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(71) Applicant: **CHEVRON ORONITE COMPANY LLC**
[US/US]; 6001 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, California 94583 (US).

(72) Inventors: **MAHIEUX, Cedrick**; 6001 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, California 94583 (US). **CAMPBELL, Curtis B.**; 6001 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, California 94583 (US). **KUPERMAN, Alexander**; 6001 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, California 94583 (US).

(74) Agents: **JONES, Josetta I.** et al.; Chevron Corporation, Law Department, Post Office Box 6006, San Ramon, California 94583-0806 (US).

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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING A PARA-LINEAR ALKYL-SUBSTITUTED HYDROXYAROMATIC COMPOUND

(57) Abstract: Disclosed herein is a process for preparing an isomeric mixture comprising a major amount of a para-linear mono-alkyl-substituted hydroxyaromatic compound. The process involves: (a) providing an isomeric mixture comprising a major amount of a para-di (alkyl-substituted)aromatic compound; wherein a first alkyl substituent is a C3 to C8 alkyl moiety and a second alkyl substituent is a C4+n to C8+n linear alkyl moiety, and further wherein the second alkyl substituent is at least one carbon atom greater than the first alkyl substituent; (b) subjecting the above isomeric mixture to oxidation conditions in the presence of an oxygen-containing source, converting the first alkyl substituent which is a C3 to C8 alkyl moiety to a hydroperoxide-containing substituted moiety; and (c) converting the hydroperoxide-containing substituted moiety to a hydroxyl moiety thereby providing an isomeric mixture comprising a major amount of a para-linear mono-alkyl-substituted hydroxyaromatic compound.



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