



**FOR RELEASE:**

July 8, 2025

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## **LDEQ Announces EPA Approval of Two Major Air Quality Plans for Louisiana**

**BATON ROUGE, LA** — The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved two significant State Implementation Plans (SIPs) that will reduce sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emissions and ensure cleaner air for communities across Louisiana.

The first SIP approval addresses emissions reductions at Cabot Corporation's Ville Platte carbon black plant in Evangeline Parish. Developed in close coordination with Cabot and the EPA, the plan includes emissions limits and controls that stem from a 2013 consent decree between Cabot, the State, and the EPA. Modeling done by LDEQ and verified by the EPA demonstrates that these reductions will bring Evangeline Parish into attainment with the Clean Air Act's National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for SO<sub>2</sub>.

The EPA is also moving to approve LDEQ's SIP revision for the interstate transport of SO<sub>2</sub> under the Clean Air Act's "good neighbor" provision. This provision ensures that emissions from Louisiana sources do not contribute significantly to nonattainment or interfere with maintenance of NAAQS in neighboring states.

"The EPA's approval of these State Implementation Plans reflects the dedication and expertise of the employees in our Air Planning and Assessment Division who work every day to strengthen Louisiana's air quality protections," **LDEQ Secretary Courtney J. Burdette said**. "This is government partnership in action as you see industry, the State and the EPA coming together to deliver real benefits for our environment and the health of our communities. I would also like to thank Governor Landry for his strong leadership in helping us navigate these processes and ensuring that Louisiana is open for business, but in a smart and environmentally sound way."

"These endorsements are a great example of how robust technical work and collaboration can move the needle on clean air," **Air Planning and Assessment Division Administrator Jason Meyers said**. "Our staff put in tremendous effort to develop strong modeling and compliance plans that meet federal standards and help ensure Louisiana stays on a path toward cleaner, healthier air."

For more information about Louisiana SIP activities, please visit:  
<https://edms.deq.louisiana.gov/edmsv2/quick-search-results?ai=174156>.

To learn more about LDEQ's air quality programs, please visit [www.deq.louisiana.gov](http://www.deq.louisiana.gov).

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