

Controversies: LyondellBasell Industries

- In August 2020, a [leak of titanium tetrachloride](#) occurred at the LyondellBasell plant in Edison, New Jersey, causing respiratory issues for two persons.
- In August 2020, [a fire broke out](#) at a LyondellBasell hydrotheater in Houston, Texas. No injuries were reported from the fire.
- In August 2018, Harris County filed a [lawsuit against Equistar](#), a subsidiary of LyondellBasell, for allegedly violating state air pollution laws. This is the second time Harris County sues Equistar for air pollution.
- In June 2018, the Houston Refining, LP and the Texas Attorney General's Office agreed to a settlement involving 680,000 USD in penalties, plus attorney fees and certain injunctive relief over air emission events at the refinery.
- In June 2018, LyondellBasell's Morris facility, the Illinois EPA and the Illinois Attorney General's Office agreed to resolve air pollution related matters for a penalty of 125,000 USD.
- In March 2018, the local court in Cologne, Germany, issued a regulatory fine notice of 1.8 million EUR arising from a pipeline leak at the company's Wesseling facility in Germany.
- In 2017, the US based enforcement watchdog [Environmental Integrity Project](#) reported that, in 2016, the state of Texas had failed to penalise 97 percent of illegal air pollution releases. In its report, the watchdog highlighted five separate illegal releases at LyondellBasell's Houston Refinery, including one where a leak at the plant released 54,286 pounds of volatile organic compounds in less than an hour and a half. Short, intense pollution spikes like these pose a serious threat to millions of Houstonians, especially the 316,000 people living within five miles of the plant.
- In April 2016, a [fire](#) was reported in the cooker unit at the LyondellBasell's Houston refinery. The fire raged for nineteen hours before it was controlled. A first-person account of the incident from local resident is available on this [video](#).
- In July 2015, there were [two explosions that sparked a fire](#) at a LyondellBasell plant in Berre-l'Étang, France. It was reported as being a criminal act. No one was hurt in the incident.

- In January 2012, LyondellBasell's site in Wesseling, Germany was [hit by an explosion](#). Seven employees were injured in the incident. Industry sources reported that the blast was at the low-density polyethylene plant.
- Between 2011 and 2020, LyondellBasell paid [close to 3,6 million USD in fines for 88 environmental violations](#), according to the violation tracker project of Good Jobs First.