



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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### DEQ removes abandoned underground storage tanks

BATON ROUGE – As part of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality's efforts to address abandoned gas stations, four abandoned underground storage tanks were removed from the former Quicksilver Convenience Store location at Claycut and Acadian in Baton Rouge.

The removal took place the week of July 21 with DEQ overseeing the work of its contractor, Jesco Environmental and Geotechnical Services. The concrete was broken and removed and the tanks were emptied, cleaned of any vapor and removed. The site was then backfilled and concrete was replaced.

According to Jesco, air monitoring was conducted during the cleaning of the tanks, the excavation of the tanks, and the vapor-freeing of the tanks and no pollution of concern was detected. Residents of the surrounding area were notified of the removal activities by DEQ by fliers posted on their doors. The contractor maintained perimeter security during the process and all precautions were taken to protect the public.

"DEQ is pleased that through its abandoned tank program it has eliminated a potential environmental threat and removed an eyesore for the community," said Lou Buatt, DEQ Assistant Secretary. "This project is an example of how DEQ can work with community groups and local government to revitalize land and encourage redevelopment."

For more information on DEQ's Underground Storage Tank Division, visit the DEQ website at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2659/Default.aspx>.

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