U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Form **PTO-1595** RE U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (Rev. 03/01) 102267713 OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 5/31/2002) To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof 1. Name of conveying party(ies): Name and address of receiving party(ies) Jeffrey J. Smith 10.29.02 Name: AMCOL International Corporation Jerald W. Darlington, Jr. John Occhipinti Internal Address: Gerard A. Just Street Address: Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) x No One North Arlington Yes attached? 1500 West Shure Drive 3. Nature of Conveyance: x Assignment Merger Security Agreement Change of Name **Arlington Heights** Other State: Illinois Zip: 60004 9/23/02, 9/27/02, 10/14/02 & Additional name(s) & Yes No 10/10/02 **Execution Date:** address(es) attached: 4. Application number(s) or patent number(s): If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the new application is: A. Patent Application No.: U.S. Serial No.: 10/227,682 B. Patent No.(s): Additional numbers attached? Yes 6. Total number of applications and Name and address of party to whom correspondence patents involved: concerning document should be mailed: Name: Michael R. Hull 7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41) 40.00 x Enclosed Internal Address: Atty. Dkt.: 28570/38755 Authorized to be charged to deposit account Street Address: 6300 Sears Tower 233 S. Wacker Drive 13-2855 8. Deposit account number: Zip: State: City: (Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account) 60606-6357 Ш Chicago DO NOT USE THIS SPACE Statement and signature. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document. October 23, 2002 Michael R. Hull, Reg. No. 35,902 Date Signature Name of Person Signing

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents:

10/31/2002 GTOH11 00000019 10227682

01 FC:8021

40.00 DP

ASSIGNMENT

Serial No: 10/227,682

Filed: August 26, 2002

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REMOVING HYDROCARBONS FROM WATER

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the undersigned hereby assigns to AMCOL International Corporation, a Delaware Corporation, One North Arlington, 1500 West Shure Drive, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60004 (hereinafter "assignee"), its successors and assigns, the entire right, title and interest in the invention or improvements of the undersigned disclosed in an application for Letters Patent of the United States, executed by the undersigned on 9/23/02, 9/27/02, 10/10/02 and 10/13/02, and in said application and any and all other applications, both United States and foreign, which the undersigned may file, either solely or jointly with others, on said invention or improvements, and in any and all Letters Patent of the United States and foreign countries, which may be obtained on any of said applications, and in any reissue or extension thereof.

The undersigned hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue said Letters Patent to said assignee.

The undersigned hereby authorize and request the attorneys of record in said application to insert in this assignment the execution date and/or filing date and serial number of said application when officially known.

The undersigned warrant themselves to be the owners of the interest herein assigned and to have the right to make this assignment and further warrant that there are no outstanding prior assignments, licenses, or other rights in the interest herein assigned.

For said consideration the undersigned hereby agrees, upon the request and at the expense of said assignee, its successors and assigns, to execute any and all divisional, continuation, continuation-in-part and substitute applications for said invention or improvements, and any necessary oath or affidavit relating thereto, and any application for the reissue or extension of any Letters Patent that may be granted upon said application, and any and all applications and other documents for Letters Patent in foreign countries on said invention or improvements, that said assignee, its successors or assigns, may deem necessary or expedient, and for said consideration the undersigned further agree upon the request of said assignee, its successors or assigns, in the event of any application or Letters Patent assigned herein becoming involved in Interference, to cooperate to the best of the ability of the undersigned with said assignee, its successors or assigns, in the matters of preparing and executing the preliminary statement and giving and producing evidence in support thereof, the undersigned hereby agreeing to perform, upon request, any and all affirmative acts to obtain said Letters Patent, both United States and foreign, and vest all rights therein hereby conveyed in said assignee, its successors and assigns, whereby said Letters Patent will be held and enjoyed by said assignee, its successors and assigns, to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patent may be granted as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by the undersigned if this assignment and sale had not been made.

PATENT REEL: 13425 FRAME: 0579

Date: September 23, 2002

Date: 15/16/62

Date: Septenbe 27, 2002

Jeffrey J. Smith

Wild W. Darlington J.

John Ocal- Vi

Jo**k**in Occhipinti

Derard a. Just

PATENT REEL: 13425 FRAME: 0580