LDEQ Agency Update



Air & Waste Management Association · Louisiana Section · October 29, 2026

Courtney J. Burdette - Secretary, LDEQ

WHO YOU WILL BE WORKING WITH

LDEQ Executive Staff



Nathan McBride
Deputy Secretary



Je'Ne Clayton
Executive Counsel



Theresa Delafosse
Undersecretary
Management and Finance



Dr. Amanda Vincent
Assistant Secretary
Environmental Services



Jerry Lang
Assistant Secretary
Environmental Compliance



Scott Guilliams
Assistant Secretary
Environmental Assessment

WHO WE ARE

LDEQ Statewide

6

REGIONAL OFFICES

Baton Rouge, Lafayette,
Lake Charles, Monroe,
New Orleans, Shreveport

681

EMPLOYEES*

5 Offices
14 Divisions

2,391

PERMIT ACTIONS ISSUED, 2026*

1,284 water

956 air

151 waste

* Employees: state payroll data, fiscal year 2025. Permit actions: LDEQ permit status records, January 1 through October 23, 2026. .

ACROSS LOUISIANA

Large Scale Projects

LNG Export

Operating: Sabine Pass, Cameron LNG, Calcasieu Pass.
Under construction: Commonwealth, Woodside Louisiana, CP2.

Plaquemines LNG is producing LNG during commissioning.

Data Centers

Meta's Richland Parish campus is expanding to 5 GW.
LDEQ has issued air permits in Richland and West Feliciana.

Additional applications are pending in three parishes.

Manufacturing

Hyundai-POSCO Louisiana Steel (Ascension): PSD and
Title V permits recently issued October 2026.

LDEQ issued Blue Point ammonia plant permits in July 2026.

New Power Generation

LDEQ issued air permits for Entergy's Franklin Farms,
Waterford 5 & 6 and Richland Parish 1 & 2 units.

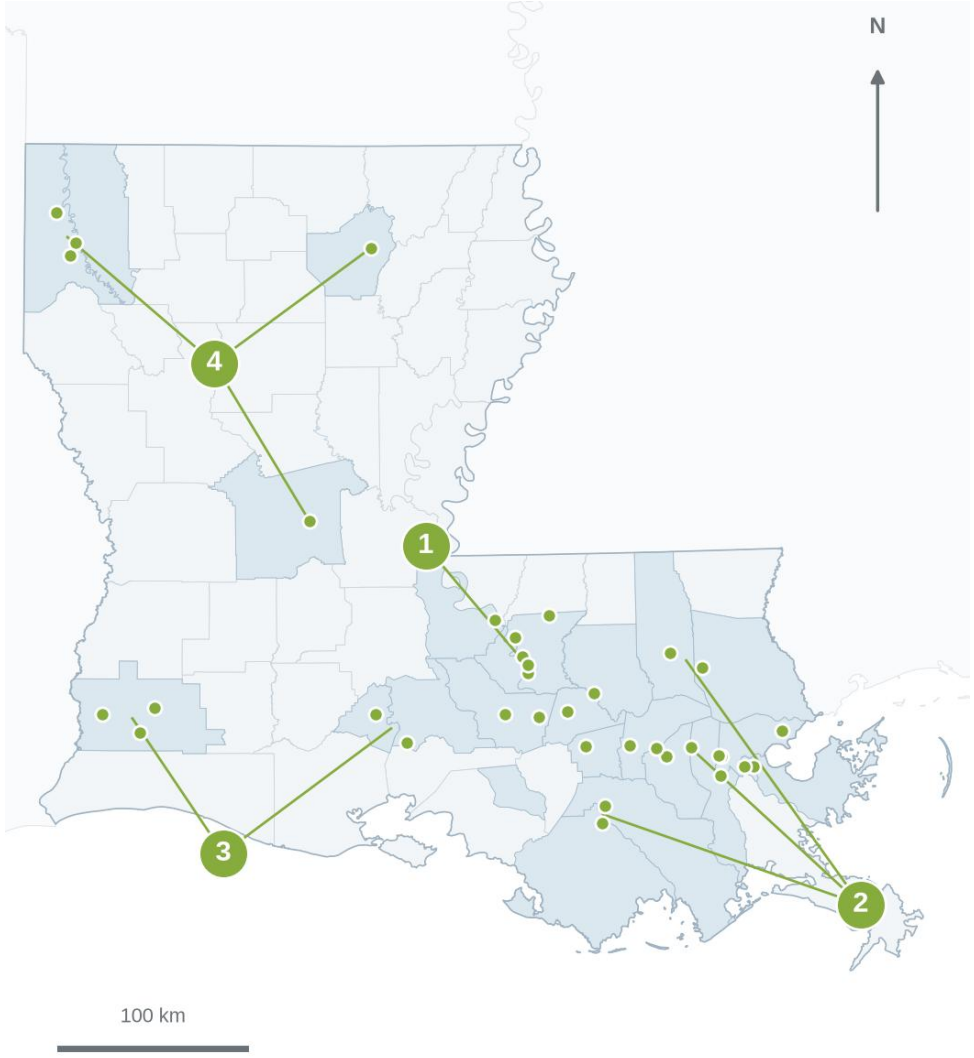
Richland Parish 3 & 4 is pending before LDEQ.

What It Means For LDEQ

Ascension, East Baton Rouge and Calcasieu have the most pending permit actions. Statewide, 15 PSD and 23 Title V initial applications are pending.

WHERE THE NETWORK SITS

Air Monitoring Across Louisiana



1 **Baton Rouge area**

11 sites · 6 parishes

Ozone · PM2.5 · SO_2 · NO_2 · CO · PM10 · Lead · Met

2 **New Orleans area, river parishes and bayou region**

15 sites · 10 parishes

Ozone · PM2.5 · SO_2 · NO_2 · CO · PM10 · Lead · Met

3 **Southwest and Acadiana**

5 sites · Calcasieu, Lafayette, St. Martin

Ozone · PM2.5 · SO_2 · NO_2 · PM10 · Met

4 **North and central Louisiana**

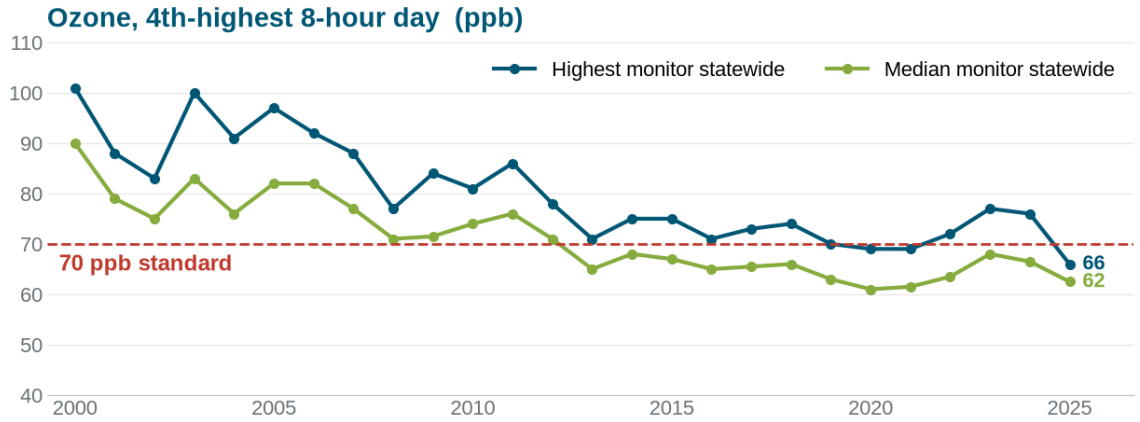
5 sites · Caddo, Bossier, Ouachita, Rapides

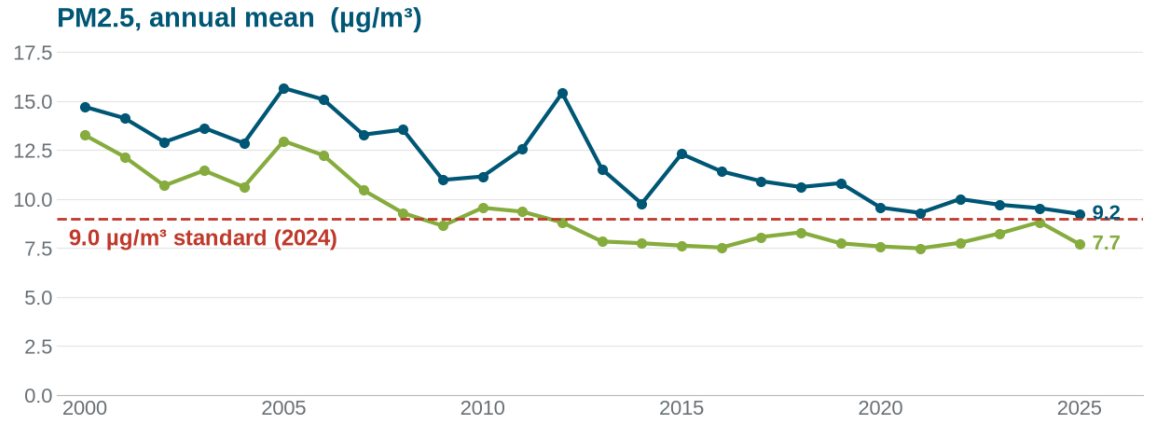
Ozone · PM2.5 · SO_2 · PM10 · Met

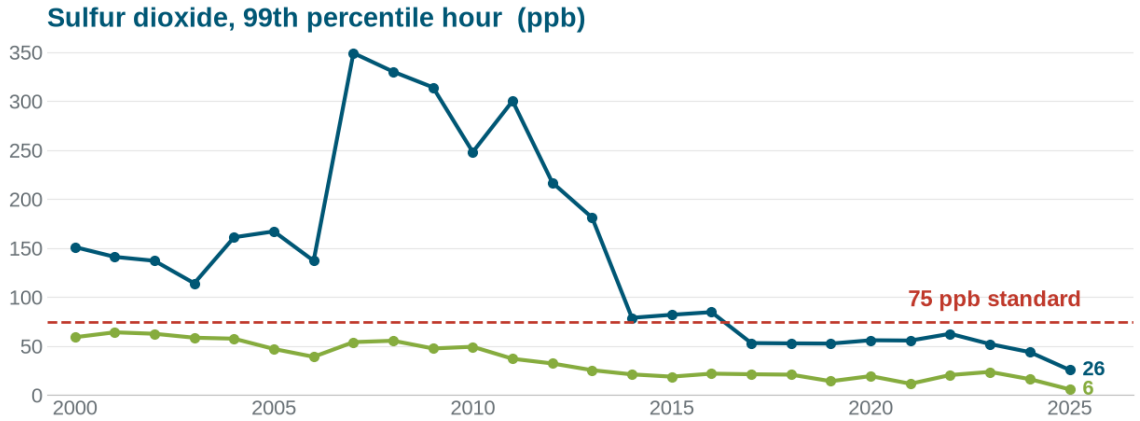
36 Fixed Sites In 23 parishes

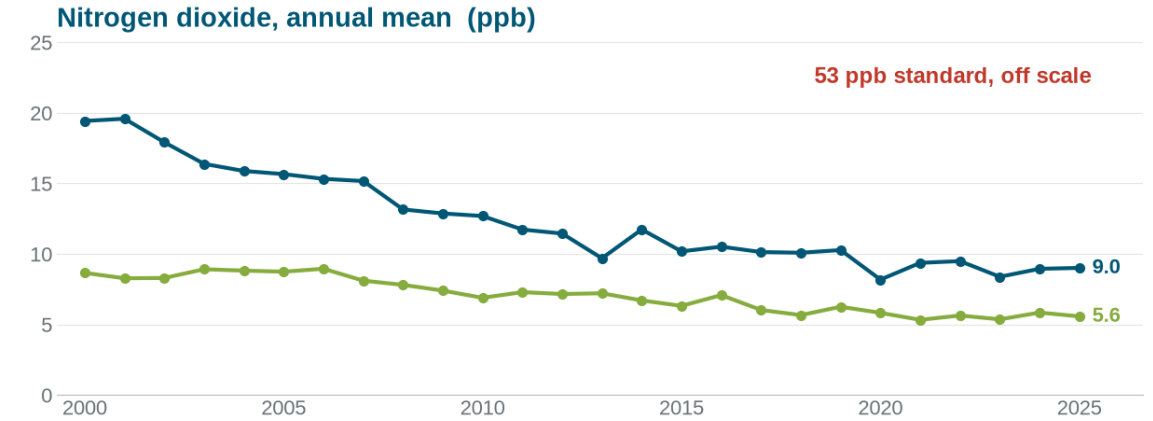
Two Mobile Air Monitoring Laboratories (MAML)

Pollutant Levels Have Fallen Statewide Since 2000









* EPA Air Quality System annual summary data, all Louisiana monitors meeting completeness criteria, 2000-2025. Single-year values, not three-year design values.

Legislative Acts Affecting the Department

Act	Bill / Author	What It Does	Effective
83	HB 697, Rep. Geymann	Re-creates LDEQ under the sunset law; next review in 2031	Jun 30, 2026
85	HB 758, Rep. Brass	Swaps fixed fee amounts for per-program caps we set by rule	Aug 1, 2026
456	SB 99, Sen. Foil	Gives electronic filing and notice the same force as paper	Aug 1, 2026
551	HB 417, Rep. Zeringue	Raises the Hazardous Waste Site Cleanup Fund cap from $6M to $8M	Jul 1, 2026
893	SB 274, Sen. Edmonds	Clarifies child-occupied-facility lead inspection requirements	Aug 1, 2026
762	SB 379, Sen. Hensgens	Creates a right to intervene in appeals of our permit and enforcement actions	Jun 2, 2026

Regulatory Review and Streamlining

Act 192 (2024 Regular Session)

Requires each state agency to complete a review of all of its rules within a five-year period to identify those that are unnecessary, overly burdensome, or inconsistent with law or agency mission

Executive Order JML 25-038

Orders state agencies, departments, boards and commissions to conduct comprehensive review of specified administrative rules.

- 50% (or minimum 100 rules) to be reviewed by December 2025
- Remaining rules to be reviewed by December 2026

DOGE Review

DOGE has requested agencies to review their rules to identify potential savings to the regulated community by reducing unnecessary and/or redundant requirements.

Goal to reduce 25% of agency **discretionary requirements** across all regulations.

LDEQ Action

2025 LDEQ review identified **102** rule sections for revision or repeal.

Hazardous waste (LAC 33:V) proposed rule repeals and revisions published in the September 20 Louisiana Register. Comment period closes November 4.

Voluntary Environmental Self-Audit Program

Program Revisions

Regulatory revisions finalized January 2026 in response to stakeholder feedback.

Creation of dedication Section (Voluntary Self Audit and Settlements) within the Enforcement Division to manage self-audit program.

Key Revisions

- Added definitions for key terms.
- Clarified when audit may commence.
- Amended timeline for disclosure of violations.
- Provides additional flexibility for extension of time and correction action.

Looking Forward

- Expanded use of the program.
- Continued collaboration and improvement.

Permitting Modernization and Reform

Executive Order JML 25-102

Officially adopts a “whole of government” approach to permitting with an alignment of agency permitting priorities

Executive Order JML 26-078

- Specifically directed towards LDEQ and C&E
- Prohibits agencies from increasing state permitting requirements to account for reduced or removed federal requirements
- Prohibits imposition of additional state requirements (beyond statutes and regulations)

Permit Processing Support Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

Background

The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 3000026542 was published on July 30.

We received questions by the deadline from several interested parties.

Addendum 1 issued on September 17, including the answers and several minor changes to the RFQ – removal of PE/PG requirement and adjustment of air modeling training requirements.

Due date for responses closed on October 6.

General Purpose

This will include tasks such as review of applications for technical completeness, identification of deficiencies, review of comments and drafting of response to comments, and other technical and administrative permitting tasks as outlined in issued Work Orders.

Current Status

LDEQ is currently reviewing and evaluating all proposals and will select proposers to enter into agreements with.

Agreements are expected to begin January 1 or earlier.

Applicants can elect to use this option once the agreements have begun.

Technology Improvements

Regulatory Services Portal

Current efforts include final testing and documentation on several permit types.

LDEQ is also working with the vendor to configure and prepare the environment for formal testing.

Other Notable Opportunities

LDEQ is working with several AI tools identified by the Office of Technology Services (OTS) to expedite other aspects of permitting and other LDEQ processes.

These tools will assist LDEQ in identifying further identify areas for improvement.

TEMPO Hosting

The vendor, LDEQ, and OTS are working together to move toward a vendor and cloud-hosted environment.

This will improve data processing, security, and reduce the risk that TEMPO would be compromised.

Recent and Pending Decisions

Louisiana v. EPA (W.D. La.)	Vacating EPA's Title VI disparate impact regulations and barring enforcement in Louisiana
Kentucky et. al v. EPA et. al (D.C. Cir.)	Upholding EPA's PM 2.5 NAAQ standard

STAY INVOLVED

How To Reach Us

- **Watch the notices** every major permit action has a comment period
- **Visit the website** deq.louisiana.gov for programs, forms and contacts
- **Check the air data** airquality.deq.louisiana.gov for readings across the state
- **Report it** spills, odors and concerns, any hour

Questions?

CONTACT

Courtney J. Burdette

Secretary

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

Headquarters

Galvez Building, 602 North Fifth Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

deq.louisiana.gov