ABSTRACT

A process for purifying propylene oxide characterized by subjecting a liquid reaction mixture containing propylene oxide, and water, hydrocarbons and oxygen-containing organic compounds as impurities obtained by reacting cumene hydroperoxide with propylene to extractive distillation using an extractant of a hydrocarbon having 7 to 20 carbon atoms with an extractive distillation column, and controlling a concentration of propylene glycol in the extractant supplied to the extractive distillation column to 20% by weight or less.