The phosphoryl compound \((\text{O:})\text{P(TMG)_3}\) (TMG = \(N',N',N'',N''\)-tetramethylguanidyl) (6) was synthesized during attempts to obtain the potentially very basic (but still unknown) compound \(\text{P(TMG)_3}\) (1). Its reaction with HCl resulted in the triply protonated species 7. The crystal structure of compound 7 was determined; it crystallizes as a bis-dichloromethane solvate. Each protonated nitrogen forms a hydrogen bond to one chloride. A series of protonation experiments was conducted in order to test the behaviour of 6 towards weak acids.

**Key words:** Tetramethylguanidine, Basicity, Phosphine Oxides