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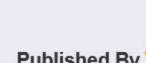
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DOE Announces \$3 Billion for Battery-Related Projects

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced on September 20 more than \$3 billion for 25 projects aimed at boosting the domestic production of advanced batteries and battery materials. Spread across 14 states, the projects range from mining operations to battery-component plants.

The announcement marks the second round of awards from \$7 billion earmarked in the 2021 bipartisan infrastructure law to promote domestic battery projects.

The selected projects span strategic segments across the supply chain, building and expanding commercial-scale facilities to extract and recycle critical minerals including lithium, graphite and manganese, as well as manufacture components, according to the DOE.

"These components represent the most essential building blocks of the battery supply chain, like electrolyte salts, solid state electrolytes, polymers for separators, cathode and anode materials, that are critical to onshore a robust and reliable energy supply chain. The selected projects also cover traditional and next-generation lithium-ion chemistries, as well as non-lithium-ion technologies," the DOE said in a press release.

U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm said: "By positioning the U.S. at the forefront of advanced battery manufacturing, we are creating high-paying jobs and strengthening our global economic leadership and domestic energy security, all while supporting the clean energy transition."

The funding through the DOE's Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains (MESC) will generate \$16 billion in total investment for battery manufacturing and recycling, according to the department.

The program takes aim at China's grip on many of the raw materials needed to build clean energy projects.

The DOE said the selection of a project for award negotiations is not a commitment to issue an award or provide funding.

"Before funding is issued, DOE and the applicants will undergo a negotiation process, and DOE will complete (an) environmental review," the department said. "DOE may cancel negotiations and rescind the selection for any reason during that time."

Lithium developer Standard Lithium Limited (NYSE:SLI) (Vancouver, British Columbia) and Norwegian energy company Equinor (NYSE:EQNR) (Stavanger) said their jointly-owned subsidiary SWA Lithium LLC was selected for up to \$225 million award negotiation from the DOE. The funding would support the construction of the central processing facility for Phase 1 of the South West Arkansas project, which is located in Lafayette and Columbia counties, Arkansas, the companies said in a press release.

The central processing facility for Phase 1 is being designed to produce 22,500 tonnes of battery-quality lithium carbonate annually, utilizing direct lithium extraction technology. Standard Lithium is now targeting total output of 45,000 tonnes per annum of lithium carbonate, to be developed in two phases of 22,500 tonnes each. Industrial Info is tracking six Standard Lithium projects, worth \$2.4 billion; the company's flagship projects are located in the Smackover Formation, a world-class lithium brine asset, focused in Arkansas and Texas. Subscribers can click here for the project reports.

Mining and metals company South32 (Perth, Western Australia) said its **Hermosa zinc and manganese mining project in southern Arizona** was picked by the DOE for a \$166 million award negotiation. There has been no manganese ore mining in the U.S. since the 1970s, and more than 95% of the current production of battery-grade manganese is currently in China, the company said.

South32 President Pat Risner said: "This project has the potential to provide a reliable, lower-carbon and cost-effective domestic option for manganese products within the electric vehicle battery supply chain that currently relies entirely on foreign imports."

Industrial Info is tracking two South32 projects in Arizona, worth more than \$2 billion. Subscribers can click here to view the project reports.

Stored energy solutions company EnerSys (NYSE:ENS) (Reading, Pennsylvania) said it was selected by the DOE to enter into award negotiations for \$199 million to support the development of the company's **lithium-ion cell production facility in Greenville**, **South Carolina**. EnerSys also has been awarded a comprehensive incentive package through South Carolina and Greenville County valued at approximately \$200 million.

The operation would manufacture various form factors of lithium-ion cells for commercial, industrial and defense applications, with an initial production capacity of 5 gigawatt-hours (GWh) per year. Subscribers to Industrial Info's GMI Industrial Manufacturing Project Database can click here for the project report.

Industrial Info is tracking 212 active capital battery-related manufacturing projects in the U.S., worth \$98.5 billion. Subscribers to Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Industrial Manufacturing Project Database can click here for a list of detailed project reports.

Subscribers can click here for a list of the project reports mentioned in this article and click here for the related plant profiles.

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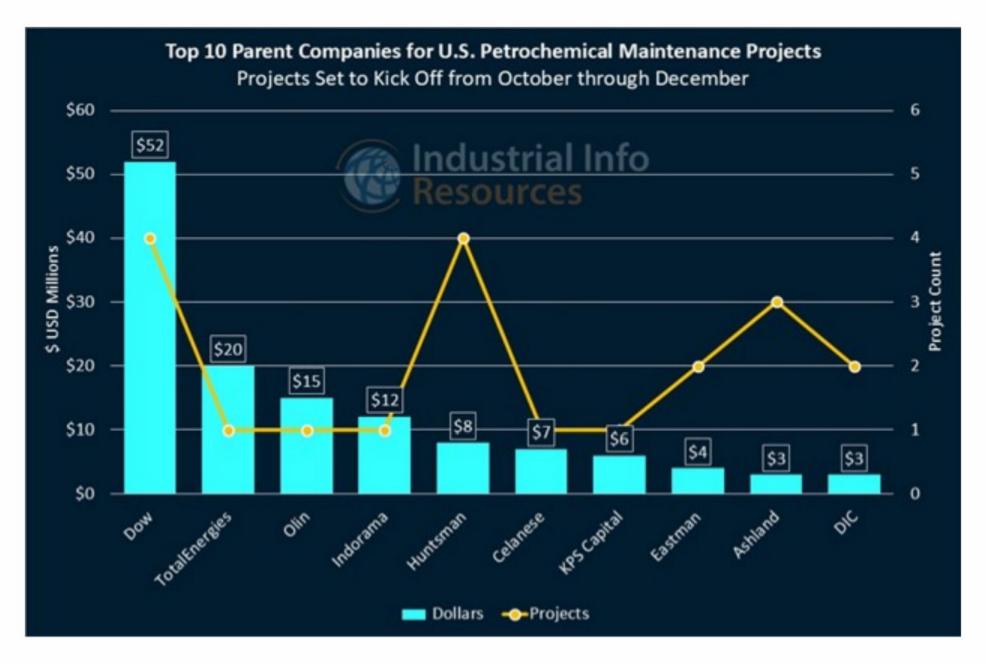






U.S. Petrochemical Sectors Eyes Sustainability Amid Maintenance

Inflationary fears are waning, and commodity prices are less volatile, but the U.S. Chemical Processing Industry still is feeling the effects of unpredictable geopolitical conflicts and an aggressive push for cleaner, more sustainable production. Careful, consistent maintenance will be necessary to boost the industry's output of highdemand petrochemical products like ethylene, while keeping carbon emissions relatively low. Industrial Info is tracking more than 50 maintenance-related projects at U.S.-based petrochemical and petrochemical-derivative facilities that are set to kick off in the fourth quarter, about half of which are in Texas and Louisiana.



Dow Incorporated (NYSE:DOW) (Midland, Michigan) and Huntsman Corporation (NYSE:HUN) (The Woodlands, Texas) each account for four projects, more than any other company, and are driving much of the maintenance investment in Texas and Louisiana. Dow's turnaround on Ethylene Glycol Unit 1 at its St. Charles facility in Hahnville, Louisiana, which includes work on Ethylamines Unit 1 and supporting areas, is expected to run from October through November. Ethylene glycol is used widely in antifreeze, de-icing and brake-fluid products.

Ethylene glycol is produced through the reaction of ethylene oxide with water. Dow's turnaround is set to follow ongoing maintenance on its 1.425 billion-pound-peryear ethylene unit at the same complex, which is set to wrap up in mid-October. Subscribers to Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Chemical Processing Plant and Project databases can learn more from a detailed plant profile and project reports on the ethylene glycol and ethylene units.

"The completion of our cracker turnaround in Texas in the second quarter will be offset by another planned turnaround at our St. Charles, Louisiana, cracker in the third quarter," said Jeff Tate, the chief financial officer of Dow, in a recent quarterly earnings-related conference call. "We expect an approximately \$25 million headwind due to the planned maintenance activity in the U.S. Gulf Coast."

In Texas, Dow expects to begin maintenance on an ethylene oxide derivatives unit at its chemicals plant in Seadrift, which sits on the Gulf Coast between Corpus Christi and the Houston area, toward the end of the year. The unit produces roughly 204,000 metric tons per year of ethanolamines and 70,000 metric tons per year of n-butyl acetate. Subscribers can learn more from a detailed project report.

Huntsman's projects include the MDI Unit 3 at its Rubicon plant in Geismar, Louisiana, which produces about 970 million pounds per year of methylene diphenyl diisocyanate (MDI). In Texas, it expects to perform a two-week turnaround at the utilities area at its plant in Conroe that supports the production of polyetheramine, which is produced through the reaction of either ethylene oxide or propylene oxide with polyols. Subscribers can read detailed reports on the Geismar and Conroe projects.

Other major project developers planning fourth-quarter maintenance include TotalEnergies SE (NYSE:TTE) (Courbevoie, France) and Olin Corporation (NYSE:OLN) (Clayton, Missouri), both of which have projects in southern Louisiana. TotalEnergies is scheduled to perform inspections and repairs to the Styrene A Unit at its Cos-Mar Styrene Plant in Carville; about 10 miles northwest, Olin is planning work on perchloroethylene and ethylene dichloride units at its plant in Plaquemine.

TotalEnergies' Carville unit produces roughly 1.3 billion pounds per year of styrene, while Olin's Plaquemine plant produces about 143 million pounds per year of perchloroethylene, which also is called tetrachloroethylene. Subscribers can read detailed reports on the Carville and Plaquemine projects.

Outside the Gulf Coast, two companies are tending to formaldehyde-based chemical units: Bakelite Synthetics Group (Atlanta, Georgia), which produces about 160 million pounds per year of formaldehyde resins at its plant in Riegelwood, North Carolina, and The Champion Company (Springfield, Ohio), which produces formaldehyde-based chemicals for embalming fluids at its plant in Springfield, Ohio. Subscribers can read detailed reports on the projects in Riegelwood and Springfield.

Subscribers to Industrial Info's GMI Project and Plant databases can click here for a full list of detailed reports for projects mentioned in this article, and click here for a full list of related plant profiles.

Subscribers can click here for a full list of reports for U.S.-based petrochemical-maintenance projects that are set to begin construction in the fourth quarter.

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Texas Leads U.S. in Food & Beverage Projects Under Construction

Of the nearly \$33.7 billion worth of Food & Beverage Industry projects under construction in the U.S. that is being tracked by Industrial Info, Texas shines the brightest in regard to overall project value, accounting for nearly \$3 billion in projects underway. Looking at the Lone Star State's top projects in this industry shows the variety of food sectors present in the state, ranging from dairy products to warehousing and distribution to aquaculture.

The two largest projects in the state involve milk and cheese. Construction on Leprino Foods Company's (Denver, Colorado) new facility in Lubbock kicked off in 2022, and the first phase of the project is expected to be completed later this year. The 850,000-square-foot facility will be home to the latest state-of-the-art technology and environmentally friendly features, such as water capture and reuse throughout the facility, according to a company press release. The plant will produce mozzarella cheese and dairy ingredients from approximately 8 million pounds of milk per day.

But Leprino may not be finished after Phase I is complete. A Phase II expansion is in the early planning stages and could begin construction in early 2025. Subscribers to Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Food & Beverage Project Database can click here for related reports.

The second dairy project is construction of a milk-processing plant in Robinson, outside of Waco. According to a company press release, Walmart Incorporated (NYSE:WMT) (Bentonville, Arkansas) has been working across its food offerings to deliver increased transparency about where products come from, and the new dairy in Robinson will use milk sourced primarily from Texas dairy farmers.

The facility will be Walmart's third milk-processing facility in the U.S. when it begins operating in 2026. Its first began operating in Indiana in 2018, and a second is slated to come online in Georgia next year. The products from the new Texas facility will serve more than 750 Walmart stores and Sam's Clubs throughout the southern U.S., including Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and parts of Arkansas and Mississippi. The dairy will cover a range of milk products with various fat contents such as 1%, 2% and whole, and it will manufacture 1% chocolate milk, providing both gallon and half-gallon sizes.

Construction on the new dairy recently began, paving the way for the 800,000- to 900,000-square-foot facility to begin operations in 2026. Subscribers to Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Food & Beverage Project Database can learn more by viewing the project report.

In Lorena, Texas, also near Waco, BrightFarms Incorporated (Irvington, New York) is underway with construction of a grassroot hydroponic greenhouse complex. Work on the first greenhouse facility kicked off last year and will result in a 400,000-square-foot space. Work on this first phase is wrapping up, and work on a second phase will begin later this year, followed by two further phases of construction, each adding another greenhouse. In total, BrightFarms expects to produce about 35 million pounds of lettuce and leafy greens from the site, which is one of four U.S. hubs being established by the company. Subscribers to Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Food & Beverage Project Database can click here for the related reports.

The refrigerated warehousing and distribution sector represents one of the leading components of Texas' food and beverage activities, and the top project in this sector is not intended for a single company, but rather for multiple tenants. Cold Summit Development (Sun Valley, Idaho) broke ground on a grassroot speculative cold storage facility in Lancaster, in the Dallas metroplex, late last year. The 363,000-square-foot facility will provide cold storage and office space for up to four tenants. The facility's location provides close proximity to an intermodal rail terminal and major interstate highways. The facility is expected to be ready for tenants in the coming months. Subscribers can learn more by viewing the project report.

The hot Texas summers can lead to increased popsicle consumption, and Ziegenfelder Company (Wheeling, West Virginia), manufacturer of Twin Pops and Monster Pops, will help supply the region's frozen treat needs when it completes its manufacturing plant in Lockhart, about 30 miles south of Austin, later this year. The 61,000-square-foot facility will be almost two-thirds freezer space, and the production equipment is being installed with the aim of producing about 1 million popsicles a day. Subscribers can click here to learn more about the project.

While the small Texas town of Detroit is less well-known than the Michigan city sharing its name, Prime Harvest Farms (Detroit) might bring small town more prominence with the construction of an integrated beef and salmon production facility. While production of the two protein sources may seem at odds with each other, the company intends to make them complimentary products that can be produced in conjunction with one another, helping to reduce waste. A beef-processing plant will process 50 million pounds of beef per year with the intention of harvesting every element of the animal for hides, organic fertilizer, bone fertilizer, blood meal, meat meal and pharmaceutical components. Meat offal will be utilized to make organic fish food for feeding to the aquaculture portion of the farm, which is expected to produce up to 5 million tons per year of salmon. The complex also will include a plant to process the fish and a grain terminal. Construction began this summer and is expected to last about a year in total, putting the facility on track begin introducing and growing out its fish and processing cattle next year. Subscribers can learn more by viewing the related project reports.

Subscribers to Industrial Info's GMI Food & Beverage Database can click here to view reports for all of the projects discussed in this article and click here for the related plant profiles.



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As 2024 comes to a close and the election draws near, the industrial marketplace is approaching a crossroads. Key decisions are still to be made regarding legislation that could have a pivotal impact on industrial sectors, including the CHIPS Act, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and the Inflation Reduction Act. We could see significant changes in total investment values for projects revolving around semiconductors, hydrogen, carbon emissions, renewable energy and more, depending on which way the cards fall at the conclusion of the election. The rise of artificial intelligence is being seen more and more in the industrial landscape, causing a shift in investments.

Are you ready to navigate these uncertainties in 2025? Join Industrial Info in the heart of the Gulf Coast region, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at the world-renowned White Oak Estate and Gardens on Thursday, October 24 for our 2025 North America Industrial Market Outlook. This two-hour presentation will feature industry experts from the Oil & Gas, Chemical, Food & Beverage, Industrial Manufacturing and Power sectors, covering spending drivers and constraints for the new year.

Check-in and registration begin at 3 p.m., followed by the presentations at 4 p.m. After the presentations, Industrial Info will be hosting a networking event with drinks and appetizers, allowing you to meet and mingle with your industry peers, ask additional questions to our experts, and see hands-on demonstrations of Industrial Info's latest tools in action. In addition, Industrial Info will be hosting an interactive training workshop for its products earlier in the afternoon.

We hope that you are able to join us for this event! Click here to learn more and to RSVP.

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