

ABSTRACT

A petroleum processing method for fractionating a feed oil into atmospheric distillate, vacuum distillate and vacuum residue, the petroleum processing method comprising
5 the steps of:

(i) performing an atmospheric distillation of a feed oil to thereby attain a separation thereof into atmospheric distillate and reduced crude; and

(ii) subjecting the reduced crude to a vacuum
10 distillation without heating to thereby attain a separation thereof into vacuum distillate and vacuum residue.

Thus, there can be provided a method and an apparatus which enable obtaining vacuum distillate from reduced crude in an economical manner without heating the reduced crude.



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