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CP Chem declares force majeure on HDPE from Orange, Texas



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CP Chem

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The declaration was the result a of an equipment failure, according to a customer letter cited in media reports. CP Chem — based in The Woodlands, Texas — operates two HDPE plants in Orange.

The outage comes at a time when North American demand for HDPE and other commodity plastics hasn't been very strong. Reduced HDPE production in the region could serve to solidify pricing for the material, even as buyers in the region are looking for lower prices.

North American PE prices are up a net of 3 cents per pound so far in 2023, although some buyers are flat for the year because of non-market adjustments. The *Plastics News* [resin pricing chart](#) is showing the net 3 increase through August.