

Solvay increases its soda ash and bicarbonate production capacity to address global demand growth

Brussels, September 24, 2019 --- Solvay will increase its soda ash production capacity by 600 kilotonnes at its trona-based Green River site in Wyoming, the United States, to meet long-term global demand growth in various applications. Solvay will also expand its sodium bicarbonate capacity by 200 kilotonnes in its Devnya plant in Bulgaria, addressing worldwide demand growth for flue gas treatments which improve air quality. The combined investments total €185 million, spread over the next three years.

“Soda ash and bicarbonate are highly cash generative and resilient businesses for Solvay. Against a backdrop of growing global demand, these investments will deliver resilient cash and strong returns,” said Christophe Clemente, President of Solvay’s Global Business Unit Soda Ash & Derivatives. *“The Green River capacity increase reinforces our position as a long-term, sustainable supplier for our customers. Our plant is among the best-in-class competitive soda ash assets in the world and is ideally positioned to address global market demand.”*

Global soda ash demand is forecast to grow by 10 million tons, excluding China, between 2018 and 2030 – with 4 million tons between now and 2023. Demand is driven by export markets such as South East Asia, Brazil, the Middle East and Africa for the manufacturing of detergents, flat and container glass, and such as Latin America for the extraction of lithium.

Solvay’s Green River facility produces soda ash from trona, a naturally occurring mineral. The 600 kilotonnes investment will leverage on the existing infrastructure and is spread over the next three years, with production starting to ramp up by the end of 2021.

Solvay’s sodium bicarbonate capacity expansion by 200 kilotonnes in Devnya, Bulgaria is part of the existing 75/25 joint operation with Sisecam. The new production line is expected to be operational by the end of 2020. It will produce [SOLVAIR®](#) sorbents, sodium-based solutions that treat exhaust gases from factories, incineration plants and ships and [Bicar®Z](#), sodium bicarbonate buffer for animal nutrition. (ENDS)

 [FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @SOLVAYGROUP](#)

Solvay is an advanced materials and specialty chemicals company, committed to developing chemistry that addresses key societal challenges. Solvay innovates and partners with customers worldwide in many diverse end-markets. Its products are used in planes, cars, batteries, smart and medical devices, as well as in mineral and oil and gas extraction, enhancing efficiency and sustainability. Its lightweighting materials promote cleaner mobility, its formulations optimize the use of resources, and its performance chemicals improve air and water quality. Solvay is headquartered in Brussels with around 24,500 employees in 61 countries. Net sales were €10.3 billion in 2018, with 90% from activities where Solvay ranks among the world’s top 3 leaders, resulting in an EBITDA margin of 22%. Solvay SA ([SOLB.BE](#)) is listed on Euronext Brussels and Paris Bloomberg: [SOLB.BB](#) - Reuters: [SOLB.BR](#)), and in the United States its shares ([SOLVY](#)) are traded through a level-1 ADR program. (Figures take into account the planned divestment of Polyamides).

Media Relations

Caroline Jacobs
+32 2 264 1530

Amandine Grison
+33 6 16 47 10 51

Investor Relations

Geoffroy Raskin
+32 2 264 1540

Jodi Allen
+1 6098604608

Bisser Alexandrov
+32 2 264 3687

Geoffroy d’Oultremont
+32 2 264 2997

Ce communiqué de presse est également disponible en français. - Dit persbericht is ook in het Nederlands beschikbaar.