

FORMOSA:

Taiwanese chemical corporation that plans to build a 14-plant plastics complex in St James Parish, Louisiana. Formosa's proposed facility would be one of the largest plastics complexes in the world, and emit over 13 million tons of greenhouse gases annually.

BAD TRACK RECORD:

- The Formosa Plastics Plant in Baton Rouge, LA has been in violation of the Clean Air Act every quarter since 2009 and in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act every quarter since 2004 according to the EPA.¹
- In June of 2019, a Texas Judge declared Formosa a "serial offender."² In October, Formosa agreed to pay \$50 million to settle the Clean Water Act suit filed by Texas residents.³

POLLUTION & CUMULATIVE IMPACTS:

- Formosa's proposed site is next door to a working-class, African-American community already burdened with toxic air: there are [more than a dozen industrial facilities](#) located in St James parish.
- Formosa is permitted to emit up to 1.6 million pounds of toxic chemicals per year, including 15,400 pounds of cancer-causing ethylene oxide and 73,160 pounds of cancer-causing benzene.⁴
- Formosa's plastics complex would be built roughly one mile from an elementary school.

CULTURAL IMPACTS:

- Unmarked slave burial grounds have been discovered on Formosa's site, and would be disturbed if construction moves forward.⁵

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS:

- The United Nations has condemned petrochemical buildout in "Cancer Alley" - specifically St James Parish - as a form of environmental racism that violates human rights.⁶

¹ EPA, Enforcement & Compliance History Online, Detailed Facility Report, Accessed Sept. 17, 2018

² Mitchell, David. "Texas Judge Finds Formosa 'Serial Offender' as Environmentalists Fight Plans for Louisiana ." The Advocate, June 29, 2019.

³ Fernández, Stacy. "Plastic company set to pay \$50 million settlement in water pollution suit brought on by Texas residents." The Texas Tribune. October 15, 2019.

⁴ Mitchell, David. "For massive new plants, Formosa wants OK to double amount of chemicals released into St. James Parish air." The Advocate, July 8, 2019.

⁵ Laughland, Oliver and Zanolli, Lauren. "Huge toxic site to be built on grounds where slaves are likely to be buried, files reveal." The Guardian, December 18, 2019.

⁶ UN News. "Environmental racism in Louisiana's 'Cancer Alley', must end, say UN human rights experts." March 2, 2021.