

Taiwan's Formosa plans to start building \$9.4 billion Louisiana complex in 2019

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Taiwan's Formosa Petrochemical Corp. plans to start building a \$9.4 billion chemical manufacturing complex at St. James Parish, Louisiana, as early as 2019, the Louisiana government and the Taiwanese company announced late Monday.

Louisiana governor John Bel Edwards and Formosa executive Keh-Yen Lin said the Taiwanese company has bought a 2,400-acre site at the location mentioned.

"... the complex would be built in two phases and produce ethylene, propylene, ethylene glycol and associated polymers," both parties said, dubbing the site as "The Sunshine Complex".

A Formosa subsidiary, FG LA LLC, will run the complex.

"Pending the completion and approval of permits for the site, FG could begin construction as soon as 2019 in what projects to be a 10-year building and development process in two phases," they said.

Phase one would consist of one 1.2 million mt/year ethylene plant, associated polymer plants, ethylene glycol plant, one 600,000 mt/year propylene plant and associated polymer plant and ancillary support facilities for product loading and utilities, including electricity and wastewater treatment.

Phase two would consist of an additional 1.2 million mt/year ethylene plant, associated polymer plants and ethylene glycol plant.

The St. James site is also the location of a nearly \$2 billion methanol manufacturing complex being built by China's Yuhuang Chemical Inc., which is expected to be completed in late 2019.