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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

A facile method for preparation of floatable and permeable fly ash-based

geopolymer block

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Abstract: We present a process of fabricating water floatable and permeable geopolymer block from industrial by-product fly ash. By adding oleic acid and H_2O_2 solution during the geopolymer manufacture process, a foamed geopolymer block with highly interconnected pores can be manufactured. The compressive strength of those foamed geopolymer block are $0.55 \pm$ 0.08 MPa at dry density of 0.37 g/cm³, and its permeability to water coefficient is 0.35 cm/s and the BET surface area is 67.62 m²/g. In addition, the porous geopolymer block possesses a high adsorption capacity for methylene blue, 50.7 ± 0.7 mg/g, and shows the potential of being employed as low cost replacement for zeolites in applications such as waste water treatment at high mass transport rate.

Keywords: Geopolymer foams; Open cell; Floatable; Adsorbent; Fly ash

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