

Controversies: LyondellBasell

- In July 2022, USEPA announced that LyondellBasell would pay a [\\$324,000 fine](#) for air emission violations from its facilities in Texas and spend \$4.6 million to reduce air pollution by bringing its flares in compliance with the law.
- In June 2022, it was shown [LyondellBasell was the largest corporate toxic air polluter in the US](#) in 2020.
- In June 2022, LyondellBasell [shut down the larger of its two cokers](#) at its Houston Refinery, Texas, following a fire on June 14th.
- In May 2022, five Texas refineries, including LyondellBasell's Houston Refinery, [were emitting benzene—a known human carcinogen](#)—at levels above the federal threshold, according to the US EPA.
- In April 2022, Bayport Industrial District in Houston, Texas, was named as an [area with particularly high cancer risk](#) owing to LyondellBasell-subsidary Equistar and Celanese Ltd's emissions of ethylene oxide and acetaldehyde.
- In March 2022, [Politico](#) discussed how even as the UN was working towards a progressive full-lifecycle policy to curb plastic pollution from production to disposal, plastics manufacturers like LyondellBasell were working through their lobby association, the American Chemistry Council, to divert legislation to focus on recycling and disposal.
- In January 2022, [a loud explosion and flash of bright light were witnessed](#) around late evening at LyondellBasell's Clinton, Iowa, plant. The company referred to the incident that shook the town as an "operational event."
- In January 2022, OSHA cited LyondellBasell's La Porte, Texas, on five counts of serious labour safety violations for a [fine of \\$54,612](#) based on a 2021 inspection.
- In January 2022, LyondellBasell [ranked 6 among the top 20 plastics manufacturers](#) that are responsible for more than 50% of the single-use plastics polluting the environment.
- In January 2021, LyondellBasell [ranked 2 among USA's Toxic 100 water polluters](#) as per 2020 data. The Lyondell Bayport facility accounts for 97% of the water toxicity load contributed by the company.
- In November 2021, The [State of Texas filed a lawsuit against LyondellBasell](#) seeking injunctive relief, civil penalties and costs for violations of environmental laws and rules. This is about the July 2021 accident at the company's La Porte facility when the release of

43,359 kg of acetic acid resulted in the death of two contractors and injuries of more than 30 people.

- In November 2021, LyondellBasell was found to be one of just five corporations whose [cancer-causing emissions cover more populated square miles than any other companies in the US](#), according to analysis by independent journalism platform ProPublica.
- In October 2021, three LyondellBasell companies [will pay \\$3.4 million USD in civil penalties for environmental violations](#) at their production facilities in the United States, in addition to spending \$50 million to reduce air pollution at its facilities in Texas and Iowa.
- In July 2021, LyondellBasell's facilities in La Porte, Texas have [paid at least \\$237,761 USD in fines over the last 10 years for violations of air and water](#) quality norms. The Texas Department of Environmental Quality records at least 5 such violations during this period.
- In July 2021, it was reported that a floating roof over a chemical tank had collapsed, [releasing a mixture of carbon disulphide, dimethyl sulphide and methyl ethyl disulphide](#). This happened at LyondellBasell's Houston Refinery.
- 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 hydrotreater 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 has sued 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.
- Between 2018 and 2022, [LyondellBasell paid over 60 million USD in fines for environmental violations](#), according to the violation tracker project of Good Jobs First.