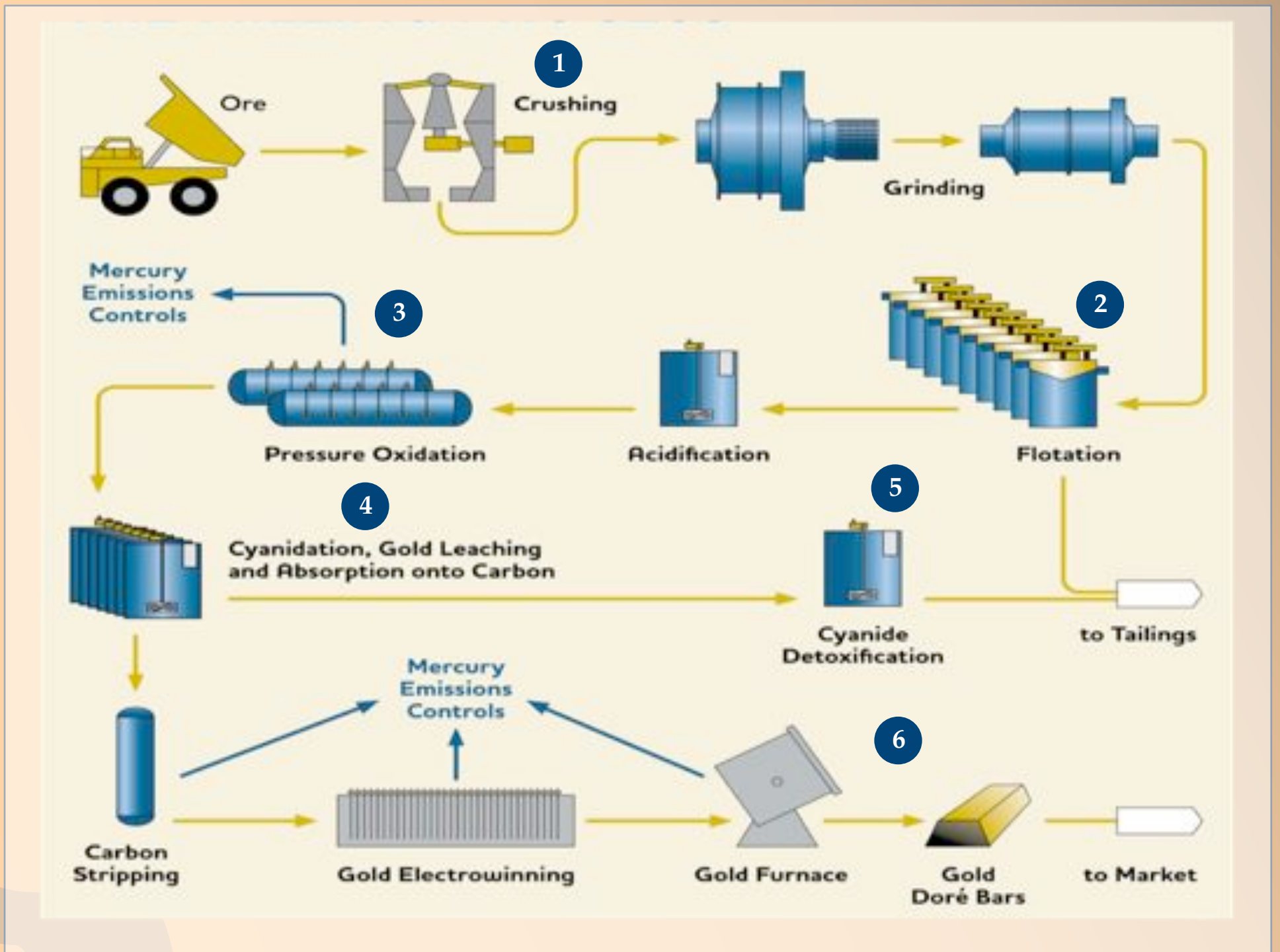


# Donlin Gold Project EIS - Mill Processing



## Processing Ore

The flow chart above shows the steps of processing ore for the proposed mine:

- 1 Ore is crushed and then ground into a fine powder in large mills.
- 2 The gold bearing minerals are separated from other materials using a process called flotation.
- 3 Gold bearing minerals are oxidized using pressure.
- 4 Oxidized materials are mixed with cyanide solution and the dissolved gold is collected on activated carbon.
- 5 Cyanide solution is detoxified.
- 6 Gold on the activated carbon is refined in the furnace.

## Mercury Abatement

The rock at the proposed minesite contains naturally occurring mercury. Natural processes release some of this mercury. Mercury released into the air during the milling process would be captured in multiple stages. State-of-the-art mercury abatement systems would be used in the following steps:

- Kiln feed and discharge
- Pressure oxidation vent gas
- Gold refinery area
- Electrowinning cell fume hoods

## Cyanide Detoxification

The proposed project is designed to comply with the International Cyanide Management Code. Dry sodium cyanide briquettes would be shipped to the minesite in sealed steel tanks. On-site, the briquettes would be dissolved for use in the mill. After the gold and cyanide are separated, the remaining solution would undergo cyanide detoxification to reduce its concentration. Cyanide remaining in the tailings storage facility would disintegrate further under natural conditions.

