

PROCESSES FOR PRODUCING PHENOL

ABSTRACT

Disclosed herein are processes for producing phenol. The processes include oxidizing cyclohexylbenzene to produce an oxidation composition comprising cyclohexyl-1 -phenyl- 1- hydroperoxide. The cyclohexyl-1 -phenyl- 1 -hydroperoxide in the oxidation composition may undergo a cleavage reaction to produce a cleavage reaction mixture comprising phenol, cyclohexanone and at least one contaminant. The cleavage reaction mixture may be contacted with a basic material to convert at least a portion of the contaminant to a converted contaminant, thereby producing a modified reaction mixture.

(Figure 1)