

## Submission Data File

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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

December 2011

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

## STANDARD & POORS UPGRADES ECOPETROL STAND ALONE CREDIT PROFILE TO bbb- AND CONFIRMS ITS INVESTMENT GRADE RATING

- The Ecopetrol stand alone credit profile was upgraded from bb+ to bbb- with a stable outlook.
- Its corporate ranking and its debt rating was confirmed at BBB- with a stable outlook.
- The S&P report mentions that the upgraded Ecopetrol rating is based on the continuous improvements in its financial and operating performance.

Ecopetrol S.A. (BVC: ECOPETROL; NYSE: EC; BVL: EC; TSX: ECP) (“**Ecopetrol**” or the “**Company**”) announced today that credit rating agency Standard & Poor’s increased its stand alone credit profile (SACP) from bb+ to bbb- and confirmed its corporate credit and debt rating, this latter was last revised in March 18, at BBB- with a stable outlook.

The “SACP” represents the company’s credit rating in the absence of any extraordinary support that could be offered by the National Government and tends to converge with the corporate rating, as the expectation of requiring Government intervention decreases.

**Bogotá, Colombia – December 19, 2011**

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*Ecopetrol is Colombia’s largest integrated oil & gas company, where it accounts for 60% of total production. It is one of the top 40 oil companies in the world and the fourth largest oil company in Latin America. The Company is also involved in exploration and production activities in Brazil, Peru and the United States Gulf Coast, and owns the main refineries in Colombia, most of the network of oil and multiple purpose pipelines in the country, petrochemical plants, and is entering into the biofuels business.*

*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.*

**Contact us for any additional information:**

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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: December 19, 2011

Ecopetrol S.A.

By: /s/ Adriana M. Echeverri

Name: Adriana M. Echeverri

Title: Chief Financial Officer

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