

## Controversies: Sasol

- In June 2019, environmental groups [sued the South African government](#) over its failure to crack down on Sasol refineries and Eskom power plants for causing severe air pollution in the region. Sasolburg, where Sasol operates an oil refinery, frequently has worse air quality than Beijing and Jakarta, two of the world's most polluted cities, according to AirVisual, an app that gives data on global air pollution levels.
- In February 2019, an official at Sasol Secunda accused the petrochemical giant of [intentionally polluting the Vaal River](#) in a submission made to the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) during its inquiry into the contamination of the river. SAHRC initiated the enquiry following complaints from residents over a foul smell from the river. Whistleblowers from the company claimed that the facility was illegally discharging vanadium and potassium carbonate into the river.
- On 22 May 2017, Sasol's National Petroleum Refiners of SA Ltd (Natref) refinery in Sasolburg, South Africa reported [an explosion](#) that injured 15 workers.
- On 8 October 2014, more than [20 people were injured](#) when a fire broke out at Sasol's Secunda plant in Mpumalanga, South Africa.
- On 13 October 2010, Sasol North America Inc. and ConocoPhillips Company agreed to resolve their liability to the USEPA for [contamination in the Calcasieu Estuary of Louisiana](#). Under the agreement, ConocoPhillips and Sasol will reimburse the EPA Superfund more than 4.5 million USD and will complete a removal action valued at about 10 million USD to clean up Bayou Verdine within the Calcasieu Estuary.
- Between 2010 and 2019, Sasol and its subsidiaries paid over 8 million USD in penalties for 6 environmental violations according to the violation tracker project of Good Jobs First.