

<SUBMISSION-INFORMATION-FILE>

<TYPE>	6-K	</TYPE>
<CONFIRMING-COPY>	NO	</CONFIRMING-COPY>
<SROS>	NONE	</SROS>
<FILER>		</FILER-CIK>
<FILER-CIK>	0001444406	</FILER-CIK>
<FILER-CCC>	XXXXXXXX	</FILER-CCC>
</FILER>	ECOPEPETROL S.A. <i>(This line is not part of the official submission)</i>	</FILER-CCC>
<SUBMISSION-CONTACT>		</CONTACT-NAME>
<CONTACT-NAME>	Matthew Judge	</CONTACT-NAME>
<CONTACT-PHONE>	(212) 201-7018	</CONTACT-PHONE>
</SUBMISSION-CONTACT>		</CONTACT-PHONE>
<NOTIFY-INTERNET>	matthew@vfilings.com	</NOTIFY-INTERNET>
<RETURN-COPY>	NO	</RETURN-COPY>

</SUBMISSION-INFORMATION-FILE>

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K  
REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER  
PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

April 2010

Commission File Number: 333-153452

**ECOPETROL S.A.**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its Charter)

Carrera 7 No. 37 – 69  
BOGOTA – COLOMBIA  
(Address of registrant's principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F  Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the registrant is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes  No

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82- N/A

---



PRESS RELEASE

---

**ECOPETROL S.A. ANNOUNCES DATES FOR THE FIRST DIVIDEND PAYMENT AND EX-DIVIDEND PERIOD**

Ecopetrol S.A. has announced that the first payment of COP\$31 per share as a dividend for 2010 will be paid from April 26, 2010. The ex-dividend period begins on April 12, 2010.

Pursuant to External Circular No. 13 of 1998 of the Securities Superintendence of Colombia, the-ex dividend period consists of the ten (10) stock market business days immediately preceding the relevant dividend payment date. Anyone buying stock during the ex-dividend period will not be entitled to the dividend. Stockholders who are registered holders of shares prior to the beginning of the ex-dividend period will be entitled to the dividend payment from that date.

The total dividend payment of COP\$91 per share for 2010 was approved by the Company's General Shareholders' Meeting on March 25, 2010, to be paid in three installments of COP\$31, COP\$30 and COP\$30.

**Bogotá, Colombia, April 8, 2010**

-----  
*Ecopetrol is Colombia's largest integrated oil company and is among the top 40 oil companies in the world and the four largest oil companies in Latin America. Besides Colombia, where it accounts for 60% of total production, the Company is involved in exploration and production activities in Brazil, Peru and the United States (Gulf of Mexico). Ecopetrol has the principal refinery in Colombia, most of the network of oil and multiple purpose pipelines in the country, and it is considerably increasing its participation in biofuels.*

*This release contains forward-looking statements relating to the prospects of the business, estimates for operating and financial results, and those related to growth prospects of Ecopetrol. These are merely projections and, as such, are based exclusively on the expectations of management concerning the future of the business and its continued access to capital to fund the Company's business plan. Such forward-looking statements depend, substantially, on changes in market conditions, government regulations, competitive pressures, the performance of the Colombian economy and the industry, among other factors; therefore, they are subject to change without prior notice.*

**E N E R G Í A P A R A E L F U T U R O**

---

Dirección de Relacionamiento con el Inversionista Tel: 2345190 – Fax: 2345648 investors@ecopetrol.com.co  
www.ecopetrol.com.co

---



PRESS RELEASE

**Contact us for any additional information:**

**Investor Relations**

**Alejandro Giraldo**

Phone: +571-234-5190

Email: [investors@ecopetrol.com.co](mailto:investors@ecopetrol.com.co)

**Media Relations (Colombia)**

**Mauricio Téllez**

Phone: + 571-2345377

Fax: +571-2344480

Email: [mtellez@ecopetrol.com.co](mailto:mtellez@ecopetrol.com.co)

Website: [www.ecopetrol.com.co](http://www.ecopetrol.com.co)

ECP – DIR – R - 001

E N E R G Í A P A R A E L F U T U R O

---

Dirección de Relacionamiento con el Inversionista Tel: 2345190 – Fax: 2345648 [investors@ecopetrol.com.co](mailto:investors@ecopetrol.com.co)  
[www.ecopetrol.com.co](http://www.ecopetrol.com.co)

---

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereto duly authorized.

*Date:* April 8, 2010

Ecopetrol S.A.

By: /s/ Adriana M. Echeverri

Name: Adriana M. Echeverri

Title: Chief Financial Officer

---

**This fax cover sheet is NOT part of the official filing and is meant as a courtesy only. Please disregard this page if you plan to submit changes via email. Email is the preferred method for submitting changes.**

---

# Fax Cover Sheet

To:	Matthew Judge	From:	
Fax:	646-349-9655	Phone:	
Phone:	(212) 201-7018	Pages:	
Project:	v180485	Form Type:	6-K
Client:	ECOPETROL S.A.		

---

Comments: