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From: [Melissa Fischer](#)
To: [Brown, Don](#); [Halloran, Brad](#)
Subject: [External] Public Comment: Opposition to CITGO Lemont Refinery Petition (Docket No. AS 2026-001)
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2026 8:48:11 PM

Dear Clerk of the Board and Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I am writing as a member of the Lemont community to strongly oppose the petition filed by CITGO Petroleum Corporation for an adjusted standard under Docket No. AS 2026-001. CITGO is seeking relief from the current Illinois carbon monoxide (CO) emission standards for its larger boilers and heaters during Startup, Shutdown, and Maintenance (SSM) periods.

I urge the Board to deny CITGO's request.

Lemont sits downwind from the facility and already bears a heavy environmental burden. My own family of 5 resides less than a mile away and has experienced multiple health issues attributed to environmental toxins. If you saw what I saw with my 9 month old baby scratching her skin until she left a blood trail across our carpet, you would never consider this relaxation of emissions standards, even if only during SSM events. Adjusting the CO emission standards poses additional unnecessary risks to our air quality and local health.

CITGO's history of air quality disputes and regulatory enforcement actions makes this request deeply concerning. Granting an adjusted standard essentially normalizes elevated emissions rather than pushing a major industrial facility to invest in better controls or operational solutions. Our neighborhood deserves strict, protective environmental enforcement, not customized administrative carve-outs that benefit a corporate bottom line at our physical expense. I respectfully request that the Illinois Pollution Control Board deny this adjusted standard and require CITGO to fully comply with existing state emission rules at all times.

I look forward to learning more at tomorrow's afternoon hearing. Thank you for your time and consideration of the health and safety of Lemont residents.

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