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ACTION

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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING OXIRANE COMPOUNDS

(57) Abstract: Process for the preparation of oxirane compounds, which process comprises: (i) oxidation of an alkylaryl to obtain an alkylaryl hydroperoxide, (ii) contacting at least part of the alkylaryl hydroperoxide obtained in step (i) with olefin in the presence of a catalyst to obtain an oxirane compound and alkylaryl hydroxyl, (iii) optionally reacting at least part of the alkylaryl hydroperoxide obtained in step (i) to obtain phenol and a ketone, (iv) separating oxirane compound from reaction product of step (ii), and (v) contacting at least part of the reaction product from which an oxirane compound has been separated, with hydrogen in the presence of a hydrogenation catalyst to obtain alkylaryl at least part of which is recycled to step (i).