



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

88 KENNETH HORN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA 90012 (213) 874-4111

**GLORIA MOLINA**  
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT

August 13, 2014

Mr. Richard H. Kamimura  
Co-Chairperson  
Clean Air Coalition of North Whittier  
and Avocado Heights  
843 Caraway Drive  
Whittier, California 90801

Dear Mr. Kamimura:

Thank you for providing a copy of your letter to the State of California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) regarding Quemetco Battery Recycling's application to modify its Hazardous Waste Facility Operation. Although the DTSC, at its June 5<sup>th</sup> hearing, defined the modification as a routine upgrade of battery washing machinery that would reportedly replace outdated equipment, I agree that any equipment modification helps position Quemetco to proceed with its application to expand its capacity to process more hazardous waste.

It is always troubling to learn of adverse health impacts after the effects have caused irreversible illnesses that could have been prevented. I urge you to immediately contact Angelo Bellomo, Director of the Los Angeles County Environmental Health Division, at (828) 430-5100. Mr. Bellomo is the County's contact for the multi-agency Toxic Threat Strike Team—he can provide guidance as you seek to hold Quemetco, DTSC, and the South Coast Air Quality Management District accountable. Via this letter, I am keeping your State representatives informed so that they may hold these agencies accountable.

You also provided a copy of DTSC's July 29<sup>th</sup> letter advising that DTSC tested the soil in the vicinity of Quemetco (since 2004 and more recently in 2013); DTSC required Quemetco to clean the soil, and beginning this Fall, DTSC will require Quemetco to also conduct water contamination testing.

Thank you as always for your devoted advocacy efforts.

Sincerely,

GLORIA MOLINA  
Supervisor, First District

GM/SM

c: Stacey Lear, DTSC  
Senator Ed Hernandez, 24<sup>th</sup> District  
Assemblymember Ian Calderon, 57<sup>th</sup> District