respect to the water soluble bridging material, and wherein the wash solution comprises an aqueous liquid which is unsaturated with respect to the water soluble bridging material.

3. The method of claim **1** wherein the peroxide is calcium peroxide.

4. The method of claim **1**, **2**, or **3** wherein the soak solution contains a soluble activator to enhance the rate of reaction between the peroxide and the polysaccharide polymer.

5. The method of claim **4** wherein the soluble activator is selected from the group consisting of (1) a source of a cation selected from the group consisting of cobaltous, cuprous, ferrous, nickelous, manganous, and mixtures thereof; (2) organic hydroxyl compounds having the empirical formula:

$$HO—C_aH_{2a}—Z$$

where a is an integer from 1 to about 5, and Z is a radical selected from the group consisting of H, OH, and $(OC_bH_{2b})_nOR$ where b is 2, 3, or mixtures thereof, n is an integer from 0 to about 3, and R is a radical selected from the group consisting of H, C_xH_{2x+1}, and $C_yH_{2y+1}CO$, where x is an integer from 1 to 5 and y is an integer from 1 to 3; and mixtures thereof.

6. The method of claim **4** wherein the soak solution contains from about 2.8 kg/m^3 to about 57 kg/m^3 of the peroxide.

7. The method of claim **1**, **2**, or **3** wherein the soak solution contains from about 2.8 kg/m^3 to about 57 kg/m^3 of the peroxide.

8. A composition for decomposing polysaccharide polymers contained within filter cakes on the sides of a borehole, the filter cake containing at least one polysaccharide polymer and bridging particles, which comprises an aqueous brine in which the bridging particles are not appreciably soluble, an alkaline earth metal peroxide in an amount from about 2.8 kg/m^3 to about 57 kg/m^3, a soluble activator to enhance the rate of decomposition of the polysaccharide, and an acidic substance to provide the composition with a pH in the range from about 1 to about 8.

9. The composition of claim **8** wherein the aqueous brine is a solution which is saturated with respect to the bridging particles, and wherein the activator is selected from the group consisting of (1) a source of cation selected from the group consisting of cobaltous, cuprous, ferrous, nickelous, manganous, and mixtures thereof; (2) organic hydroxyl compounds having the empirical formula:

$$HO—C_aH_{2a}—Z$$

where a is an integer from 1 to about 5, and Z is a radical selected from the group consisting of H, OH, and $(OC_bH_{2b})_nOR$ where b is 2, 3, or mixtures thereof, n is an integer from 0 to about 3, and R is a radical selected from the group consisting of H, C_xH_{2x+1}, and $C_yH_{2y+1}CO$, where x is an integer from 1 to 5 and y is an integer from 1 to 3; and mixtures thereof.

10. The composition of claim **9** wherein the activator is an organic hydroxyl compound.

11. The composition of claim **8** or **9** wherein the acid is sulfamic and wherein the peroxide is calcium peroxide.

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