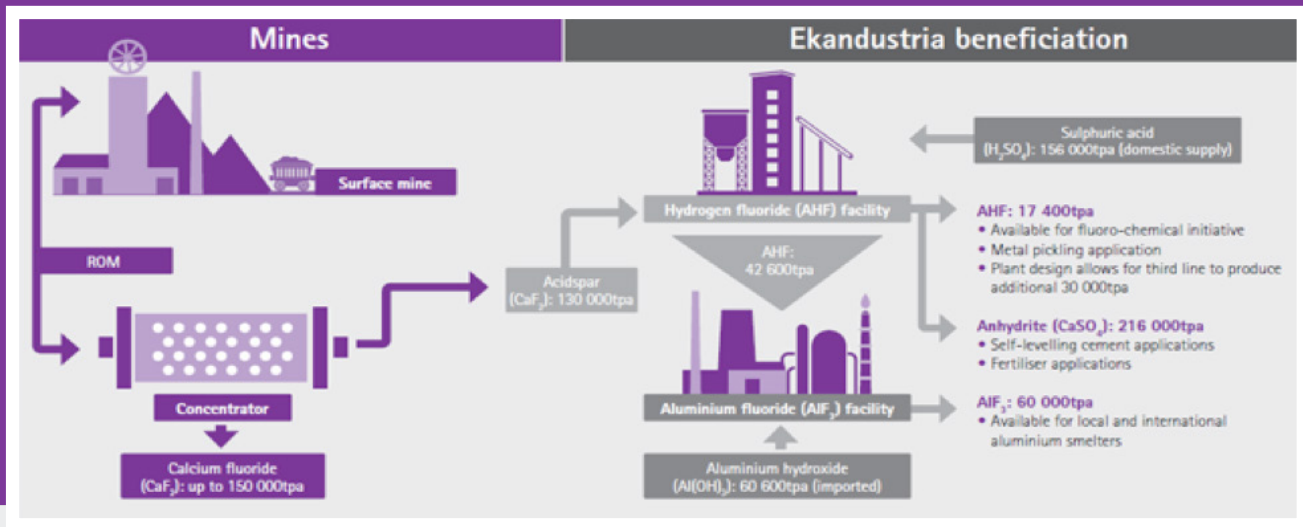


FLUORO-CHEMICAL BENEFICIATION PLANT IN EKANDUSTRIA



SepFluor is exploring the possibility of proceeding with plans to develop a fluorochemical plant at Ekandustria near Bronkhorstspuit, some 50km from Nokeng. Economic fundamentals of the processes, demonstrated by the graphic below, and the improving economic fundamentals, potentially support the move to downstream beneficiation.

The fluorochemical plant development being reviewed is provisionally scheduled to come on stream simultaneously with the second mining operation (Wallmannsthal). It is being promoted against the background of growing demand throughout Southern Africa for fluorochemical products, together with the South African Government's support of downstream beneficiation of minerals and the development of a fluorochemical initiative in the country.

The region currently consumes some 30 000tpa of aluminium tri-fluoride, all of which is imported. It is envisaged that Wallmannsthal's production of acid-grade calcium fluoride will report to a hydrogen fluoride manufacturing facility, which will produce high-grade anhydrous hydrogen fluoride primarily for use in an aluminium tri-fluoride manufacturing facility. This facility will produce aluminium tri-fluoride for use in both local and international aluminium smelters. The hydrogen fluoride facility will also produce anhydrite (CaSO₄) for use in the building and construction industries and in fertilizer applications, while the excess hydrogen fluoride, not used for the production of aluminium tri-fluoride, will be available for downstream fluorochemical initiatives.

