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9 - Biological treatment, recovery, and recycling of metals from waste printed circuit boards

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Abstract

The application of end-of-life strategies, especially in waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) is becoming extremely relevant for sustainable development in manufacturing processes and circular economy models. Owing to this, printed circuit boards (PCBs) are important components embedded in WEEE. This chapter deals with the biorecovery and waste valorization describing innovative treatment, recovery, and recycling technologies for bringing enormous economic benefits. Development and modification of bioinspired techniques will provide a high-efficient way to recover metals selectivity from PCB waste. Mechanistic insights and viable application of bioleaching, biomineralization, bioelectrochemical, and biosorption systems for simultaneously enhancing the critical metals recovery and energy-efficiency are also