

Mr Jozef Síkela
Minister of Industry and Trade
Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union
Na Františku 32
110 15 Praha 1
Czech Republic

Brussels, 26 September 2022

Copy: Energy / Environment Ministers in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden

Dear Minister Jozef Síkela,

Re: Too high energy costs puts European drinking and wastewater treatment at risk

The members of the European Inorganic Coagulants Producers Association (INCOPA, a Sector Group of Cefic) represent 85% of the European production capacity of coagulants, vital products for drinking water production, industrial process water clarification and both urban and industrial wastewater treatment.

The massive increase of gas and energy prices has led to an historically short availability of several raw materials to produce iron and aluminium based coagulants, such as hydrochloric acid (HCl). This basic chemical (HCl) usually comes as a by-product from energy-intensive industries like polyurethane, PVC and others. The rising of the energy prices has forced many producers of these sectors to reduce or even stop production. The direct ripple effect is to deprive our industry of those important raw materials, and by then putting at severe risk the treatment of water in Europe.

Coagulants are essential to produce drinking water and to treat wastewater.

Immediate and impactful action is needed at European level. Ahead of the next Extraordinary Energy Council end of September, we welcome your proactive role in this regard, and call upon the European Union to act urgently to lower the energy costs for the energy intensive industries, in order to secure sufficient supply of inorganic coagulants to the water treatment industry, both municipal and industrial.

Inorganic Coagulants Producers Association - INCOPA

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A sector group of Cefic 

European Chemical Industry Council - Cefic aisbl

EU Transparency Register: 64879142323-90

Thanking you in advance for your consideration, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you at your best convenience, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Thomas Kühl
Chairman of INCOPA

