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## **Ecopetrol** and CITGO transaction to offset

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A carbon compensated crude oil cargo sold by Ecopetrol and purchased by CITGO Petroleum Corp. is currently making its way to the CITGO Corpus Christi refinery for processing. The recent transaction supports Ecopetrol's objectives on energy transition and decarbonisation.

The 500 000 bbl cargo of Ecopetrol Castilla Blend® is the company's flagship crude oil and one of the main references of heavy crude in the region and the international market.

"We plan to sell a total of four carbon-compensated crude oil cargoes this year," said Pedro Manrique, Ecopetrol Commercial Vice President, "and we hope to achieve this goal by working closely with companies like CITGO and  $others\ who\ share\ our\ vision\ on\ energy\ transition\ and\ decarbon \\ is a tion.\ It\ is\ essential\ as\ an\ industry\ to\ contribute\ to$ the goals that the world has set for climate change mitigation."

As part of the transaction, Ecopetrol has arranged for carbon offsets for both the emissions of the cargo itself, equivalent to  $16\,000\,\mathrm{t}$  of  $\mathrm{CO}_2\mathrm{e}$  and, for the first time, the emissions associated with the maritime transportation of the crude to the CITGO terminal in the US Gulf Coast (USGC), estimated on  $1.110\,\mathrm{t}$  of CO $_2\mathrm{e}$ . Both will be offset by  $carbon\,credits\,generated\,through\,a\,Verified\,Carbon\,Standard\,(VCS)\,certified\,natural\,climate\,solutions\,project$ located in Colombia's western region. The project reduces deforestation and degradation of forests, protects its biodiversity, and supports local communities.

"CITGO is pleased to participate in this important initiative that protects the environment and reduces greenhouse gas emissions," said Karl Schmidt, CITGO Vice President Supply and Marketing, "Purchasing this cargo from Ecopetrol, a great partner with a firm commitment to decarbonisation, inspires us to advance our efforts in

The carbon compensation for the Ecopetrol/CITGO transaction offsets direct emissions generated along the crude oil value chain, which includes production, dilution, transportation into the Coveñas terminal located on the Atlantic Coast of Colombia and maritime transportation to Corpus Christi, Texas.

The Ecopetrol Group plans to achieve net zero carbon emissions for Scope 1 and 2 by 2050.

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