



# State of Louisiana

## Department of Environmental Quality



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Governor

L. Hall Bohlinger  
Secretary

**For Immediate Release**  
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### Environmental News

#### **DEQ Announces First Ready for Reuse Site in Louisiana**

(Baton Rouge) -- The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are pleased to announce the first "Ready for Reuse" determination issued to a facility in Louisiana. ExxonMobil Chemical Company's Baton Rouge Plastics Plant, the first site to receive the designation, will be honored in a ceremony on Tuesday, December 9, 2003, from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at its Plant.

A "Ready for Reuse" determination recognizes when contamination on a property has been evaluated and cleaned to the extent that the property is safe based on its current or planned future use. It also provides specific information about each site, including the nature and extent of contamination, the cleanup work performed (if needed) and the status of the property with respect to state and federal requirements.

DEQ and EPA agree that the facility has successfully completed its site-wide investigation and have made a technical determination that the property is now Ready for Reuse. The "ready for reuse" determination verifies that the environmental conditions at this site are protective of human health and the environment based on its current use and anticipated future use as a commercial/industrial property.

DEQ Secretary Hall Bohlinger stated, "We are extremely pleased with the hard work and initiative by all parties to reach this milestone. Our goal is to replicate the success of this site and continue this precedent with other facilities across the state."

EPA Multimedia Planning and Permitting Division Director Carl Edlund said, "Today's announcement highlights our newest program to promote the reuse of formerly used industrial properties. We are building on our experience using the enormously successful brownfields program. Our 'ready for reuse' determinations clear the way for reuse of valuable natural resources by providing necessary encouragement and assurances to developers."

(more)

ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Plastics Plant, founded in 1968, is located at 11675 Scotland in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Some of the products produced at the 118-acre site include ethylene, vinyl acetate, and various co-monomers and modifiers to produce low-density polyethylene. End products produced from this polyethylene include plastic films, molding adhesives, compounding and oil additives.

Information concerning the current environmental conditions of the property (i.e., concentrations of contaminants present and their associated risks) and risk management activities conducted to ensure protectiveness are summarized in the *Risk Evaluation Report of Solid Waste Management Units at the BRPP Facility (September 2002)*. Copies of this document may be obtained from either the DEQ, Public Records Center, Galvez Building, Room 127, 602 N. Fifth St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, or ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Plastics Plant, Attn: Pat Carrasco, 11675 Scotland, Baton Rouge, LA 70807.

For more information about "Ready for Reuse" determinations, contact Doug Bradford or Dennis Piper with DEQ at 225.219.3420.