

# Press Release

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## Veolia Announces Expansion of Louisiana Facility

*Project will include expansion of capacity and retention of all current jobs in Ascension Parish*

**BOSTON and DARROW, La. — June 25, 2019 — Today, Gov. John Bel Edwards and Veolia North America President and CEO Bill DiCroce announced the company will expand its regeneration plant in Darrow, Louisiana. Known as the Burnside facility, the Veolia plant converts spent sulfuric acid into fresh commercial-quality sulfuric acid, and produces sulfur-based products for the refining industry and others.**

Veolia will retain all current employees as it installs new equipment and upgrades existing equipment, yielding a 15 percent increase in sulfuric acid regeneration capacity at the facility. Refineries use sulfuric acid as a catalyst in alkylation units to produce high-octane gasoline. In the current marketplace, refiners are pushing the U.S. acid regeneration circuit to nearly 100 percent capacity because of spiking demand for alkylate. The expansion will help Veolia grow its regeneration services to meet that increased demand.

“Louisiana’s manufacturing workforce is known throughout the world for its enthusiasm, expertise, work ethic and productivity,” Gov. Edwards said. “Veolia’s investment here is a testament to the success of Louisiana’s workforce and our welcoming business climate. By upgrading the Burnside facility, Veolia is retaining good jobs for our people and committing to the future of this location as a key player in the refining industry. I join our state, regional and local elected leaders and economic development officials in congratulating Veolia on this new chapter in Ascension Parish.”

The Burnside sulfur regeneration facility in Darrow recently commemorated 50 years of service, and it is Veolia’s largest hybrid sulfur-burning facility capable of producing both fuming and non-fuming acids.

“Veolia is committed to growing our services which contribute to the circular economy by supporting production at local refineries and other allied industries,” said DiCroce. “The expansion of Burnside helps us directly support industrial businesses in Louisiana and along the U.S. Gulf Coast.”

Veolia and the State of Louisiana have a long history of working together to provide high-paying skilled jobs in the State. As part of this agreement, the State of Louisiana offered Veolia a competitive incentive package that includes a \$450,000 Modernization Tax Credit, a performance-based incentive provided over a five-year period. After Veolia

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completes renovations to the facility, the company also is expected to use the state's Industrial Tax Exemption Program.

"Ascension Parish is proud of our business-friendly operating environment and strong supply of community-minded, skilled workers," Parish President Kenny Matassa said about the Veolia expansion.

"We applaud Veolia for the continued investment in both their facility and employees, and also for their commitment to safety," said President and CEO Kate MacArthur of the Ascension Economic Development Corp.

The Burnside facility is one of the seven plants in Veolia's regeneration services business in the U.S. that provides sulfur products and services to the refinery market. Veolia's North American headquarters are located in Boston and its corporate group headquarters are in Paris.

"Our team was pleased to work with our partners in Ascension Parish to support Veolia's expansion, which not only retains well-paying jobs, but also increases their capacity to lead in the innovative space of environmental footprint reduction for the world's petrochemical sector," said President and CEO Adam Knapp of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber.

## **About Veolia**

Veolia group is the global leader in optimized resource management. With over 171,000 employees worldwide, the Group designs and provides water, waste and energy management solutions which contribute to the sustainable development of communities and industries. Through its three complementary business activities, Veolia helps to develop access to resources, preserve available resources, and to replenish them.

In 2018, the Veolia group supplied 95 million people with drinking water and 63 million people with wastewater service, produced nearly 56 million megawatt hours of energy and converted 49 million metric tons of waste into new materials and energy.

Veolia Environnement (listed on Paris Euronext: VIE) recorded consolidated revenue of €25.91 billion in 2018 (USD 30.6 billion). [www.veolia.com](http://www.veolia.com)

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