



BURNING, NOT RECYCLING

Agilyx is acclaimed by industry groups for pioneering work as the world's first "chemical recycling" company, but in reality their primary business is plastic-to-fuel (PTF). **Virtually all of the styrene produced at the Agilyx plant in Tigard, OR, in 2018 was burned**, not converted into plastic, indicating that the facility is effectively a PTF plant.

TECHNOLOGICAL FALSE STARTS, LOST INVESTMENTS, AND POOR PERFORMANCE

Agilyx's first Tigard, OR, demonstration facility **received at least \$25 million in private investments**. However, the company was forced to temporarily shut the plant down after its product **failed to compete with the low price of oil, sending some of those investments down the drain**.

Agilyx also **received over half a million dollars in tax credits from the Oregon Department of Energy through the Business Energy Tax Credit program** to build a facility in Portland that was owned and operated by Waste Management. Waste Management abandoned the facility after the plant was unable to overcome **technical difficulties**.

Agilyx has since reopened and retrofitted the Tigard plant to convert polystyrene into styrene. However, in 2018, **only around one-tenth of the plastic waste Agilyx processed was actually turned into styrene**. A similar volume of plastic was burned in cement kilns, which are commonly used to burn hazardous waste (and have weaker emissions standards and reporting requirements). This implies that **the fuel Agilyx produced was either too contaminated or of too low quality to be turned back into plastic**.

In 2019, Agilyx **processed just 641 tons of polystyrene, a tiny fraction of the 560,000 tons of container/packaging waste generated in the U.S. each year**.

WHERE IS AGILYX GOING?

Planned: Partnership with Ineos to build a PTF facility in **Channahon, IL**. Operation is scheduled for 2022.

Planned: Partnership with Monroe Energy for a plant in **Trainer, PA** which would produce jet fuel for Delta Airlines.

CLIMATE EMISSIONS

Agilyx has a **huge carbon footprint** -- its operation largely turns plastic into greenhouse gas emissions while producing a relatively small amount of styrene, which may or may not be recycled. In fact, the Agilyx facility released **over 3 times as much carbon dioxide for each kilogram of styrene produced in 2019, not counting the emissions from burning the styrene product** in cement kilns.



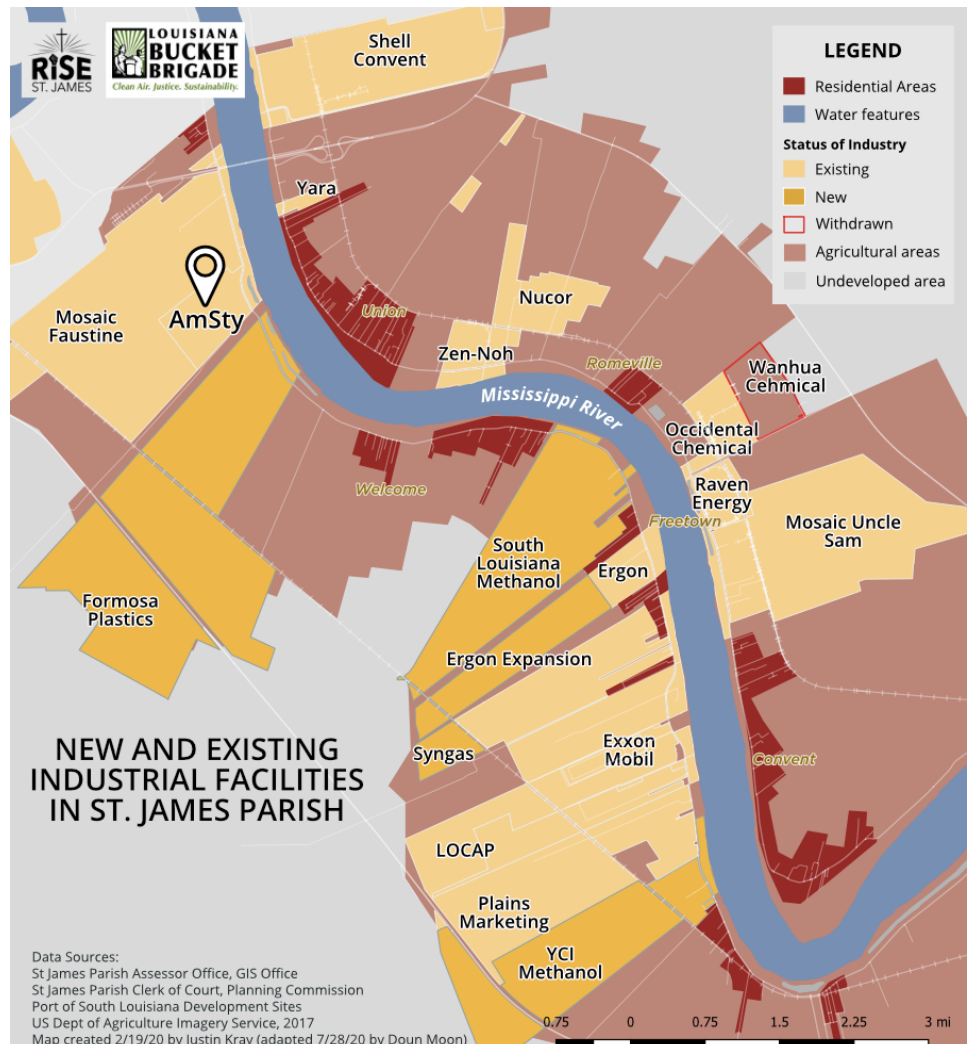
ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICES

In 2018, Agilyx's Oregon plant sent a total of nearly 50,000 tons of styrene to **facilities with significant environmental violations**, all located in low-income communities and communities of color. **Agilyx sent styrene to burn in: Hannibal, MO; East Chicago, IN; Tacoma, WA; and Fredonia, KS.**

In 2019, Agilyx reported its first truckload of styrene sent to its partner Americas Styrenics, a chemical plant in **St. James Parish, LA** -- an environmental justice community located in a petrochemical industrial area within **Cancer Alley** -- to be converted into plastic.

It is not known if that shipment was in fact turned into plastic or also burned.

Even if some of its outputs are actually being recycled into polystyrene, **Agilyx's business is contributing to the environmental harm** inflicted on communities **already burdened by the cumulative impacts of polluting facilities.**



THE VERDICT

Without greater transparency from Agilyx, it is impossible to verify the company's claim that some of its styrene is in fact being recycled into polystyrene. After several false starts, Agilyx's technology, business model, and impacts on health and climate come **nowhere close to a proven solution to mitigate the industry's plastic waste problem.**