

**Clean Air Coalition of
North Whittier and Avocado Heights**
843 Caraway Drive, Whittier, Ca 90601 (826) 330-9365
E-Mail: northwhittier@gmail.com

Department of Toxic Substances Control Board
Attn: Farshad Vakili
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, Ca 95826

July 14, 2014

Dear Farshad Vakili:

Re: Public Notice of Class 2 Modification Request to Modify Hazardous Waste Facility Operation and Post-Closure Permit No. 05-GLN-08

The Clean Air Coalition of North Whittier and Avocado Heights is opposed to the above modification request. Any modification to increase efficiency will also increase the through-put for higher volumes. Quemetco claims the volume will remain the same, but with an application in for expansion of through-put, this process is a step in that direction.

There must be no consideration of modification or expansion until DTSC can reassure our community that we are not at risk from previous toxic contamination emitted from this facility. Quemetco had been unchecked for many years and as a result of previous formal complaints and violations SCAQMD is now monitoring the emissions from the facility. Unacceptable levels of arsenic, lead and mercury are some of the substances found on site. Quemetco's solution was to pave over the grounds.

There was no TESTING OUTSIDE THE FACILITY. We are requesting DTSC do testing along the San Jose Creek, its banks and its waters for toxic contamination. The San Jose Creek is a major tributary to the San Gabriel River and part of our re-percolating drinking water system. The creek runs directly in back of Quemetco. We are very concerned that the contamination from the facility drain off water and wind draft fallout will be detrimental to our health and welfare.

Stacey Lear from DTSC has ignored our previous request of WHEN solid and water testing would occur attached with 200 signatures dated 5/13/14 and e-mail dated 5/21/14. Our call again to Stacey Lear left on the message machine 5/28/14 also had no response. Finally on 5/29/14 Robert Zinka answered the phone and his response was to refer us to SCAQMD.

On June 5, 2014, a public informational meeting for the above modification by Quemetco was a sham. Formal notification to the community was limited. DTSC a governmental agency that is responsible for permitting equipment was not present to hear comments. Supervisor Gloria Molina's field deputy Suzanne Manriquez was present only as a result of being invited by a Workman Mill Homeowner's Association Director.

Your handling of the informational meeting was inadequate. Your handling of our request for soil and water testing with no response is inadequate.

We need someone from your department to work with us.

Sincerely,


Richard H. Kamimura, Co-Chairperson

cc: Gloria Molina, Supervisor, First District