

November 6, 2024

Dear Reader:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) proposes to provide cost-shared funding to Solvay Specialty Polymers USA, LLC (a member of the Syensqo Group, “Syensqo” in the following document) for its planned Battery Grade Polyvinylidene (PVDF) Manufacturing Facility (Project) in Augusta, Richmond County, Georgia. The Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) can also be found on DOE’s National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) website at <https://netl.doe.gov/node/6939> or the DOE website at <https://www.energy.gov/nepa/doe-environmental-assessments>.

DOE prepared the Draft EA in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality’s National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and DOE’s NEPA implementing procedures (10 CFR Part 1021). The Draft EA evaluates the potential environmental consequences of DOE’s providing financial assistance to Syensqo under the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, more commonly known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The objective for Syensqo’s Project is construction of a chemical manufacturing facility for the production of PVDF (a highly non-reactive thermoplastic) for use in electric vehicle (EV) batteries. The facility would support the production of more than 5 million EV batteries per year at maximum capacity. The electrification of mobile sources serves as an alternative to the combustion of fossil fuels and comparably emits less greenhouse gas (GHG) and criteria pollutants (e.g., particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides).

The Draft EA evaluated the resource areas DOE commonly addresses in EAs and identified no significant adverse environmental impacts from DOE’s proposed action or Syensqo’s proposed project. Domestic production of battery-grade PVDF supports sourcing of battery materials and technologies within the U.S. and will reduce dependence on foreign material suppliers.

A Notice of Availability will be published in The Augusta Chronicle newspaper on November 10, 2024, to announce the beginning of a 30-day public review and comment period. As stated in the notice, comments should be marked “Syensqo Draft EA Comments” and sent to:

Mr. Harry Taylor  
NEPA Compliance Officer  
U.S. Department of Energy  
National Energy Technology Laboratory  
3610 Collins Ferry Road  
Morgantown, WV 26505  
Email: [harry.taylor@netl.doe.gov](mailto:harry.taylor@netl.doe.gov)  
Telephone: 304.285.5091

Individual names and addresses, including email addresses, received as part of the comment documents normally are considered part of the public record. Persons wishing to withhold names, addresses, or other identifying information from the public record must state this request

prominently at the beginning of their comments. DOE will honor this request to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations, businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be included in the public record and open to public inspection in their entirety.

The public comment period ends on December 10, 2024. DOE will consider late submissions to the extent practicable. To request a hard copy of the Draft EA, please submit your request along with the physical address using the contact information above. For additional information, please contact me using my contact information, or call me at 304.285.5091.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. E. Taylor'.

Harry E. Taylor, P.E.  
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