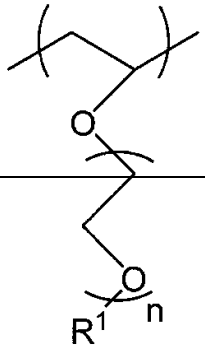
CLAIMS

1. An invention not claimed in any divisional application.

~~A draw solute comprising at least one of vinyl ether polymer containing an oxyethylene chain in a side chain and having a number average molecular weight (Mn) of 13,000 or less.~~

~~2. The draw solute according to claim 1, wherein the vinyl ether polymer comprises a repeating unit represented by the following formula (1)~~



(1)

~~wherein in the formula (1), n represents 1 to 3 as an average value, and R^1 represents an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms.~~

~~3. The draw solute according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the vinyl ether polymer has one kind or two or more kinds of repeating units selected from the group consisting of a repeating unit derived from methoxyethyl vinyl ether, a repeating unit derived from ethoxyethyl vinyl ether, a~~

~~repeating unit derived from ethoxyethoxyethyl vinyl ether and a repeating unit derived from methoxyethoxyethoxyethyl vinyl ether.~~

~~4. The draw solute according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the vinyl ether polymer has a number average molecular weight (Mn) of 700 to 5,000.~~

~~5. A draw solution comprising the draw solute according to any one of claims 1 to 4 and water.~~

~~6. The draw solution according to claim 5, wherein a content of the draw solute is 40 to 90% by mass in the draw solution, and a content of water is 10 to 60% by mass in the draw solution.~~

~~7. A forward-osmosis water treatment method, comprising using the draw solute according to any one of claims 1 to 4 or the draw solution according to claim 5 or 6.~~

~~8. A forward-osmosis water treatment method, comprising an osmosis step of bringing target water to be treated into contact with a first surface of a forward-osmosis membrane, the forward-osmosis membrane having the first surface and a second surface, and bringing the draw solute~~

~~according to any one of claims 1 to 4 or the draw solution according to claim 5 or 6 into contact with the second surface of the forward-osmosis membrane to transfer water from target water to be treated to the draw solute or the draw solution through the forward-osmosis membrane, and~~

~~a separation step of separating the draw solute and the water from each other contained in a second draw solution obtained by heating the second draw solution through the osmosis step.~~

~~9. The forward-osmosis water treatment method according to claim 8, wherein a heating temperature in the separation step is higher than a lower critical solution temperature of the draw solute by 5 to 15°C.~~