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## **Statement from Michigan Sugar Company CEO Mark Flegenheimer**

BAY CITY – **Michigan Sugar Company CEO Mark Flegenheimer** made the following statement today regarding the lawsuit filed by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality against Michigan Sugar:

“It’s deeply troubling that the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality chose to ignore our company’s record investments in cutting-edge new technology, our good faith negotiations, and our demonstrated commitment to the community we have called home for more than a century. Instead of a cooperative approach that could create a win-win for the Bay City community, 1,100 Michigan Sugar farm families and hundreds of Bay City employees of our company, the MDEQ has adopted a confrontational stance that threatens our ability to work together.

The fact is, Michigan Sugar Company has invested millions of dollars in Bay City in recent years to install the latest technology available in our industry. These investments were specifically designed to ensure that we can continue to boost the economy and create jobs in Bay City, while minimizing our environmental impact. The investments include a centrifuge system that reduces organic matter leaving the factory, a new process that breaks down odors within our holding ponds, and beyond – all examples of industry-leading innovation.

Michigan Sugar is proud of our commitment to the environment and being a good neighbor, strong community partner and job provider, which is why this lawsuit filed by the MDEQ is disappointing.”

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