

# Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Battery Materials Processing and Battery Manufacturing



## Commercialization

### **PROJECT NAME: LiPF6 Manufacturing Plant in St. Gabriel, Louisiana**

**APPLICANT: Mexichem Fluor, Incorporated (dba Koura)**

**Federal Cost Share: \$100,000,000**

**Recipient Cost Share: \$306,584,087**

**Supply Chain Segment: Materials Separation & Processing (Precursor)**

#### **Project Description:**

Koura, global leader in the development, manufacture and supply of fluoroproducts, proposes to build the first U.S. manufacturing plant for lithium hexafluorophosphate (LiPF6) on the grounds of Koura's existing fluorochemical production site in St. Gabriel, Louisiana. Electrolytes allow lithium ions to flow through a lithium-ion battery, and LiPF6 is the primary salt used in the electrolytes.

Currently, there are no large-scale domestic producers of LiPF6 and all of it comes from Asian imports. Furthermore, the material degrades over time and is costly to import to the US. As a result, lack of domestic manufacturing represents a critical risk in the supply chain for lithium-ion battery production in the US.

As part of the fluorinated solutions business group of Orbia, a publicly traded global corporation with total revenues of \$8.7 billion in 2021, Koura employs a Mine-to-Market capability to produce and distribute its fluorochemical products globally and it owns a vertically integrated North American supply of fluorine, the primary component of LiPF6. Koura's proposed plant will produce up to 10,000 metric tons (MT) of LiPF6 per year, which is sufficient to support domestic production of more than a million full electric vehicles (EVs) annually.

Furthermore, Koura's LiPF6 plant will have a secure access to critical minerals and downstream processing to establish domestic production of LiPF6. It will also utilize vertical integration, recycling, and state-of-the-art manufacturing to achieve production economics that will be competitive with foreign imports. This capability will support the broader development of a resilient and stable domestic lithium-ion battery supply chain and reduce the need for Asian imports, providing direct benefits to automotive companies that are producing EVs to reduce the use of fossil fuels.

#### **Community Benefits:**

Koura has been operating a domestic fluorochemical plant in St. Gabriel, Louisiana since 1991 with a safe track record and strong community engagement. Koura's LiPF6 plant will expand employment at the St. Gabriel facility by up to 80 new jobs and provide Koura an opportunity to expand its activities in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) across the greater Baton Rouge region, including job training, internship programs, and funding scholarships.

koura



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Solutions

