



For Immediate Release
Aug. 14, 2019

Contact: Greg Langley
Phone: (225) 219-3964

LDEQ personnel monitoring ExxonMobil flaring event in Baton Rouge

BATON ROUGE – LDEQ personnel are conducting side-by-side monitoring and community monitoring with ExxonMobil following a compressor malfunction at the Baton Rouge Refinery this morning. The incident resulted in flaring for safety purposes. The plant voluntarily reduced production rates to minimize the impact of the excess gases routed to the flares. Initial monitoring results by LDEQ are non-detect for pollutants of concern.

Two flare gas compressors were affected by the yet-to-be-determined cause, but one of the two compressors is now back online.

In a statement issued today, plant officials said they are working to restore normal operations and minimize flaring. “We apologize for any inconvenience this flaring may cause. There were no injuries as a result of this incident. Flares are safety control devices intended to consume excess hydrocarbons. All appropriate agencies have been notified. Current fence line air quality monitoring readings are below detectable limits. The safety of our workforce and community is ExxonMobil's highest priority,” the statement read.

LDEQ will continue to monitor and assess the incident.

For more information about flaring, please go to:

<https://www.deq.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/Air/FlareBrochure2.pdf>

