



# State of Louisiana

## Department of Environmental Quality



Kathleen Babineaux Blanco  
Governor

Mike D. McDaniel, Ph.D.  
Secretary

**For Immediate Release**  
Oct. 6, 2004

**Contact:** Rodney Mallett  
**Telephone:** 225.219.3964

### **State, feds reach agreement with CITGO**

BATON ROUGE – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality announced today that it has joined federal agencies and other states in a settlement agreement with CITGO Petroleum Corporation.

The agreement calls for CITGO to pay \$750,000 as a civil penalty to the state. The company is also responsible for making approximate reductions in emissions of sulfur dioxide by 6,040 tons per year, nitrogen oxide by 775 tons per year and particulate matter by 365 tons per year. Particulate matter consists of small particles that are released into the air. Those reductions are for the Lake Charles refinery.

Five other refineries throughout Texas, Georgia, Illinois and New Jersey are also scheduled to reduce air emissions as part of the settlement that was coordinated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Justice Department.

The Lake Charles refinery's violations stem from benzene emissions in 1999, volatile organic compound leak detection and repair issues in 2002 and three unauthorized releases of sulfur dioxide in 2003.