

Formosa plant impact study called vague

EDGARD, La. (AP) — A preliminary environmental report on a proposed Formosa Plastics Corp. plant in St. John the Baptist Parish is little more than an advertisement for the company, environmental groups say.

Formosa has not been up front with parish residents on how the proposed plant will affect their lives and community, environmentalists said at a Tuesday night public forum.

A Sierra Club analysis of the study fails to mention Formosa's environmental track record at its other U.S. plants, including nothing about possible air pollution.

The study also does not calculate the impact of the Formosa plant when combined with other plants along the Mississippi River, the Sierra Club said.

"This is to expose Formosa's complete failure to tell the people of this parish just how drastically how their lives will be affected," said Nathalie Walker, an attorney for the Sierra Club.

Formosa has proposed building a \$700 million rayon and pulp plant, the world's largest, in Wallace, La.