**CLAIMS**

1. A chlorine dioxide generation unit, characterized in that

said unit comprises an agent storage space portion and at least two light source portions,

said light source portion is for generating light consisting of wavelengths substantially in the visible region,

said agent storage space portion stores an agent comprising solid chlorite,

said agent storage space portion comprises one or more openings so that air could move in and out of said agent storage space portion,

said agent storage space portion and said light source portion are arranged so that said agent present inside said agent storage space portion is irradiated by the light generated from said light source portion, and

wherein said agent comprising solid chlorite is an agent comprising (A) a porous substance supporting a chlorite and (B) a metal or metal oxide catalyst, and the mass ratio of said chlorite to said metal or metal oxide catalyst in said agent inside said agent storage space portion is 1:0.04 - 0.8.

2. The chlorine dioxide generation unit according to claim 1, characterized that said agent storage space portion and said at least two light source portions are integrally positioned, and said at least two light source portions irradiate light onto said agent stored inside said agent storage space portion from at least two directions.

3. The chlorine dioxide generation unit according to claim 1 or 2, characterized that the wavelength of said irradiated light is 360 nm - 450 nm.

4. The chlorine dioxide generation unit according to claim 3, characterized in that said light source portion comprises a lamp or a chip.

5. The chlorine dioxide generation unit according to claim 4, characterized in that said chip is an LED chip.

6. The chlorine dioxide generation unit according to claim 4 or 5, characterized in that said light source portion is a light source portion that can intermittently irradiate light.

7. The chlorine dioxide generation unit according to claim 1, characterized in that said metal or metal oxide catalyst is selected from the group consisting of palladium, rubidium, nickel, titanium, and titanium dioxide.

8. The chlorine dioxide generation unit according to claim 1, characterized in that

said porous substance is selected from the group consisting of sepiolite, palygorskite, montmorillonite, silica gel, diatomite, zeolite, and perlite, and

said chlorite is selected from the group consisting of sodium chlorite, potassium chlorite, lithium chlorite, calcium chlorite, and barium chlorite.

9. The chlorine dioxide generation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that said porous substance supports a further alkaline agent.

10. The chlorine dioxide generation unit according to claim 9, characterized in that said alkaline agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, lithium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, and lithium carbonate.

11. The chlorine dioxide generation unit according to claim 9 or 10, characterized in that the molar ratio of said chlorite to said alkaline agent is 1:0.1 - 0.7.

12. The chloride dioxide generator comprising the chlorine dioxide generation unit according to any one of claims 1 to 11.

13. The chlorine dioxide generator according to claim 12, characterized in that it further comprises a blower portion for sending air to the agent stored inside said agent storage space portion in said chlorine dioxide generation unit.

14. The chlorine dioxide generator according to claim 13, characterized in that said blower portion is a fan for taking air from outside to inside of said chlorine dioxide generator or a fan for releasing air from inside to outside of said chlorine dioxide generator.

15. The chlorine dioxide generator according to claim 13 or 14, characterized in that

at least one of the openings of said agent storage space portion is present on the side of said agent storage space portion, and

the air sent from said blower portion is at least partially sent to the agent via the openings present on the side of said agent storage space portion.

16. The chlorine dioxide generator according to any one of claims 13 to 15, characterized in that the relative humidity inside said agent storage space portion is retained at 30 - 80% RH by air sent from said blower portion.