



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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### **State, feds reach agreements with ExxonMobil and Chalmette Refining**

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality announced today that it has joined federal agencies in settlements with ExxonMobil Corporation and Chalmette Refining, LLC.

The ExxonMobil agreement will result in a \$900,000 cash payment to DEQ. The company will also perform a beneficial environmental project that consists of paying \$1.7 million to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Foundation. The funds will go toward either the acquisition of coastal lands which are important as fish and wildlife habitat or to the enhancement of the state's coastal restoration effort.

The company is also responsible for making emissions reductions at the Baton Rouge Refinery. Those reductions are estimated to be 1,400 tons per year of nitrogen oxides and 50 tons per year of sulfur oxides.

Five other refineries throughout California, Illinois, Montana and Texas are also scheduled to reduce air emissions as part of the settlement. The national agreement calls for the company to pay a total civil penalty of \$7.7 million.

The Chalmette Refining LLC agreement calls for the company to pay a total of \$1 million as a civil penalty, with \$500,000 going to the state. The company will also perform a beneficial environmental project that consists of paying \$2 million to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Foundation. Chalmette Refining will also spend at least \$1 million to retrofit or replace a waste gas compressor at the Chalmette Refinery to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides by at least 40 tons per year. The Chalmette Refinery is owned by Chalmette Refining, LLC, a joint venture between ExxonMobil and Petroleos de Venezuela S.A.

The company is also responsible for making emissions reductions at the Chalmette Refinery. Those reductions are estimated to be 1,270 tons per year of sulfur oxides and 600 tons per year of nitrogen oxides.

The companies will make substantial investments for state-of-the-art controls for nitrogen oxides and sulfur oxides at the Baton Rouge and Chalmette Refineries.

The cooperative effort between the DEQ, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Justice Department resulted in the two agreements which settle alleged violations of air, water and hazardous waste regulations at the two refineries.