Claims

1. A process for treating marine clay, the process comprising:

   (a) adding a stabilisation agent to the marine clay;

   (b) mixing the stabilisation agent and marine clay to form a mixture; and

   (c) extruding the mixture,

   wherein the steps of mixing and extruding are carried out by an extrusion screw in an extrusion chamber of an extrusion machine, the marine clay is loaded into the extrusion machine via a first hopper upstream a second hopper for loading the stabilisation agent, and the stabilisation agent comprises quick lime for reducing the water content present in the marine clay.

2. The process according to claim 1, wherein the marine clay is mixed in the first hopper prior to loading into the extrusion machine.

3. The process according to any one of the preceding claims, further comprising heating the mixture in the extrusion machine.

4. The process according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the stabilisation agent is added to the marine clay in a pre-determined dosage amount.

5. The process according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the stabilisation agent further comprises any one selected from the group: sand, slag powder, cement, fly ash, hydrated lime and bottom ash.

6. The process according to claim 5, wherein the slag powder is steel slag powder.

7. The process according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the extruded mixture is cut to a pre-determined size, length or shape.

8. The process according to claim 7, wherein the shape of the extruded mixture is determined by extruding the mixture through at least one die.

9. The process according to claim 7, wherein the length of the extruded mixture is determined by cutting with a wire cutter.

10. The process according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the water content of the marine clay is reduced from 50-60% to 20-30%.

11. The process according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the extruded mixture is usable as engineering soil within one to seven days.