

Title (en)

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RECYCLING AN AGGREGATE CONTAMINATED WITH A HYDROCARBON

Title (de)

VERFAHREN UND VORRICHTUNG ZUM RECYCLING EINES MIT EINEM KOHLENWASSERSTOFF VERUNREINIGTEN AGGREGATS

Title (fr)

PROCEDE ET APPAREIL DE RECYCLAGE D'UN AGREGAT CONTAMINE PAR UN HYDROCARBURE

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Application

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Abstract (en)

[origin: WO9920409A1] The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for recycling an aggregate contaminated with a hydrocarbon. More particularly it relates to a method and apparatus for cleaning ballast, for example, the stone chippings used on railway tracks. It could however be used to clean, for example, pebbles from an oil contaminated beach. The method comprises the steps of: i) subjecting the aggregate to a prewash, ii) solvent washing the aggregate to remove the hydrocarbon contaminant, iii) rinsing the aggregate with water to remove residual solvent containing the hydrocarbon contaminant, iv) separating off the solvent containing the hydrocarbon contaminant and water from the aggregate, and v) recycling the cleaned aggregate. The apparatus comprises: i) means for extracting and/or transferring the aggregate to the apparatus; ii) means for prewashing the aggregate; iii) means for transferring the aggregate to a solvent treatment circuit; iv) means for transferring the aggregate to a water treatment circuit; v) means for transferring the cleaned and decontaminated aggregate for recycling, and vi) means for collecting waste streams from the solvent and water treatment circuits.

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