

Letter of Support - DA35/98-Mod-6 - Chlorine Liquefaction Plant

To the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure,

I write to express support for IXOM's State Significant Development (SSD) Modification Application [*Application Number DA35/98-Mod-6: MOD 6 Chlorine Liquefaction Plant*] to construct and operate a new chlorine liquefaction and packaging plant at its chlor-alkali facility in Botany, NSW.

As a major water treatment operator for major water utilities in NSW, Veolia relies on gaseous chlorine as the primary chemical for the disinfection of drinking water at many of our water treatment plants serving communities across Australia, particularly across Greater Sydney, the Hunter and Illawarra.

The disinfection of drinking water is a fundamental requirement for safe drinking water. Many water treatment plants are specifically designed to use gaseous chlorine for this purpose. The establishment of an additional chlorine liquefaction and packaging plant would improve the level of supply chain resilience for this chemical. The Australian Government (2020) *Sovereign Manufacturing Capability Plan* identifies, amongst other things, the need to improve Australia's supply chain resilience for certain critical products, including water treatment chemicals.

IXOM's Laverton facility in Victoria is currently the sole packaging facility for liquefied chlorine gas in Australia. IXOM's proposed Botany plant expansion, to add the capability to produce bulk and packaged liquefied chlorine gas, would provide Australian water utilities with a second source of supply for this critical chemical, and thereby increase the supply chain resilience of this critical product in Australia. The project will achieve this by:

- Providing a contingent source capable of supplying the Australian bulk and packaged liquefied chlorine gas market at short notice, in the event of supply chain disruption or a production failure of the IXOM Laverton plant; and,
- Reducing the need for water utilities to rely on imports as a supply contingency for chlorine gas, therefore mitigating risk arising from international shipping disruptions, international chlorine production levels and/or Australia's access to international supply chains.

For the reasons outlined above, Veolia supports IXOM's development application to construct and operate a new chlorine liquefaction and packaging plant at its facility in Botany, NSW.

Yours faithfully,

Catherine Port

General Manager, Water (NSW) Veolia Australia and New Zealand