

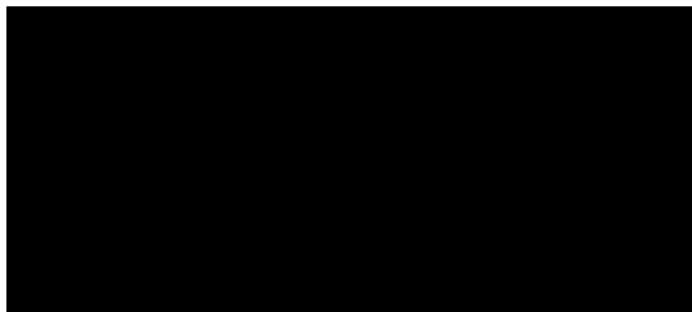


Ref: [REDACTED]

Civic House, 110 Trafalgar Street
PO Box 645, Nelson 7040, New Zealand

26 May 2025

P (03) 546 0200
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nelson.govt.nz



OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST – FLUORIDATION

I refer to your official information request dated 13 May 2025 'Official Information Request' regarding the fluoridation of the Nelson drinking water, which is reproduced below:

Tēnā koe Mr. Philpott,

Regarding Capital Works Funding provided to Local Authorities, issued due to the direction to fluoridate via the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Act 2021, please supply the following information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987(LGOIMA):

Nelson supply

- *The **Actual** cost of Capital Works and **Actual** ongoing cost p/a (NB: I already have the estimated costs of both, from 2022)*
- *The name of the business supplying the HFA (Hydrofluorosilicic Acid) - ie: Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited, or other.*
- *A copy of the MSDS/Fluoride Safety Data Sheet of the product being used - ie: from Ballance Agri-Nutrients Limited, Ixom Operations Pty Ltd, or other.*

Thank you very much for your time & consideration, Mr. Philpott and I look forward to your response.

In response to your queries I confirm the following:

- Central Government will fund up to \$909,069 for the completed project including storage facilities. To date Council has spent \$781,577.87 on the capital works. Final construction contract claims will be processed by the end of the financial year (30 June 2025). Council expects the final total capital works cost to be under \$800,000. Council has only operated the fluoridation equipment for approximately six months so a full year actual operating cost is not available. To the end of April 2025 the operating cost has been \$36,296.56. Council set a budget of \$110,000 each year from 2024/25 in the Long Term Plan 2024-34 to operate and maintain the fluoridation process. This figure is adjusted annually for inflation.
- The supplier of hydrofluorosilicic acid is Ixom Operations Pty Ltd.

Internal Document ID: [REDACTED]

- Please find attached a copy of the material data safety sheet.
- The following link will take you to Councils website which has a page of frequently asked questions that may also help you: <https://shape.nelson.govt.nz/fluoridation-nelsons-water-supply>

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alec Louverdis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alec Louverdis
Deputy Chief Executive / Group Manager Infrastructure

Safety Data Sheet



1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

Product Name: **HYDROFLUOROSILICIC ACID**

Other name(s): Hydrofluosilicic acid; Hydrosilicofluoric acid; HFA.

Recommended use of the chemical and restrictions on use: Water fluoridation; sterilising equipment.

Supplier: Ixom Operations Pty Ltd (Incorporated in Australia)
NZBN: 9429041465226
Street Address: 166 Totara Street
Mt Maunganui South
New Zealand

Telephone Number: +64 9 368 2700
Facsimile: +64 9 368 2710
Emergency Telephone: **0 800 734 607 (ALL HOURS)**

Please ensure you refer to the limitations of this Safety Data Sheet as set out in the "Other Information" section at the end of this Data Sheet.

2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Classified as a Dangerous Good according to NZS 5433:2012 Transport of Dangerous Goods on Land.

Classified as hazardous according to criteria in the HS (Minimum Degrees of Hazard) Regulations 2001.

SIGNAL WORD: DANGER

Subclasses:

Subclass 6.1 Category D - Substances which are acutely toxic.
Subclass 8.1 Category A - Substances that are corrosive to metals.
Subclass 8.2 Category C - Substances that are corrosive to dermal tissue.
Subclass 8.3 Category A - Substances that are corrosive to ocular tissue.

Approval Number: HSR004496



Hazard Statement(s):

H290 May be corrosive to metals.
H302 Harmful if swallowed.
H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

Precautionary Statement(s):

Prevention:

P102 Keep out of reach of children.
P103 Read label before use.
P234 Keep only in original container.
P260 Do not breathe mist/vapours/spray.
P264 Wash hands thoroughly after handling.
P270 Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
P280 Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.

Product Name: **HYDROFLUOROSILICIC ACID**
Substance No: 000000015539

Issued: 07/05/2015
Version: 4

Safety Data Sheet



Response:

P301+P330+P331 IF SWALLOWED: Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting.

P303+P361+P353 IF ON SKIN (or hair): Remove/Take off immediately all contaminated clothing. Rinse skin with water/shower.

P304+P340 IF INHALED: Remove to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing.

P305+P351+P338 IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

P310 Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician.

P321 Specific treatment (see First Aid Measures on the Safety Data Sheet).

P363 Wash contaminated clothing before re-use.

P390 Absorb spillage to prevent material damage.

Storage:

P405 Store locked up.

P406 Store in corrosive resistant container with a resistant inner liner.

Disposal:

P501 In case of a substance that is in compliance with a HSNO approval other than a Part 6A (Group Standards) approval, a label must provide a description of one or more appropriate and achievable methods for the disposal of a substance in accordance with the Hazardous Substances (Disposal) Regulations 2001. This may also include any method of disposal that must be avoided.

3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Components	CAS Number	Proportion	Hazard Codes
Fluorosilicic acid	16961-83-4	17-23%	H314
Water	7732-18-5	to 100%	-

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

For advice, contact a Poisons Information Centre (e.g. phone Australia 131 126; New Zealand 0800 764 766) or a doctor at once.

Inhalation:

Remove victim from area of exposure - avoid becoming a casualty. Remove contaminated clothing and loosen remaining clothing. Allow patient to assume most comfortable position and keep warm. Keep at rest until fully recovered. If patient finds breathing difficult and develops a bluish discolouration of the skin (which suggests a lack of oxygen in the blood - cyanosis), ensure airways are clear of any obstruction and have a qualified person give oxygen through a face mask. Apply artificial respiration if patient is not breathing. Seek immediate medical advice.

Skin Contact:

If skin contact occurs, immediately remove contaminated clothing. Flush skin under running water for 15 minutes. Then apply calcium gluconate gel. Contact the Poisons Information Centre. For skin burns, cover with a clean, dry dressing until medical help is available.

Eye Contact:

Immediately wash in and around the eye area with large amounts of water for at least 15 minutes. Eyelids to be held apart. Remove clothing if contaminated and wash skin. Urgently seek medical assistance. Transport promptly to hospital or medical centre. Continue to wash with large amounts of water until medical help is available.

Ingestion:

Immediately rinse mouth with water. If swallowed, do NOT induce vomiting. Give a glass of water. Seek immediate medical assistance.

Indication of immediate medical attention and special treatment needed:

Treat symptomatically. Material is corrosive. Can cause corneal burns. Can cause pulmonary oedema. Effects may be delayed.

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Suitable Extinguishing Media:

Not combustible, however, if material is involved in a fire use: Fine water spray, normal foam, dry agent (carbon dioxide, dry chemical powder).

Hazchem or Emergency Action Code: 2X

Specific hazards arising from the substance or mixture:

Non-combustible material.

Special protective equipment and precautions for fire-fighters:

Decomposes on heating emitting toxic fumes, including those of hydrogen fluoride. Fire fighters to wear self-contained breathing apparatus and suitable protective clothing if risk of exposure to products of decomposition.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Emergency procedures/Environmental precautions:

Clear area of all unprotected personnel. If contamination of sewers or waterways has occurred advise local emergency services.

Personal precautions/Protective equipment/Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up:

Slippery when spilt. Avoid accidents, clean up immediately. Wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contact and breathing in vapours. Work up wind or increase ventilation. Contain - prevent run off into drains and waterways. Use absorbent (soil, sand or other inert material). Neutralise with lime or soda ash. Collect and seal in properly labelled containers or drums for disposal.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Precautions for safe handling: Avoid skin and eye contact and breathing in vapour, mists and aerosols. Always add the acid to water, never the reverse. Not to be available except to authorised or licensed persons.

Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities: Keep locked up. Keep away from children and animals. Store in a cool, dry, well ventilated place and out of direct sunlight. Store away from foodstuffs. Store away from incompatible materials described in Section 10. Keep dry - reacts with water, may lead to drum rupture. Keep containers closed when not in use - check regularly for leaks.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

Workplace Exposure Standards: No value assigned for this specific material by the New Zealand Workplace Health & Safety Authority. However, Workplace Exposure Standard(s) for related component(s):

Fluorides, as F: WES-TWA 2.5 mg/m³, bio
Hydrogen fluoride, as F: Ceiling 3 ppm, 2.6 mg/m³

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As published by the New Zealand Workplace Health & Safety Authority.

WES - TWA (Workplace Exposure Standard - Time Weighted Average) - The eight-hour, time-weighted average exposure standard is designed to protect the worker from the effects of long-term exposure.

'bio' - Biological Exposure Index.

WES - Ceiling (Workplace Exposure Standard - Ceiling). A concentration that should not be exceeded during any part of the working day.

These Workplace Exposure Standards are guides to be used in the control of occupational health hazards. All atmospheric contamination should be kept to as low a level as is workable. These workplace exposure standards should not be used as fine dividing lines between safe and dangerous concentrations of chemicals. They are not a measure of relative toxicity.

Appropriate engineering controls:

Ensure ventilation is adequate and that air concentrations of components are controlled below quoted Workplace Exposure Standards. Keep containers closed when not in use.

If in the handling and application of this material, safe exposure levels could be exceeded, the use of engineering controls such as local exhaust ventilation must be considered and the results documented. If achieving safe exposure levels does not require engineering controls, then a detailed and documented risk assessment using the relevant Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (refer to PPE section below) as a basis must be carried out to determine the minimum PPE requirements.

Individual protection measures, such as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

The selection of PPE is dependent on a detailed risk assessment. The risk assessment should consider the work situation, the physical form of the chemical, the handling methods, and environmental factors.

OVERALLS, CHEMICAL GOGGLES, FACE SHIELD, GLOVES (Long), APRON, RUBBER BOOTS.



Wear overalls, chemical goggles, face shield, elbow-length impervious gloves, splash apron or equivalent chemical impervious outer garment, and rubber boots. Always wash hands before smoking, eating, drinking or using the toilet. Wash contaminated clothing and other protective equipment before storage or re-use.

If determined by a risk assessment an inhalation risk exists, wear a suitable mist respirator meeting the requirements of AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Physical state:	Liquid
Colour:	Pale Yellow
Odour:	Characteristic , Pungent , Acidic
Solubility:	Miscible with water.
Specific Gravity:	1.16-1.22 @ 20°C
Relative Vapour Density (air=1):	Not available
Vapour Pressure (20 °C):	18 mmHg

Product Name: HYDROFLUOROSILICIC ACID
Substance No: 000000015539

Issued: 07/05/2015
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Flash Point (°C):	Not applicable
Flammability Limits (%):	Not applicable
Autoignition Temperature (°C):	Not applicable
Boiling Point/Range (°C):	>100
Decomposition Point (°C):	105
pH:	Not available
Freezing Point/Range (°C):	ca. 0

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Reactivity:	Reacts exothermically on dilution with water. Reacts violently with alkalis and organic chemicals. Corrodes metals.
Chemical stability:	Stable under normal ambient and anticipated storage and handling conditions of temperature and pressure.
Possibility of hazardous reactions:	Contact with metals may evolve flammable hydrogen gas. May corrode glass.
Conditions to avoid:	Avoid contact with foodstuffs. Avoid contact with combustible substances. Always add acid to water, never the reverse, due to significant exothermic reaction.
Incompatible materials:	Incompatible with alkalis , organic chemicals , and metals .
Hazardous decomposition products:	Hydrogen fluoride. Hydrogen. Silicon tetrafluoride. Fluorides.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No adverse health effects expected if the product is handled in accordance with this Safety Data Sheet and the product label. Symptoms or effects that may arise if the product is mishandled and overexposure occurs are:

Ingestion:	Swallowing can result in nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain and chemical burns to the gastrointestinal tract. Swallowing can result in chemical burns to the mouth, throat and abdomen; perforation of the gastrointestinal tract and vomiting of blood and eroded tissue. Collapse and coma may result.
Eye contact:	A severe eye irritant. Corrosive to eyes; contact can cause corneal burns. Contamination of eyes can result in permanent injury. Contact with eyes even for short periods can cause blindness.
Skin contact:	Contact with skin will result in severe irritation. Corrosive to skin - may cause skin burns.
Inhalation:	Breathing in vapour will produce respiratory irritation. Delayed (up to 48 hours) fluid build up in the lungs may occur.

Acute toxicity: No LD50 data available for the product. For the constituent FLUOSILICIC ACID:
Oral LD50 (rat): 430 mg/kg.

Chronic effects: Repeated or prolonged exposure may result in bone changes (fluorosis). Repeated exposure may cause respiratory problems.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Safety Data Sheet



Ecotoxicity

Avoid contaminating waterways.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Disposal methods:

Refer to local government authority for disposal recommendations. Dispose of contents/container in accordance with local/regional/national/international regulations.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Road and Rail Transport

Classified as a Dangerous Good according to NZS 5433:2012 Transport of Dangerous Goods on Land.



UN No: 1778
Transport Hazard Class: 8 Corrosive
Packing Group: II
Proper Shipping Name or Technical Name: FLUOROSILICIC ACID
Hazchem or Emergency Action Code: 2X

Marine Transport

Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code) for transport by sea; DANGEROUS GOODS.

UN No: 1778
Transport Hazard Class: 8 Corrosive
Packing Group: II
Proper Shipping Name or Technical Name: FLUOROSILICIC ACID

IMDG EMS Fire: F-A
IMDG EMS Spill: S-B

Air Transport

Classified as Dangerous Goods by the criteria of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Dangerous Goods Regulations for transport by air; DANGEROUS GOODS.

UN No: 1778
Transport Hazard Class: 8 Corrosive
Packing Group: II
Proper Shipping Name or Technical Name: FLUOROSILICIC ACID

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

Classification:

Classified as hazardous according to criteria in the HS (Minimum Degrees of Hazard) Regulations 2001.

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**Subclasses:**

Subclass 6.1 Category D - Substances which are acutely toxic.

Subclass 8.1 Category A - Substances that are corrosive to metals.

Subclass 8.2 Category C - Substances that are corrosive to dermal tissue.

Subclass 8.3 Category A - Substances that are corrosive to ocular tissue.

Approval Number: HSR004496

Hazard Statement(s):

H290 May be corrosive to metals.

H302 Harmful if swallowed.

H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

'Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances'. Ed. D. Sweet, US Dept. of Health & Human Services: Cincinnati, 2014.

This safety data sheet has been prepared by Ixom Operations Pty Ltd Toxicology & SDS Services.

Reason(s) for Issue:

Revised Primary SDS

Change in Formulation

Alignment to GHS requirements

This SDS summarises to our best knowledge at the date of issue, the chemical health and safety hazards of the material and general guidance on how to safely handle the material in the workplace. Since Ixom Operations Pty Ltd cannot anticipate or control the conditions under which the product may be used, each user must, prior to usage, assess and control the risks arising from its use of the material.

If clarification or further information is needed, the user should contact their Ixom representative or Ixom Operations Pty Ltd at the contact details on page 1.

Ixom Operations Pty Ltd's responsibility for the material as sold is subject to the terms and conditions of sale, a copy of which is available upon request.