

Chemical Suppliers for PET Plastic Are Top Polluters of Ethylene Oxide in the US

Total releases to air in 2021, in pounds, reported by manufacturers of ethylene oxide (EtO) used to make MEG for production of PET plastic including polyester, with national rank among more than 20,000 industrial facilities reporting to the US EPA.



OWNER	CHEMICAL PLANT NAME	LOCATION	AIR EMISSIONS (LBS.)	US RANK
Indorama Ventures	(Huntsman Petrochemical)	Port Neches, TX	18,980	1
Lotte / Westlake	LACC / Lotte Chemical	Westlake, LA	10,525	4
Formosa Plastics	Formosa Plastics	Point Comfort, TX	7,717	5
Dow Chemical	Union Carbide	Hahnville (Taft), LA	7,449	6
Eastman Chemical	Eastman Chemical	Longview, TX	6,219	7
Shell Oil	Shell Chemical	Geismar, LA	4,981	10
Dow Chemical	Union Carbide	Seadrift, TX	4,612	11
Sasol	Sasol Chemicals	Westlake, LA	3,500	12
Dow Chemical	Dow Chemical	Plaquemine, LA	2,849	15
Indorama	Celanese – Clear Lake	Pasadena, TX	1,569	25
TOTAL: 10 chemical plants out of top 25 EtO polluters			68,401	

NOTES: Based on TRI data submitted by industry to the US EPA. Air emissions include both stack and fugitive emissions. The Huntsman Petrochemical plant in Port Neches, Texas was acquired by Indorama Ventures in 2020. LACC is a joint venture between Lotte Chemical and Westlake Chemical. Two other ethylene oxide producers, ranked #2 and #3 in EtO air emissions in 2021, mostly serve end-markets for surfactants and brake fluid, not PET plastic. They are BASF in Geismar, LA, (15,541 pounds of EtO air emissions) and LyondellBassell (Equistar Chemicals) in Baytown/Pasadena, TX, (10,623 pounds emitted)

See the full report: [*Hidden Hazards: The Chemical Footprint of a Plastic Bottle*](#)