



South Coast Air Quality Management District

South Coast
AQMD 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

**SUBJECT: EXTENDED COMMENT PERIOD FOR NOTICE OF PREPARATION
OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND
OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

PROJECT TITLE: QUEMETCO CAPACITY UPGRADE PROJECT

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), as the Lead Agency, has prepared this Notice of Preparation (NOP) and an Initial Study (IS). This NOP serves two purposes: 1) to solicit information on the scope of the environmental analysis for the proposed Quemetco Capacity Upgrade Project (Project); and 2) to notify the public and any Responsible, Trustee and Commenting Agencies that the SCAQMD will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to further assess potential environmental impacts that may result from implementing the proposed Project. The purpose of this notice is to extend the public comment period to solicit comments on the NOP/IS and to announce that a second CEQA Scoping Meeting will be held. The original comment period was Friday, August 31, 2018 and ending at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 2, 2018. **This comment period is extended to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 25, 2018.** No other revisions have been made to the NOP/IS.

This letter and the attached NOP are not SCAQMD applications or forms requiring a response from you. Their purpose is simply to provide information to you on the above Project. If the proposed Project has no bearing on you or your organization, no action on your part is necessary.

The NOP/IS and other relevant documents may be obtained by calling the SCAQMD Publication Request Line at (909) 396-2039; by contacting the SCAQMD Public Information Center by phone at (909) 396-2432 or by email at PICrequests@aqmd.gov, or by accessing the SCAQMD's CEQA website at: http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/documents/permit-projects/2018/2018-quemetco-nop_is-august-30_2018.pdf.

Comments focusing on your area of expertise, your agency's area of jurisdiction, if applicable, or issues relative to the environmental analysis for the proposed Project will be accepted during a 56-day public review and comment period beginning Friday, August 31, 2018 and ending at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 25, 2018. **Please send any comments relative to the CEQA analysis in the NOP/IS to Ms. Diana Thai (c/o CEQA) at the address shown above.** Comments can also be sent via by facsimile to (909) 396-3982 or by email to dthai@aqmd.gov. Please include the name, address, phone number and email of the contact person. The proposed Project may have statewide, regional, or area-wide significance such that a CEQA scoping meeting is required pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083.9(a)(2) and was held on September 13, 2018. An additional CEQA scoping meeting will be held on Thursday, October 11, 2018 at Hacienda Heights Community Center, 1234 Valencia Avenue, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Project Applicant: Quemetco, Inc.

Date: September 25, 2018

Signature:

Barbara Radlein
Program Supervisor, CEQA Section
Planning, Rules and Area Sources

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182

EXTENDED COMMENT PERIOD FOR NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Project Title: Quemetco Capacity Upgrade Project

Project Location: 720 S. 7th Avenue, City of Industry, CA 91746

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The Quemetco Capacity Upgrade Project (Project) is proposing to modify existing SCAQMD permits to: 1) increase the rotary feed drying furnace feed rate limit from 600 tons per day (tpd) to 750 tpd; 2) increase the amount of total coke material (e.g., calcined coke, petroleum coke, or a combination thereof) allowed to be processed in the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace from 600,000 pounds per month (lbs/month) to 750,000 lbs/month; and 3) allow petroleum coke, in lieu of or in addition to calcined coke, to be used as a smelting reagent in the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace. Currently, the facility's rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace operate approximately 20 hours per day; however, with the proposed increase in rotary feed drying furnace permit limit, the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace may operate up to 24 hours per day and as a consequence, the refined lead product output will increase from approximately 460 tpd to 575 tpd. The purpose of this project is to allow the facility to recycle more batteries and to eliminate the existing daily idle time of the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace. This facility is identified on lists compiled by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control per Government Code Section 65962.5.

Lead Agency:

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Division:

Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources

The NOP/IS and all supporting documentation are available at:

SCAQMD Headquarters
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

La Puente Library
15920 Central Avenue
La Puente, CA 91744

or by calling:

(909) 396-2039 or
(909) 396-2432

The NOP/IS can also be obtained by accessing the SCAQMD's website at:

http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/documents/permit-projects/2018/2018-quemetco-nop_is-august-30_2018.pdf

The Notice of the Extended Review Period and the NOP/IS is provided to the public through the following:

Los Angeles Times (September 28, 2018)

SCAQMD Mailing List

SCAQMD Website

Interested Parties Mailing List

NOP/IS Extended Review Period (56 days): August 31, 2018 – **extended to October 25, 2018** (previously scheduled to end October 2, 2018)

Scheduled Public Meeting Dates (subject to change):

The proposed Project may have statewide, regional or area-wide significance; therefore, a CEQA scoping meeting is required pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083.9(a)(2) and was held on September 13, 2018. An additional CEQA Scoping Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 11, 2018 at Hacienda Heights Community Center, 1234 Valencia Avenue, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Send CEQA Comments to:

Ms. Diana Thai

Phone:

(909) 396-3443

Email:

dthai@aqmd.gov

Fax:

(909) 396-3982
