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From: [Kate Sladek](#)
To: [Brown, Don](#); [Halloran, Brad](#); [Kate Sladek](#)
Cc: [External] Public Comment: Strong Opposition to CITGO Lemont Refinery Petition (Docket No. AS 2026-001)
Subject: Tuesday, June 30, 2026 9:11:00 PM
Date:

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

I am writing as an extremely concerned community member 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 this request. Our community borders the CITGO facility and already bears a heavy environmental burden. Relaxing emissions standards during SSM events — times when equipment is inherently less stable— poses an unnecessary risk to our air & water quality and overall local health.

Furthermore, CITGO's history of air quality disputes and repeated 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.

We deserve strict, protective environmental enforcement, not customized administrative carve-outs that benefit a corporate bottom line at our physical & mental expense.

As a widow to cancer, a cancer survivor myself, and now solo parent trying to make the best possible decisions for my children within our community, I respectfully request that the Illinois Pollution Control Board DENY this adjusted standard and require CITGO to finally, completely and fully comply with existing state emission rules AT ALL TIMES.

We are done observing. We are anxiously watching this decision, awaiting the findings and the votes. We are not going away.

Your help is essential in standing up for the air & water quality and health of our families and surrounding communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration for the health and safety of Lemont residents. I - we- look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Sladek
Lemont resident