

Controversies: LG Chem

- In April 2022, [a fire broke out](#) in an LG Chem-supplied lithium battery storage unit belonging to AES in Arizona, releasing toxic fumes and prompting first responders to evacuate surrounding communities. The fire was put out by robots.
- In March 2022, styrene levels in groundwater were found to be [87 times higher than WHO guidelines](#) and significantly higher than Canadian agricultural soil quality guidelines in the least contaminated soil that was taken from a remote source during an investigation into the lingering environmental and health effects of LG Polymers' 2020 styrene leak by a citizen-led team of experts.
- In August 2021, a [blast triggered a fire caused by overheated batteries](#) at a solar-cum-energy storage facility in South Korea. The incident was one of more than 20 Energy Storage System fires due to Lithium-ion batteries supplied by LG Chem.
- In January 2021, LG Chem subsidiary LG Polymers [was operating without required environmental licenses and had submitted inconsistent and false information](#) to statutory bodies for years before the deadly styrene leak on May 6, 2020. The chemical disaster has been dubbed “Mini-Bhopal” by [UNEP’s human rights expert](#). [Toxic styrene gas leaked out](#) from the plant, [killing 15 people and injuring hundreds](#). LG Polymers, a subsidiary of LG Chem, produces polystyrene and its co-polymers in the facility located in Visakhapatnam.
- The company has been embroiled in the 2019 [emissions data scandal](#) wherein LG Chem was found to have colluded with four measurement agencies to rig air pollution data over four years. LG Chem was found to have manipulated data on its [vinyl chloride](#) emissions.
- Between 2019 and 2023, [LG Chem paid more than 40.000 USD in environmental liabilities for 1 case](#), according to the violation tracker project of Good Jobs First.