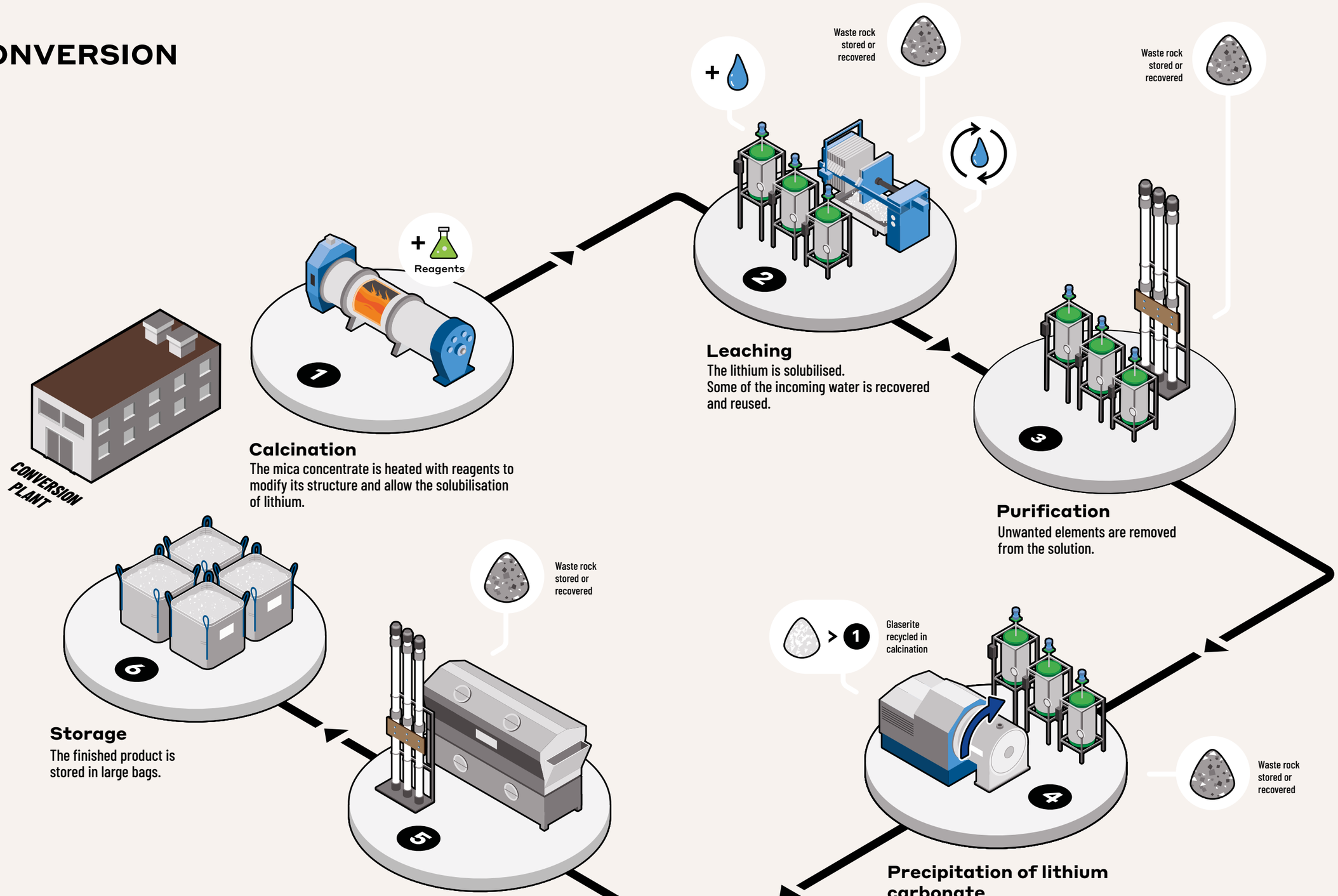
CONVERSION



Calcination
The mica concentrate is heated with reagents to modify its structure and allow the solubilisation of lithium.

Leaching
The lithium is solubilised.
Some of the incoming water is recovered and reused.

Purification
Unwanted elements are removed from the solution.

Precipitation of lithium carbonate
Lithium is precipitated in the form of carbonate to separate other elements still present.
Sulphate salts (Glaserite) are recovered for recycling at the calcination stage.

Conversion to lithium hydroxide
Lithium carbonate is converted into a hydroxide solution which is precipitated as lithium hydroxide, the finished product.

Storage
The finished product is stored in large bags.