

Job Advert

Title(s): Pyrometallurgy Specialist

Revision: 1.1

Date: 30/09/2022

Line Manager: Head of Process Research

Company Description

We are a fast-growing and agile research and development company based in Cornwall. We have developed unique, patented technology for the sustainable beneficiation of lithium bearing mica from granite, and for the calcination of mica and refining of battery grade lithium. We have built a world-class £4 million pilot plant in Cornwall to further develop and demonstrate our technology. We are embarking on an extensive scale-up readiness validation programme with the goal of building the world's first integrated lithium mine, beneficiation plant and refinery producing 20,000tpa of lithium carbonate – enough to support production in the UK of 350,000 electric vehicles per year.

Role Description

This is an exciting opportunity to be part of the latest chapter in Cornwall's long and rich mining history and ensure it's long term future.

British Lithium Limited are rapidly expanding and we are looking for a talented and enthusiastic Pyrometallurgy Specialist to assist in the operation and development of the core process technologies required to bring our lithium project to full scale production.

As a full-time Specialist, you will act as technical expert for the pelletising, roasting, calcining and leaching processes. You will be responsible for developing optimised process operating parameters, equipment selection, and developing and executing test programmes at laboratory and pilot scale to validate process design criteria.

The role is based at our pilot plant near Roche in Cornwall and will be primarily responsible for all aspects of design development and operation of our preparation, calcining and leaching circuit. As a lean research-driven organisation, all roles are required on occasion to undertake operations, testing, sampling and analysis as required to meet test programmes and project objectives. Depending on the programme, the role may require some flexibility in working hours.

The role will report to the Head of Process Research and will be responsible for managing 1 – 3 technicians in a matrix organisation. The role will be responsible for all aspects of process safety in Pyrometallurgy area, including the development of safe working procedures, chemical hazard control and effective risk management.

Candidate Specification

The ideal candidate will have:

- BSc. / BEng or equivalent in chemistry, chemical engineering, metallurgy or a similar discipline. Postgraduate qualifications, chartered professional status and extensive industry experience will each be viewed as advantageous.
- Working knowledge of mineral and/or chemical processing technologies at industrial scales.
- Experience working with pyrometallurgical processes, with rotary tube calciners particularly advantageous.
- Experience in process development, with process scale-up and pilot scale operation particularly advantageous.
- Good practical skills in equipment modification, commissioning, maintenance and troubleshooting.
- Highly computer literate with specific attention to Microsoft Office suite of programmes.

Job Type: Full-time