



MEDIA RELEASE

PRACTICAL COMPLETION ACHIEVED AT LHPP PROJECT

Thursday, 17 October 2019

MSP Engineering is pleased to announce the achievement of Practical Completion on LHPP1, the innovative lithium hydroxide production facility designed and built for Tianqi Lithium Australia at Kwinana in Western Australia.

The new processing plant is the world's first continuous production battery-grade lithium hydroxide plant, and will produce a high-purity feedstock for the rechargeable battery manufacturing industry.

Practical completion means that Tianqi now takes charge of the Kwinana facility, and moves into commissioning ramp-up.



Tianqi Lithium Australia's Lithium Hydroxide Production Plant at Kwinana, Western Australia.

LHPP1 is the first of two production trains MSP has worked on at Kwinana, and when fully operational, will produce up to 24,000 tonnes of ore battery-grade lithium hydroxide a year. Construction of the second train is substantially progressed, but has been delayed by Tianqi pending a market recovery.

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“We are extremely proud to have helped design and build this remarkable facility – it’s not often that you get to work on something that will have such a profound impact,” said Andrew Rowe, MSP’s Chief Executive Officer. “MSP has worked closely with Tianqi over the last four years to bring secondary processing of lithium ore to WA, and to deliver Tianqi’s first value-adding asset outside China.”

“My thanks go to the whole project team, past and present, from those involved in the early study work, engineering and design, through to the construction and project delivery teams.”

“We now have a core body of lithium processing expertise in WA, and while we are disappointed that the second train has been delayed, we remain committed to assisting Tianqi with its final works once the market recovers.”

The Kwinana facility achieved a local content result of more than 80 per cent, thanks to Tianqi’s commitment to local manufacturing. Site safety performance was exemplary, with more than three million site hours worked with no lost time injuries.

MSP has designed and built a number of world-class lithium industry processing facilities in WA, including a series of significant expansions at the Greenbushes spodumene mine that have dramatically increased production of the lithium oxide feed for Tianqi’s new plant.

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