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(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **BP P.L.C.** [GB/GB]; 1 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4PD (GB).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (*for US only*): **PARTINGTON, Stephen, Roy** [GB/GB]; Saltend, Hull, East Yorkshire HU12 8DS (GB).

(74) Agent: **HILL, Simon, Stephen**; BP International Limited, Global Patents and Technology Law (Central), Chertsey Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex TW16 7LN (GB).

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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING AN ALKENE

(57) Abstract: A process for the preparation of an alkene from an oxygenate comprising contacting a reactant feedstream comprising at least one oxygenate reactant and water with a supported heteropolyacid catalyst at a temperature of at least 170 °C, wherein the process is initiated using a start-up procedure comprising the following steps: (i) heating the supported heteropolyacid catalyst to a temperature of at least 220 °C; (ii) maintaining the heat-treated supported heteropolyacid catalyst of step (i) at a temperature of at least 220 °C for a time sufficient to remove bound water from the heteropolyacid component of the supported heteropolyacid catalyst; and (iii) whilst maintaining the supported heteropolyacid catalyst of step (ii) at a temperature of at least 220 °C, contacting the supported heteropolyacid catalyst with the reactant feedstream having a temperature of at least 220 °C.



WO 2011/104494 A1