



Colombia's [Ecopetrol](#) criticises new attacks on oil pipeline

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Colombia's majority state-owned oil company, [Ecopetrol](#), has criticised new attacks against an oil pipeline run by its subsidiary Cenit, saying the attacks harm the country's population and the economy.



The Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline has been the target of five attacks by armed groups and two installations of illicit valves so far this year, [Ecopetrol](#) said in a statement. Five of the incidents harmed the surrounding environment.

The pipeline was most recently attacked on Tuesday in a rural part of Saravena municipality, in Arauca province, the company said, adding Cenit staff were onsite attending to the damage.

Colombia's oil infrastructure is the frequent target of theft and attacks by leftist rebels. Thousands of barrels of oil are stolen from pipelines each day, refined into bootleg fuels and used in making cocaine.

"Situations like these put life, personal integrity, free mobility and the environment at risk, affecting workers and their families, as well as others inhabitants," [Ecopetrol](#) said. In early March, an attack on an oil pipeline led to environmental damage near a refinery in the Colombian city of Barrancabermeja.

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