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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **UOP LLC** [US/US]; 25 East Algonquin Road, P.O. Box 5017, Des Plaines, IL 60017-5017 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **CORRADI, Jason T.** [US/US]; Uop Llc, 25 East Algonquin Road, P.O. Box 5017, Des Plaines, IL 60017-5017 (US). **MILLER, Lawrence W.** [US/US]; Uop Llc, 25 East Algonquin Road, P.O. Box 5017, Des Plaines, IL 60017 (US).

(74) Common Representative: **UOP LLC**; 25 East Algonquin Road, P.O. Box 5017, Des Plaines, IL 60017-5017 (US).

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(54) **Title:** NEUTRALIZATION OF QUENCH STREAM IN A PROCESS FOR HANDLING CATALYST FROM AN OXYGENATE-TO-OLEFIN REACTION

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention provides a process for separating and disposing of catalyst in an oxygenate to olefins reaction system. Oxygenates are converted to olefins in a reactor in the presence of a catalyst having carbonaceous deposits, then effluent stream comprising the olefins is removed from the reactor. This effluent stream is entrained with a portion of the catalyst having carbonaceous deposits. The catalyst is separated from the effluent stream by contacting the effluent stream with a neutralized liquid quench medium to produce a catalyst containing stream. Then, the catalyst is recirculated to the reactor with catalyst fines removed for disposal.