



Medellin, July 26, 2016

Fitch Ratings maintains the credit rating on EPM's international debt at "BBB+" and "AAA" for local currency debt

- **Due to the change that occurred in Colombia's sovereign outlook as a country, an adjustment is presented to the rating outlook of EPM's debt in foreign currency.**
- **For EPM the change was presented in terms of "outlook" but is maintained with regard to the "rating"**
- **The international rating of EPM remains a step above the Nation**

In a statement issued Tuesday, the ratings firm Fitch Ratings maintains EPM's foreign debt rating at an investment grade of BBB+ with a change in outlook derived from the recent change in foreign currency risk ratings in Colombia, which went from stable to negative.

According to the ratings firm, the change in the outlook of the sovereign rating and several Colombian companies, including EPM, is due to the country's increasing vulnerability to changes in the expectations of investors and external financing conditions with a current account deficit of 6.4% of GDP in 2015. Also, Fitch Ratings indicated that its expectation regarding the nation's external debt based on the fact that it may remain at levels higher than budgeted, which added to the negative impact of the Central Government's deficit and the depreciation of the peso may deteriorate credit metrics of the Government.

EPM Chief Executive Officer Jorge Londoño De la Cuesta said the adjustment in outlook is a factor that is exogenous to the organization to which all issuers are exposed in the Colombian market with international corporate ratings that are equal to or greater than the nation's credit ceiling, such is the case of EPM.



“EPM may not refrain from the country's rating, but it is important to note that this review is a result of the evaluation of Colombia as a country and not the financial statements of EPM. Keeping the rating of Fitch Ratings at the BBB+ level for external debt is a demonstration of confidence in the company and a recognition of the care and transparent management of its public resources; the rating remains an investment grade and an important reference for the financial community”, said the manager, while stressing that the local debt rating remains AAA, in line with the company's strong financial profile.