

Controversies: Lanxess

- In September of 2021, [high levels of toxic contaminants were detected in a creek](#) flowing downstream of a Lanxess facility in Elmira, near Waterloo, Ontario. A Technical Advisory Group set up to plan remediation has said it will ask Lanxess for more information.
- In April 2021, an observation in a court order reveals that a Lanxess facility in Nagda, Madhya Pradesh, India was [assessed to pay environmental compensation of Rs. 15.78 million \(US \\$200,000\)](#) for violating operating and hazardous waste license conditions.
- In January 2021, [Rubicon LLC's facility in Geismar, Louisiana, jointly owned by Huntsman and Lanxess is named as a plant with a "poor maintenance record."](#) The plant has had 25 toxic releases involving on-site treatment of 130 injured workers, and off-site treatment of 22, according to the Department of Environmental Quality data.
- In October 2020, it was announced that the North Charleston area, South Carolina, will be tested for – among other substances – ethylene oxide, a [toxic air pollutant known to cause cancer](#), using a new EPA grant. A report pointed to the Lanxess chemical plant on King Street Extension as a potential source. The plant reported releasing 1,668 pounds of the gas into the air in 2019. Apart from that incident, the plant's emissions of the gas have been generally falling since 2010, when 3,130 pounds were released.
- On 27 November 2019, there was a [phosphorus leak and fire](#) at the Lanxess facility on King Street Extension in Charleston, South Carolina, that led to nearby residents taking shelter and part of the road and Interstate 26 being shut down. The plant, which has had a [history of violations and safety hazards](#), was also [temporarily shut down](#), pending investigation.
- On 3 August 2017, workers were evacuated from a Lanxess chemical plant in Mapleton, Illinois, after a [fire caused by a technical malfunction](#) broke out in a chemical tank. The chemical involved in the blaze, a compound of aluminium and alkali, posed a challenge to extinguish, as water exposure can cause the chemical to explode, and air makes the substance burn faster. Firefighters were forced to use a chemical to put out the flames.
- On 24 June 2013, there was an [explosion at Lanxess subsidiary Chemtura's plant](#) in Mapleton, Illinois. No injuries were reported, but the roads were locked down while the fire was being contained. The cause for the incident was a malfunction on the loading dock as a vessel was being loaded with a volatile compound.

- In January 2013, Lanxess subsidiary Chemtura was fined a little over 120,000 USD, plus the victim fine surcharge of just above 30,000 USD, for [spilling sulphuric acid mist into the air](#) from its manufacturing facility in Toronto. Those exposed to the mist reported health impacts, businesses were shut down, people in the area were evacuated, and a number of schools in the area were affected. Sulphuric acid mist can burn sensitive tissues in the nose, mouth and lungs.
- Furthermore, Lanxess and its subsidiaries have paid more than [1.7 millions of USD in penalties for 28 environmental violations](#) between 2012 and 2021, according to the violation tracker project of Good Jobs First.