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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

Ecopetrol S.A. Reports the Change of Authorized Guarantees for Syndicated Loan with Colombian Banks

Ecopetrol S.A. (NYSE: EC; BVC: ECOPETROL; BVL: EC; TSX: ECP) ("**Ecopetrol**") reports that under amendment (*Otro Si*) No.1 to the COP\$2.2 trillion (approximately US\$1 billion) syndicated loan facility executed with a syndicate of local banks in May 2009, participating banks agreed to replace the guarantees, which originally included a pledge over shares held directly or indirectly by Ecopetrol S.A. in Refineria de Cartagena (Reficar), Oleoducto Central S. A. (Ocensa), and Polipropileno del Caribe S.A. (Propilco), with a closed-end pledge over shares held directly by Ecopetrol in Hocol Petroleum Limited (HPL), Offshore International Group and Polipropileno del Caribe S.A. (Propilco).

Bogotá, Colombia - December 21, 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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Website: www.ecopetrol.com.co

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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 21, 2011

Ecopetrol S.A.

By:/s/ Adriana M. EcheverriName:Adriana M. EcheverriTitle:Chief Financial Officer