

CALCIUM HYDROXIDE-CONTAINING COMPOSITIONS AND ASSOCIATED SYSTEMS AND METHODS

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

[0001] The present application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 62/473,228, filed March 17, 2017, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

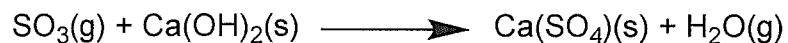
TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] The present disclosure relates generally to the field of calcium hydroxide-containing compositions and associated systems and methods. The calcium hydroxide-containing compositions may be used for the treatment and/or removal of exhaust gases.

BACKGROUND

[0003] Exhaust gases may be released as a result of combustion (e.g., of fossil fuels or other fuel sources) or from other chemical reactions or processes. Such gases often include complex chemical mixtures, and can include one or more chemical species that pose significant environmental risks and are subject to regulation by governments or other organizations. More particularly, an exhaust gas may include one or more acidic species, such as halogenated acids (e.g., HCl, HF, and HBr), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), sulfur trioxide (SO₃), and sulfuric acid (H₂SO₄), amongst other acidic species. Such species can be toxic and/or contribute to acid rain, and must therefore be treated. Exhaust gas can also include a plurality of other chemicals (e.g., arsenic and/or selenium) which can affect manufacturing process conditions by fouling catalysts (e.g., SCR catalysts) and downstream equipment.

[0004] Current methods for treating an exhaust gas and such contaminants commonly include contacting the exhaust gas with calcium hydroxide (e.g., hydrated lime or lime hydrate) particles. For example, sulfur-containing gases can be removed from a stream of exhaust gas by reacting calcium hydroxide with gaseous sulfur trioxide to form solid calcium sulfate according to the following reaction:



Hydrated lime systems utilizing calcium hydroxide particles are commonly used in operations for continuously treating exhaust gases and removing acidic species.

[0005] One challenge commonly associated with these hydrated lime systems is their relative inefficiency with capturing acidic species from an exhaust gas stream. This inefficiency is due in part to the difficulty of effectively dispersing the calcium hydroxide particles quickly enough within the ducting through which the exhaust stream travels so that the particles can contact the acidic species in the exhaust gases. For example, in those hydrated lime systems that use fine calcium hydroxide particles (e.g., particles with diameters less than 8 microns) with a narrow particle size distribution, the dispersion of those particles within an exhaust ducting can be limited, and often fails to contact sulfur-containing gases at, e.g., the outer edges of the ducting in systems with short residence times. As another example, in those hydrated lime systems that use coarse particles (e.g., particles with diameters above 30 microns), the reactivity of those particles is limited because of their lower surface area to volume ratios, relative to finer particles. In addition to these particle size constraints of fine and coarse, the removal efficiency of calcium hydroxide particles can further be based on the particle surface area, particle size distribution, pore volume, and moisture content, amongst other factors. Accordingly, there exists a need for an improved composition of calcium hydroxide particles to more efficiently remove contaminants from exhaust gases.

SUMMARY

[0005a] In one aspect, there is provided a composition for treating acid gases, the composition comprising:

calcium hydroxide particles including—

a D_{10} from about 0.5 microns to about 4 microns,

a D_{90} less than about 30 microns, and

a ratio of D_{90} to D_{10} from about 8 to about 20,

wherein individual calcium hydroxide particles include a surface area greater than or equal to about $25 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$.

[0005b] In another aspect, there is provided a method of forming a composition of calcium hydroxide-containing particles, the method comprising:

combining particles including calcium oxide (CaO) and water to form calcium hydroxide (Ca(OH)₂) particles;

milling the calcium hydroxide particles to reduce particle size diameter of the calcium hydroxide particles; and

drying the calcium hydroxide particles,

wherein the calcium hydroxide particles, after milling and drying, include—

a D₁₀ from about 0.5 microns to about 4 microns,

a D₉₀ less than about 30 microns,

a ratio of D₉₀ to D₁₀ of from about 8 to about 20, and

a flow factor index from about 2 to about 4, and

wherein individual calcium hydroxide particles include a surface area greater than or equal to about 25 m²/g.

[0005c] In another aspect, there is provided a method of treating an exhaust gas having one or more acidic species, the method comprising:

providing a composition having at least 90% calcium hydroxide (Ca(OH)₂) particles, wherein the particles include—

a D₁₀ between about 0.5 microns and 4 microns,

a D₉₀ less than about 30 microns,

a ratio of D₉₀ to D₁₀ between about 8 and about 20, and

a flow factor index between about 2 and about 4,

wherein individual particles include a surface area greater than or equal to about 25 m²/g; and

contacting the composition with the exhaust gas to cause the calcium hydroxide particles to react with the one or more acidic species.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0006] The written disclosure herein describes illustrative embodiments that are non-limiting and non-exhaustive. Reference is made to certain of such illustrative embodiments that are depicted in the figures, in which:

[0007] FIG. 1 is a flow diagram illustrating a process for forming a hydrated lime product, configured in accordance with embodiments of the present technology.

[0008] FIGS. 2-4 are particle size histograms for exemplary compositions of calcium hydroxide particles, configured in accordance with embodiments of the present technology.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0009] The present disclosure relates to compositions that include calcium hydroxide ($\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$) particles, and to methods for preparing and using such compositions. The compositions can be used for the treatment of exhaust gases. As discussed above, there exists a need to efficiently remove contaminants (e.g., acid gases, heavy metals, etc.) from exhaust gases using calcium hydroxide particles. Accordingly, several embodiments of the present technology are directed to compositions having characteristics that result in improved removal and treatment of contaminants in the exhaust gas. In some embodiments, for example, the composition for treating acid gases can include a D_{10} from about 0.5 microns (μm) to about 4 microns, a D_{90} less than about 30 microns, a ratio of D_{90} to D_{10} from about 8 to about 25, and a flow factor index above about 2, or from about 2 to about 6.

[0010] It will be readily understood that the embodiments, as generally described herein, are exemplary. The following detailed description of various embodiments is not intended to limit the scope of the present disclosure, but is merely representative of various embodiments. It will be appreciated that various features are sometimes grouped together in a single embodiment or description thereof for the purpose of streamlining the disclosure. Many of these features may be used alone and/or in combination with one another. Moreover, the order of the steps or actions of the methods disclosed herein may be changed by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the present disclosure. In other words, unless a specific order of steps or actions is required for proper operation of the embodiments, the order or use of specific steps or actions may be modified. Furthermore, sub-routines or only a portion of a method described herein may be a separate method within the scope of this disclosure. Stated otherwise, some methods may include only a portion of the steps described in a more detailed method.

Definitions

[0011] As used herein, the D_x value of a sample of particles is the diameter at which X% of the sample is of particles having a diameter below the specified value. For example, the D_{10} value of a sample of particles is the diameter at which 10% of the

sample's volume is from particles that have a diameter that is less than the D_{10} value. Similarly, the D_{90} value of a sample of particles is the diameter at which 90% of the sample's volume is from particles that have a diameter that is less than the D_{90} value. Unless otherwise specified, all ranges include both endpoints.

Compositions

[0012] One aspect of this disclosure relates to compositions for the treatment of an exhaust gas, such as flue gas from a power plant, cement plant, industrial boiler or other industrial process. In some embodiments, the composition includes a plurality of particles that include calcium hydroxide ($\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$). In some embodiments, the plurality of particles are between about 90% and about 98% calcium hydroxide by weight, between about 90% and about 96%, between about 92% and about 96%, or between about 93% and about 96%.

[0013] Particles described herein may have a varying size and/or shape. In some embodiments, for example, the particles are substantially spherical. In some embodiments, the particles include a distribution of diameters such that the difference between the major diameter (or maximum diameter) and the minor diameter (or minimum diameter) is less than about 20%, less than about 15%, less than about 10%, or less than about 5%.

[0014] In some embodiments, the particles of the composition may have a varying size distribution. For example, in some embodiments, between about 25% and about 50% of the volume of the plurality of particles is in particles that have a diameter between about 4 microns and about 10 microns. For example, in some embodiments, the volume of the plurality of particles having a diameter between about 4 microns and about 10 microns is between about 25% and about 50%, between about 30% and about 45%, between about 30% and about 40%, and/or between about 33% and about 40%. In some embodiments, the plurality of particles have a D_{10} that is from about 0.5 microns to about 4.0 microns. For example, in some embodiments, the D_{10} of the plurality of particles is between about 1.0 and about 4.0, between about 1.5 and about 4.0, and/or between about 1.8 and about 3.6. In some embodiments, the plurality of particles have a D_{90} that is from about 15

microns to about 50 microns. For example, in some embodiments, the plurality of particles have a D_{90} of between about 20 microns and about 50 microns, between about 20 microns and about 40 microns, between about 20 microns and 30 microns, between 25 microns and 30 microns, and/or less than about 30 microns.

[0015] In some embodiments, the D_{90} , the D_{93} , and/or the D_{95} are less than about 50 microns. In some embodiments, the D_{90} , the D_{93} , and/or the D_{95} are less than about 30 microns. In some embodiments, the D_{50} is between about 6 microns and about 10 microns, such as between about 6 microns and about 9 microns, or between about 7 microns and about 9 microns.

[0016] In some embodiments, the ratio of D_{90}/D_{10} (i.e., the “steepness” of the plurality of particles) is between about 8 and about 25, between about 8 and about 15, between about 8 and about 12, and/or between about 9 and about 11. Steepness may be understood as a measure of uniformity of particle size. Stated differently, particles with a relatively uniform particle size tend to have a relatively low ratio of D_{90}/D_{10} .

[0017] In addition to particle size distribution, the composition can also have a particular particle size. In some embodiments, finer particles may, as a whole, react more efficiently with one or more chemical species from an exhaust gas, compared to coarser particles. In some embodiments, coarse particles can be characterized as being above about 32 microns, and fine particles can be characterized as being below about 8 microns. Finer particles, because of their decreased size and higher surface area to volume ratio, have a generally higher reactivity with the gas stream being treated. Finer particles, though, also can have less desirable flow characteristics which limit their dispersion ability when injected as a sorbent within a gas stream. Finer particles can also inhibit the flow of material through silos to process feed equipment which could result in inconsistent performance. Coarser particles can exhibit, in part, opposite characteristics, and can have their own advantages and disadvantages. For example, coarser particles can have some more desirable dispersion characteristics, due to the momentum difference of coarser particles compared to finer particles, but can also have less reactivity, due to their decreased surface area to volume ratio. For these reasons, a broader range of particle sizes can enhance dispersion, thereby allowing for more complete contact of the sorbent

with contaminants in the gas stream, as well as improve the flow characteristics (e.g., flowability) of the sorbent in silo systems. In addition to particle size and particle size distribution, factors affecting flowability can include particle shape, agglomeration of particles, surface irregularities, and moisture content.

[0018] Given the advantages and disadvantages associated with both coarse and fine particles, embodiments of the present technology discloses an optimal distribution of coarse and fine particles (e.g., based on particle size distribution or D_{90}/D_{10} ratios) to provide enhanced removal efficiency relative to conventional compositions. Stated otherwise, depending on various needs of a facility, a composition's particle size and D_{90}/D_{10} ratio can be optimized according to embodiments of the present disclosure to enhance reactivity by increasing the flowability and/or dispersion characteristics of the composition, and thereby more effectively treat acidic species of a gas/exhaust stream.

[0019] Generally speaking, the flowability of a composition (e.g., in a silo) is based on factors including consolidation stress of the composition, bulk density (e.g., mass of the composition divided by total volume) of the composition at the corresponding consolidation stress, effective angle of internal friction (e.g., the friction between sliding layers of the composition/material being measured), and/or a dimension of the opening (e.g., at the bottom of a silo) through which the composition flows. In some embodiments, flowability can be measured by determining a relationship between an unconfined failure strength (kPa) of the composition and the major principal consolidating stress (kPa) of the composition, with the unconfined failure strength being the vertical force on the composition in a perpendicular direction, and the major principal consolidating stress being the horizontal stress on the unconfined composition. In addition to or in lieu of the foregoing, the unconfined failure strength can be characterized as the stress required to cause the composition to flow at a stress-free surface, and the major principal consolidating stress can be characterized as the largest or primary stress acting on the composition in the silo. Individual measurements of the unconfined failure strength and major principal consolidating stress can be measured at a variety of data points via a Powder Flow Tester, such as the PFT™ Powder Flow Tester manufactured by AMETEK Brookfield of Middleboro, MA. The measurements can then be used to develop a

relationship (e.g., a flow index or slope) between the unconfined failure strength (y-axis) and major principle consolidation stress plotted (x-axis). The flow factor index of the composition can be determined by calculating the inverse value of the flow index or slope. The flow factor index of a composition can provide a baseline against which to compare alternative compositions. Flowability characteristics can be generally characterized by the flow factor index according to Table 1:

Flowability Characteristics	Flow Factor Index (ff)
Non Flow	$ff < 1$
Very Cohesive	$1 < ff < 2$
Cohesive	$2 < ff < 4$
Easy Flowing	$4 < ff < 10$
Free Flowing	$10 < ff$

Table 1

Other factors affecting flowability of a composition can include mean particle size, particle size distribution (e.g., steepness), particle shape, agglomeration of particles, surface irregularities of individual particles, and moisture content. In some embodiments, the flow factor indexes for the compositions described herein are above 2, and/or can vary from about 2 to about 6, from about 2 to about 4, or from about 2 to about 3.

[0020] In some embodiments, the plurality of particles comprise one or more pores. For example, in some embodiments, the plurality of particles have an average pore volume of at least about $0.1 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$. In some embodiments, the plurality of particles have an average pore volume of between about $0.1 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ and about $0.25 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$, such as between about $0.1 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ and about $0.20 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$, and/or between about $0.1 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ and between about $0.14 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$.

[0021] The effective surface area of particles is dependent on pore size. Reactions in pores with small openings could plug the openings and prevent full utilization of the full

surface area of the particle. In some embodiments, each particle of the plurality of particles has, on average, a plurality of pores having a diameter of between 100 angstroms and 400 angstroms. The pores of the plurality of particles may have diameters small enough to increase the surface area of the particles (e.g., relative to particles without pores), but be large enough so as to not become readily "clogged" or "plugged" with exhaust gas material.

[0022] In some embodiments, the plurality of particles have an average surface area of greater than about 25 m²/g. For example, the surface area of the plurality of particles may be between about 25 m²/g and about 50 m²/g, between about 35 m²/g and about 50 m²/g, and/or between about 35 m²/g and about 45 m²/g. Surface area can be measured by equipment that uses gas sorption techniques described in "Adsorption of Gases in Multimolecular Layers" by Braunauer, Emmett, and Teller, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

[0023] In some embodiments, the plurality of calcium hydroxide particles have a CO₂ content of less than about 4%, less than about 3%, and/or less than about 2%. In some embodiments, the particles have a CO₂ content of between about 1% and about 3%, between about 1% and about 2.5%, or between about 1% and about 2%.

[0024] In some embodiments, the plurality of particles have a loose density of between about 15 lb/ft³ and about 25 lb/ft³, between about 20 lb/ft³ and about 25 lb/ft³, or between about 22 lb/ft³ and about 24 lb/ft³. In some embodiments, the plurality of particles have a packed density of between about 28 lb/ft³ and about 34 lb/ft³, between about 29 lb/ft³ and about 33 lb/ft³, between about 30 lb/ft³ and about 32 lb/ft³.

[0025] In some embodiments, the plurality of calcium hydroxide-containing particles are used in combination with one or more other sorbents. Sorbents can be, for example, sodium based (e.g., sodium bicarbonate) or activated carbon. Stated differently, some compositions for treating exhaust gas may include a combination of one or more other sorbents that differ from the particles that contain calcium hydroxide.

[0026] In some embodiments wherein compositions have been dried via exposure to a heated gas (e.g., heated atmospheric air), the composition of the plurality of particles

may have a moisture content of less than about 1%, less than 0.75%, and/or less than 0.5% by weight. In other embodiments, the moisture content may be higher than about 1%, such as between about 2% and about 3% by weight.

[0027] In some embodiments, the composition of the plurality of particles is distributed to directly contact an exhaust gas. For example, the composition can be injected into the flue gas duct work. In other embodiments, the composition can also be dispersed within a pollution control device, such as a scrubber (e.g., a circulating dry scrubber, a wet scrubber, or conditioning chamber).

Methods of Use

[0028] The compositions described above may be used to treat exhaust gases. For example, in some instances, a composition, such as the composition described above, may be contacted with an exhaust gas. One or more chemical species of the exhaust gas may interact with the calcium hydroxide of the particles.

[0029] In some embodiments, the chemical species adsorbs to the surface of the particle via physisorption (e.g., van der Waals forces) and/or chemisorption (e.g., via covalent or ionic bonding). For example, in some embodiments, one or more contaminants of the exhaust gas react with the calcium hydroxide (a base) to form a salt. In some embodiments, the salt is a solid under the reaction conditions and is thereby removed from the stream of exhaust gas. Moisture content of the particle may also aid the absorption and removal of contaminants and/or acidic species, such as sulfur dioxide (SO₂).

[0030] In some embodiments, the plurality of particles are placed in contact with the exhaust gas via dispersion. For example, a pressurized gas such as compressed air (or some other source of force) may be used to cause the particles to disperse (e.g., form a mist of particles) into ducting (e.g., flue gas ducting) and contact the stream of exhaust gas. As previously described, the composition of the present disclosure can include a combination of coarse and fine particles that have beneficial flowability characteristics. The coarse particles have greater momentum and travel further distances, and the finer particles have higher surface area to volume ratio and reactivity. As such, the combination

of coarse and fine particles, when injected and dispersed over an exhaust gas in a ducting area, can substantially cover (e.g., cover a majority of) a cross-sectional surface area of the ducting, including both near and far ends of the ducting relative to the dispersion point, and better ensure the exhaust gas traveling therethrough is contacted by calcium hydroxide particles of the composition. The exhaust gas may react with the particles, and the resulting solids may then be collected in a collection bin or other container. In some embodiments, the resulting solid particles are collected in an electrostatic precipitator (ESP) or a baghouse. In some embodiments, the exhaust gas is passed through a wet scrubber that includes particles comprising calcium hydroxide. Prior to sorbent injection, the flue gas can also be humidified to enhance the removal efficiency of the calcium hydroxide particles. The particles may subsequently be removed from the pollution control device. In some embodiments, calcium hydroxide is placed in contact with one or more reactive species of the exhaust gas (e.g., SO_2 , SO_3 and/or HCl) by introducing (e.g., injecting) the calcium hydroxide into the stream of exhaust gas. In some embodiments, the particles comprising calcium hydroxide are co-injected into a stream of exhaust gas with one or more other sorbents. In some embodiments, the exhaust gas is from a power plant, paper mill, cement facility or chemical/industrial process.

Methods of Manufacture

[0031] FIG. 1 is a flow diagram illustrating a process 100 for forming calcium hydroxide-containing particles, in accordance with embodiments of the present technology. As shown in process portion 102, particles comprising calcium oxide (CaO) may be combined with water (i.e., slaked) to form particles comprising calcium hydroxide. In some embodiments, the particles comprising calcium oxide are combined with water at a ratio of between about 1:0.7 and/or about 1:3 by weight. In some embodiments, the quicklime has a reactivity to water greater than 24.0°C in 30 seconds (as measured by ASTM C110 Slaking Rate of Quicklime procedure). In some embodiments, water is added to the quicklime such that the slaked calcium hydroxide particles have a residual moisture content of between about 10% and about 30% by weight, such as between about 15% and about 30 % by weight, and/or between about 17% and about 23% by weight. In some embodiments, the slaking of quicklime occurs in a hydrator (e.g., a three-stage hydrator).

The quicklime particles can range from fine dust-like particles to particles that are over 9 mm in diameter.

[0032] In some embodiments, the quicklime may be slaked in the presence of one or more additives, such as ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, monoethanolamine, diethanolamine, triethanolamine, sodium or calcium lignosulfonate and/or combinations thereof. Stated differently, particles that include calcium oxide may be combined with water in the presence of the one or more additives. In some embodiments, one or more of these additives may inhibit “clumping” or the formation of relatively large calcium hydroxide aggregates. In other words, such additives may result in an improved particle size distribution. In some embodiments, the addition of one or more additives may additionally or alternatively result in a more thoroughly hydrated calcium product. In addition to or in lieu of the foregoing, one or more additives can also be added to the calcium hydroxide particles after the hydrator to help negate a charge associated with the calcium hydroxide particles, improve particle dispersion and/or improve flowability in a silo, as previously described. Furthermore, the one or more additives can be incorporated into the process at other stages of manufacturing (e.g., before, during and/or after milling). In some embodiments, the one or more additives are present in the quicklime/water mixture at a concentration of between about 0.1% and about 1.5% by weight. In some embodiments, the additive is added at a concentration of about 0–2% by mass of added water. In some embodiments, no additives are used. Stated differently, in some embodiments, the calcium oxide-containing quicklime is slaked in the absence of the additives described herein. In some embodiments, mixture of quicklime and water in a hydrator is mixed at a speed of between about 20 rpm and about 100 rpm, such as between about 50 rpm and about 75 rpm or between about 55 rpm and about 65 rpm. In some embodiments, a variable frequency drive is coupled to the hydrator to control rpm output.

[0033] After the quicklime has been slaked (i.e., the particles comprising calcium oxide have been combined with water), the resulting calcium hydroxide-containing material may be milled to reduce its particle size diameter (process portion 104). For example, in some embodiments, the calcium hydroxide-containing material is placed in a grinding mill

or impact mill that results in a steepness ratio greater than about 8. One or more members within the impact mill may then be rotated to cause collisions between the calcium hydroxide-containing particles. In this manner, the aggregates and/or large calcium hydroxide particles may be milled, ground, or otherwise modified to produce calcium hydroxide particles that are smaller in size. In some embodiments, the abrasive forces within the impact mill may render the particles more uniform in size. Stated differently, in some embodiments, the steepness (i.e., the D_{90}/D_{10} ratio) for the calcium hydroxide particles can correlate to a residence time spent in the impact mill and may decrease as a result of “milling.”

[0034] Various parameters of the impact mill may be modified to obtain particles having the desired attributes. For example, in some embodiments, a variable frequency drive speed may be utilized. In some embodiments, the speed (e.g., from 45% speed to 100% speed) and/or the number of members may be modified.

[0035] In some embodiments, the calcium hydroxide particles may be dried (process portion 106). In some embodiments, the calcium hydroxide particles can be dried prior to and/or during milling and separation from the flue gas. Stated differently, in some embodiments, both drying and milling of the particles that comprise calcium hydroxide can be simultaneously occurring. In some embodiments, drying of the calcium hydroxide particles involves indirect heating of the calcium hydroxide particles. For example, the calcium hydroxide particles may be indirectly heated with a heated gas, such as atmospheric air, that has a temperature of between about 150°C and about 425°C, such as between about 200°C and about 400°C, between about 200°C and about 375°C, between about 250°C and about 320°C, and/or between about 350°C and about 400°C.

[0036] In some embodiments, the particles comprising calcium hydroxide may be sieved, filtered or otherwise modified (e.g., via an air classifier or a cyclone) prior to the finished product bin and use. For example, in some embodiments, the particles are sieved through mesh having a pore size of about 600 microns, about 300 microns, about 150 microns, about 75 microns, about 45 microns, or about 32 microns. In other embodiments, the particles comprising calcium hydroxide are not sieved prior to use in removing one or more chemical species from an exhaust gas.

[0037] The resulting particles may have any of the features or characteristics described herein. For example, in some embodiments, the resulting particles have one or more of the following characteristics: a steepness of between 8 and 20; a D_{10} of less than or equal to 4 microns; and/or a D_{90} of between 15 microns and 40 microns. These characteristics are only exemplary in nature. In other embodiments, the resulting particles have other characteristics, as described herein.

Example 1—Manufacture of Calcium Hydroxide-Containing Particles

[0038] Various batches of calcium hydroxide-containing particles described herein were manufactured by slaking quicklime. Data for the resulting particles from batches 1M-10M are shown in Table 2, which includes $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$ % by weight, CO_2 % by weight, pore size, pore volume, surface area, % moisture by weight and particle size steepness. Quicklime particles having a calcium oxide content of approximately 92–95% by weight were slaked by the addition of water at a ratio of about 1:0.9 quicklime to water by weight to form calcium hydroxide. In some batches, an amine or glycol based additive or combinations thereof was included in the slaking mixture. For example, batches 6M and 9M included at least one amine-based additive at approximately 0.1–4% by weight, and batches 7M and 8M included at least one glycol-based additive at approximately 0.1–4% by weight. In some batches, the quicklime particles were less than 5 mm in diameter. In other batches, approximately up to 5% of the quicklime particles were greater than 5 mm in diameter. The slaked calcium hydroxide particles had a residual moisture content between 10% and 30% by weight. The slaked particles were then simultaneously dried and milled in a grinding or impact mill.

Batch	Ca(OH) ₂ % by weight	CO ₂ % by weight	Pore size (Å)	Pore volume (cm ³ /g)	Surface Area (m ² /g)	% Moisture (by weight)	Particle Size Steepness D ₉₀ /D ₁₀
1M	95.92	1.93	137.7763	0.145100	42.1261	0.43	8.7
2M	96.18	1.75	148.2686	0.163972	44.2365	0.62	9.9
3M	93.58	1.85	150.3957	0.158322	42.1081	0.60	7.3
4M	94.54	1.80	145.9487	0.153359	42.5346	0.63	9.7
5M	95.31	1.88	157.2201	0.172826	43.9705	0.63	10.1
6M	92.72	2.77	103.8980	0.115066	44.2996	0.30	9.1
7M	93.53	2.78	114.5121	0.136375	47.6370	0.56	9.2
8M	95.42	2.96	124.1555	0.156210	50.3273	0.65	10.7
9M	94.69	2.77	125.8219	0.153785	48.8898	0.45	14.9
10M	94.30	2.36	123.3994	0.150960	48.9338	0.63	11.9

Table 2

[0039] The size distributions of particles from the various batches were analyzed by laser diffraction. The results from batches 8M, 9M and 10M are shown in FIGS. 2, 3 and 4 respectively. FIG. 2 shows the size distribution of 8M particles, FIG. 3 shows the size distribution of 9M particles, and FIG. 4 shows the size distribution of 10M particles. FIGS. 2–4 show the volume density and cumulative volume as a percentage of the total volume of the distribution for each batch. The curves on each of FIGS. 2–4 show the percent of cumulative volume at each diameter. Stated differently, the curves show the amount of the sample (by volume) that is in particles having a diameter at or below the specified value. Additional information regarding the particles of FIGS. 2–4 is set forth in Table 3.

Batch	D ₁₀ (microns)	D ₅₀ (microns)	D ₉₀ (microns)	D ₉₀ /D ₁₀	Mean diameter (microns)
8M	2.06	7.41	22.07	10.71	10.00
9M	2.18	8.67	32.44	14.88	12.97
10M	2.01	7.37	24.00	11.94	10.25

Table 3

Example 2—Evaluation of Modified Hydrated Lime

[0040] Testing to evaluate the relative performance of conventional hydrated lime and the modified hydrated lime described herein was performed at a small scale boiler designed to simulate the equipment, time and temperature profiles of a full-scale coal-fired power facility. A bituminous coal with a sulfur content between 2.5-2.75% was used as the fuel source in the boiler for this set of evaluations. Sorbent injection tests were run to evaluate the effectiveness of the conventional and modified hydrated lime product at removing SO₂, SO₃ and HCl from the flue gas stream. Testing conditions for the furnace included a heat input of 3.4 MMBTU/hr, a furnace exit oxygen of 3%, and a coal feed rate of approximately 270 lb/hr. Fourier transformed infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) measurements at the inlet to an ESP were used to determine removal efficiency.

[0041] A first series of tests involved the injection of the conventional and modified hydrated lime to examine the removal of SO₂ from the flue gas. The product was injected prior to the air preheater where the flue gas temperature was approximately 600°F. The hydrated lime products were injected at stoichiometric ratios of Ca:S at about 1.3:1 and about 2.1:1. As shown in Table 4, use of the modified hydrated lime improved the SO₂ % reduction per Ca:S. At stoichiometric ratios of Ca:S at 1.3:1, the modified hydrated lime was over 40% more effective in removing SO₂ compared to the conventional hydrated lime. At stoichiometric ratios of Ca:S at 2.1:1, the modified hydrated lime was over 30% more effective in removing SO₂ compared to the conventional hydrated lime.

Product	SO ₂ Reduction per Ca:S Ratio		
	1.3:1	2.1:1	Average
Conventional Hydrated Lime	12.2%	13.7%	13.0%
Modified Hydrated Lime	17.4%	16.8%	17.1%

Table 4

[0042] A second series of tests involved the injection of the conventional and modified hydrated lime to examine the removal of SO₃ from the flue gas. The product was injected prior to the air preheater at a point where flue gas temperature was approximately 600°F. SO₃ is more easily removed by lime compared to SO₂, and thus the lime dosage was reduced significantly from the first series of tests to measure the differences between the conventional and modified hydrated lime products. As shown in Table 5, at an injection rate of 1 lb/hr, or a Ca/S stoichiometric ratio of 0.06:1, the modified hydrated lime product was over 75% more effective at removing SO₃ than the conventional hydrated lime product.

Product	SO ₃ Reduction per Ca:S Ratio of 0.06:1
Conventional Hydrated Lime	25.8%
Modified Hydrated Lime	45.4%

Table 5

[0043] A third series of tests involved the injection of the conventional and modified hydrated lime to examine the removal of HCl from the flue gas. The product was injected after the air preheater at a point where flue gas temperature is approximately 350°F. This temperature after the air preheater has been found to be optimal for HCl removal from flue gas. As shown in Table 6, two injection rates, 0.33:1 and 1.4:1 of Ca/S, were studied. At the lower injection rate of 0.33:1, the modified hydrated lime was over 120% more effective at removing HCl compared to the conventional hydrated lime sample. At the higher injection rate of 1.4:1, the modified hydrated lime product removed 99.4% of the HCl

compared to 87.5% when using the conventional lime. The 99.4% removal could have been complete removal of HCl, given the range of variation of the study. Though the difference between the modified and controlled lime hydrates was only 13.6% at the higher injection rate, it is likely that the dosage of the modified hydrated lime could be lowered with similar performance.

Product	HCl Reduction per Ca:S Ratio	
	0.33:1	1.4:1
Conventional Hydrated Lime	20.9%	87.5%
Modified Hydrated Lime	46.2%	99.4%

Table 6

Example 3—Evaluation of Flowability of Modified Hydrated Lime

[0044] Testing was performed to evaluate the relative performance of fine hydrated lime and the modified hydrated lime described herein. Each of the fine hydrated lime and modified hydrated lime samples were tested on a Brookfield-Powder Flow tester, a Cilas-1190LD Particle Size Analyzer, and a Micromeritics- TriStar BET Surface Area Analyzer. As shown in Table 7, the fine hydrated lime tested included a smaller mean diameter and a lower particle size distribution (i.e., D_{90}/D_{10} ratio) relative to that of the modified hydrated lime. The flow factor index of the modified hydrated lime was determined to be approximately 25% greater than that of fine hydrated lime. The modified hydrated lime also had a significantly greater specific surface relative to that of the fine hydrated lime, thereby providing better reactivity as well.

Product	Critical Arching Values			Flow Factor Index	Mean Diameter	d_{90}/d_{10}	Specific Surface Area (m^2/g)
	Stress (kPa)	Angle of Internal Friction ($^\circ$)	Silo Opening (m)				
Fine Hydrated Lime	1.453	56.0	0.591	1.79	7.6	7.6	31.03

Modified Hydrated Lime	0.890	53.4	0.395	2.27	9.8	8.7	42.12
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Table 7

[0045] It will be apparent to those having skill in the art that changes may be made to the details of the above-described embodiments without departing from the underlying principles of the present disclosure. In some cases, well-known structures and functions have not been shown or described in detail to avoid unnecessarily obscuring the description of the embodiments of the present technology. Although steps of methods may be presented herein in a particular order, alternative embodiments may perform the steps in a different order. Similarly, certain aspects of the present technology disclosed in the context of particular embodiments can be combined or eliminated in other embodiments. Furthermore, while advantages associated with certain embodiments of the present technology may have been disclosed in the context of those embodiments, other embodiments can also exhibit such advantages, and not all embodiments need necessarily exhibit such advantages or other advantages disclosed herein to fall within the scope of the technology. Accordingly, the disclosure and associated technology can encompass other embodiments not expressly shown or described herein, and the invention is not limited except as by the appended claims.

[0046] Throughout this disclosure, the singular terms "a," "an," and "the" include plural referents unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Similarly, unless the word "or" is expressly limited to mean only a single item exclusive from the other items in reference to a list of two or more items, then the use of "or" in such a list is to be interpreted as including (a) any single item in the list, (b) all of the items in the list, or (c) any combination of the items in the list. Additionally, the term "comprising," "including," and "having" should be interpreted to mean including at least the recited feature(s) such that any greater number of the same feature and/or additional types of other features are not precluded. Additionally, the term "about," when preceding a value, should be interpreted to mean plus or minus 10% of the value, unless otherwise indicated. Additionally, the term "substantially" should be interpreted to mean a majority of.

[0047] Reference herein to "one embodiment," "an embodiment," "some embodiments" or similar formulations means that a particular feature, structure, operation, or characteristic described in connection with the embodiment can be included in at least one embodiment of the present technology. Thus, the appearances of such phrases or formulations herein are not necessarily all referring to the same embodiment. Furthermore, various particular features, structures, operations, or characteristics may be combined in any suitable manner in one or more embodiments.

[0048] The disclosure set forth above is not to be interpreted as reflecting an intention that any claim requires more features than those expressly recited in that claim. Rather, as the following claims reflect, inventive aspects lie in a combination of fewer than all features of any single foregoing disclosed embodiment. Thus, the claims following this Detailed Description are hereby expressly incorporated into this Detailed Description, with each claim standing on its own as a separate embodiment. This disclosure includes all permutations of the independent claims with their dependent claims.

CLAIMS

I/We claim:

1. A composition for treating acid gases, the composition comprising:
calcium hydroxide particles including—
a D_{10} from about 0.5 microns to about 4 microns,
a D_{90} less than about 30 microns, and
a ratio of D_{90} to D_{10} from about 8 to about 20,
wherein individual calcium hydroxide particles include a surface area greater than or equal to about $25 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$.
2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the calcium hydroxide particles include a flow factor index from about 2 to about 4.
3. The composition of claim 1 wherein the calcium hydroxide particles include an average pore volume from about $0.1 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$ to about $0.3 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$.
4. The composition of claim 1 wherein the ratio of D_{90} to D_{10} is from about 10 to about 15.
5. The composition of claim 1 wherein the calcium hydroxide particles have a D_{50} from about 7 microns to about 15 microns.
6. The composition of claim 1 wherein the calcium hydroxide particles have a moisture content less than about 2% by weight.
7. The composition of claim 1 wherein the calcium hydroxide particles have a surface area greater than or equal to about $35 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$.
8. The composition of claim 1 wherein the calcium hydroxide particles have a

loose density from about 15 lb/ft³ to about 25 lb/ft³, and a packed density from about 28 lb/ft³ to about 34 lb/ft³.

9. A method of forming a composition of calcium hydroxide-containing particles, the method comprising:

combining particles including calcium oxide (CaO) and water to form calcium hydroxide (Ca(OH)₂) particles;

milling the calcium hydroxide particles to reduce particle size diameter of the calcium hydroxide particles; and

drying the calcium hydroxide particles,

wherein the calcium hydroxide particles, after milling and drying, include—

a D₁₀ from about 0.5 microns to about 4 microns,

a D₉₀ less than about 30 microns,

a ratio of D₉₀ to D₁₀ of from about 8 to about 20, and

a flow factor index from about 2 to about 4, and

wherein individual calcium hydroxide particles include a surface area greater than or equal to about 25 m²/g.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein combining particles including calcium oxide and water occurs in a hydrator, the method further comprising:

after combining the particles in the hydrator, adding an additive to the calcium hydroxide particles to improve product reactivity and/or increase the flow factor index of the calcium hydroxide particles.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the additive includes ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, triethylene glycol, monoethanolamine, diethanolamine, triethanolamine, calcium lignosulfonate, sodium lignosulfonate or a combination thereof.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein combining particles including calcium oxide and water is performed in the presence of one or more additives, wherein the one or more additives includes monoethanolamine, diethanolamine, triethanolamine, calcium

lignosulfonate, sodium lignosulfonate or a combination thereof.

13. The method of claim 9 wherein:

milling the calcium hydroxide particles comprises placing the calcium hydroxide particles into at least one of a grinding mill or an impact mill, and
drying the calcium hydroxide particles comprises indirectly heating the particles with a drying gas that has a temperature between about 150°C and about 425°C.

14. The method of claim 9 wherein combining the particles including calcium oxide and water occurs in a hydrator, and wherein a rate at which the particles including calcium oxide and water are combined is based at least in part on a moisture content of the calcium hydroxide particles leaving the hydrator.

15. The method of claim 9, wherein the calcium hydroxide particles further include:

a flow factor index from about 2 to about 3,
an average pore volume at least about 0.1 cm³/g,
a D₅₀ from about 7 microns to about 15 microns, and
a moisture content less than about 2.0% by weight.

16. A method of treating an exhaust gas having one or more acidic species, the method comprising:

providing a composition having at least 90% calcium hydroxide (Ca(OH)₂) particles, wherein the particles include—
a D₁₀ between about 0.5 microns and 4 microns,
a D₉₀ less than about 30 microns,
a ratio of D₉₀ to D₁₀ between about 8 and about 20, and
a flow factor index between about 2 and about 4,
wherein individual particles include a surface area greater than or equal to about 25 m²/g; and

contacting the composition with the exhaust gas to cause the calcium hydroxide

particles to react with the one or more acidic species.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising, prior to contacting the composition with the exhaust gas, dispersing the composition, via a pressurized gas, across a surface area of a flue gas duct, wherein dispersing the composition causes the composition to substantially cover a cross-sectional area of the duct.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising, prior to dispersing the composition, humidifying the exhaust gas to enhance removal of the one or more acidic species or other contaminants via the dispersed composition.

19. The method of claim 16 wherein the exhaust gas is associated with a power plant, paper mill, cement facility, or industrial boiler.

20. The method of claim 16 wherein the acidic species includes at least one of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), sulfur trioxide (SO₃), hydrogen chloride (HCl), hydrogen fluoride (HF), arsenic (As) or selenium (Se).