

## Controversies: Westlake Chemical

- On 30 November 2020, a 350,000 USD [settlement regarding the mercury pollution](#) of the [Ohio River](#) was made, compelling Eagle Natrium – a subsidiary of Axiall Corporation, which in turn is a subsidiary of Westlake Chemical – to install treatment technology designed to eliminate the violations of releasing more mercury into the Ohio River than allowed under the company’s permit. The settlement also compels the company to pay 195,000 USD to a trust fund set up to reduce the methylmercury pollution of the Ohio River, and 25,000 USD in civil penalties to the US Treasury.
- On 12 July 2020, [three workers were injured](#) at a Westlake Chemical plant manufacturing chlorine in Marshall County, West Virginia. There is no information available regarding the circumstances of the injuries.
- On 27 August 2016, [nine people were injured](#) – although none severely – and [several communities were evacuated](#) after [17,000 gallons of chlorine gas leaked](#) from Westlake Chemical subsidiary Axiall Corporation’s plant in West Virginia.
- On 4 November 2015, American news outlet The Intercept published a feature piece about how several chemical companies – including Westlake Chemical subsidiary Axiall Corporation – have [polluted the Louisiana town of Mossville](#), raising the dioxin levels of the residents to triple that of the general US population.
- On 20 December 2013, [18 people were injured in an explosion](#) in the vinyl chloride manufacturing area of [Westlake Chemical subsidiary Axiall Corporation’s](#) plant in Westlake, Louisiana.
- In addition, Westlake Chemicals and its subsidiaries have paid close to [4.5 million USD in penalties for 30 environmental violations](#) between 2011 and 2020, according to the violation tracker project of Good Jobs First.