

European Patent Office
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Germany

21 April 2023

Your Ref.:
Our Ref.: P244311EP / ABL

Dear Sir or Madam

European Patent Application No 18701223.2
Thermal Apparatus and Associated Methods
Clearwell Technology Ltd

We hereby respond to the communication pursuant to Article 94(3) EPC dated 11 October 2022, with amendments and comments on the objections raised. We would expressly like to thank the Examiner for helpful clarifications via telephone and general constructive cooperation in processing this application.

Amendments

Please replace the claim set currently on file with the enclosed amended claim set.

The claims have been amended in response to the Examiner's comments, as outlined in detail below.

In addition to the marked up version of the claims showing the changes with respect to the claims currently on file, please also find below marked up versions of the independent claims showing amendments to the claims as originally filed, for easier identification of compliance with Article 123(2) EPC:

- 301.** A method of removing material **(42, 142, 242)** at a well **(20)**, the method comprising progressively jetting heat along a helical path **with a heating device comprising a helical heating member** to **progressively** heat a target material **(42, 142, 242) along the helical path** for removal **of the target material (42, 142, 242)**.
- 48.** A well material removal apparatus **(60, 160, 260, 460)** for removing material at a well **(20)**, the well material removal apparatus **(60, 160, 260, 460)** comprising a helical heating device for heating a target material **(42, 142, 242)**, the heating device comprising a **helical** heating member configured to progressively jet heat along a helical path to **progressively** heat the target material **(42, 142, 242) along the helical path** for removal **of the target material (42, 142, 242)**.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the feature of previous claim 4, which has been deleted accordingly. Consequently, previous claim 2 has also been deleted. New claim 2 has been added, based upon the description (e.g. at least page 34, line 8-9). Corresponding amendments have been made to the independent apparatus claim, renumbered here to claim 8.

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