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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING OVERBASED ALKALINE EARTH METAL ALKYLHYDROXYBENZOATE

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a process for preparing an overbased alkaline earth metal alkylhydroxybenzoate comprising the steps of reacting an alkylphenol with an alkali metal hydroxide in the presence of a diluent oil to produce an alkali metal alkylphenate, carboxylating the alkali metal alkylphenate with carbon dioxide, acidifying the alkali metal alkylhydroxybenzoate to produce an alkylhydroxybenzoic acid, adding methane sulfonic acid, mono-alcohol, water, and an alkaline earth metal base to the alkylhydroxybenzoic acid to form an alkaline earth metal alkylhydroxybenzoate and at least one alkaline earth metal sulfonic acid salt, and reacting the alkaline earth metal alkylhydroxybenzoate with at least one acidic overbasing material in the presence of the at least one alkaline earth metal sulfonic acid salt and the monoalcohol.

