

Controversies: Solvay

- In November 2020, the State of New Jersey [sued Solvay](#) for evading responsibility for toxic pollution from its plant in West Deptford, New Jersey. Allegedly the company has disregarded damage and risk to the public by PFAS. In relation to this, [Solvay forbade the state agency](#) to disclose the chemicals effect on health and the environment to the public. However, [internal studies showed](#) that the company has known about severe health risks with the chemical for at least 15 years.
- In August 2020, a [chemical spill was reported](#) at the Solvay plant in Oldbury, England.
- In April 2019, a Solvay plant in Wrexham, England, [was evacuated](#) due to an exothermic reaction. No injuries were reported.
- In March 2019, the state of New Jersey ordered five companies including Solvay to [fund the clean-up of chemicals](#) used at manufacturing sites that contaminated drinking water. 3M, DuPont, DowDuPont, Chemours, and Solvay were held accountable for pollution with PFAS chemicals under the state's Spill Act and other environmental laws. Solvay's West Deptford facility was among the contaminated sites where the state spent 3 million USD on investigations and clean-up that it sought repayment for from Solvay. The companies [declined to pay](#) for the clean-up. The company's own investigations found elevated levels of PFAS and PFOA in [drinking water](#) and [blood](#) in the region.
- In September 2018, [issues with a furnace](#) caused fire and smoke at a plant in Havre de Grace, Maryland. The plant was operated by Cytec, a subsidiary of Solvay.
- As of the end of 2016, seventeen civil proceedings were brought before the Civil Court of Livorno (Italy) by past workers and relatives of deceased workers at Solvay's Rosignano site in Italy, seeking damages (provisionally quantified at 9 million EUR) in relation to [diseases caused by exposure to asbestos](#).
- In May 2016, [a fire broke out](#) at plant in Tulsa, Oklahoma, that was operated by Cytec, a subsidiary of Solvay. No injuries were reported, but three persons were taken to the hospital as a precaution.
- In February 2016, [Solvay was fined 440,000 GBP](#) (close to 590,000 USD) after a dangerous gas cloud was released from its plant in Oldbury, England. The incident occurred 2009. Workers and residents that came into contact with the gas reported having breathing problems.

- On 24 February 2016, Brazil's Administrative Council for Economic Defense (CADE), condemned Solvay for its participation in a cartel in the sodium perborate market and imposed a [fine of 17.4 million BRL](#) (4.4 million USD).
- In December 2015, the Assize Court of Alessandria, Italy, sentenced three local Solvay managers to imprisonment and awarded [civil damages of around 400,000 EUR](#) (450,000 USD).
- Between 2011 and 2020, Solvay and its subsidiaries paid close to [1.2 million USD in penalties for 22 environmental violations](#), according to the violation tracker project of Good Jobs First.