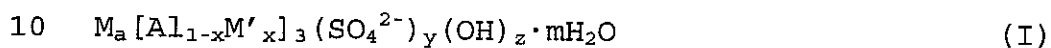


ABSTRACT

Alunite type compound particles represented by the following general formula (I) and having a specific value of D_{75}/D_{25} when D_{25} is the particle diameter of particles which account for 25 % of the total and D_{75} is the particle diameter of particles which account for 75 % of the total in the cumulative particle size distribution curve measured by a laser diffraction method:



wherein M is at least one cation selected from the group consisting of Na^+ , K^+ , NH_4^+ and H_3O^+ , M' is at least one cation selected from the group consisting of Cu^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Sn^{4+} , Zr^{4+} and Ti^{4+} , and a, m, x, y and z satisfy $0.8 \leq a \leq 1.35$,
15 $0 \leq m \leq 5$, $0 \leq x \leq 0.4$, $1.7 \leq y \leq 2.5$, and $4 \leq z \leq 7$, respectively.

The above particles of the present invention have a small average particle diameter, are spherical, disk-like or hexagonal and have an extremely narrow particle size
20 distribution.