SULFUROUS ACID AS THE LEACHING AGENT**

[75] Inventors: **Freddie J. Touro; Tadeusz K. Wiewiorowski**, both of New Orleans, La.

[73] Assignee: **Freeport-McMoRan Inc.**, New Orleans, La.

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[52] U.S. Cl. **423/27; 423/28; 423/36; 423/37; 423/39; 75/736**

[58] Field of Search **423/27, 28, 36, 37, 423/39; 75/736**

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Primary Examiner—Theodore Morris

Assistant Examiner—P. L. Hailey

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Fisher, Christen & Sabol

[57] ABSTRACT

A process for recovering gold from refractory gold-bearing ores uses sulfurous acid as the leaching agent to form a gold-sulfite complex. The ore is ground, slurried blended with a chelating agent and then subjected to a simultaneous dissolved SO₂ leaching and anion exchange resin adsorption step in the presence of dissolved oxygen. The gold transfers to the resin which is later separated from the resin by chemical stripping.

52 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

