



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT REPORT**

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.

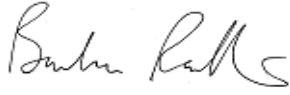
This letter, the NOP, and the attached IS are not SCAQMD applications or forms requiring a response from you. Their purpose is simply to provide information to you on the above Project. If the proposed Project has no bearing on you or your organization, no action on your part is necessary.

The 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/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-permit-projects>.

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 32-day public review and comment period beginning Friday, August 31, 2018 and ending at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 2, 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 will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at Hacienda Heights Community Center, 1234 Valencia Avenue, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Project Applicant: Quemetco, Inc.

Date: August 30, 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

NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP)
OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

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/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-permit-projects>

The NOP is provided to the public through the following:

Los Angeles Times (August 31, 2018)

SCAQMD Website

SCAQMD Mailing List

Interested Parties Mailing List

NOP/IS Review Period (32 days): August 31, 2018 – 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). A CEQA Scoping Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at Hacienda Heights Community Center, 1234 Valencia Avenue, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Send CEQA Comments to:

Ms. Diana Thai

Phone:

(909) 396-3443

Email:

dthai@aqmd.gov

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(909) 396-3982

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Initial Study for:

Quemetco Capacity Upgrade Project

August 2018

State Clearinghouse No. TBD

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CHAPTER 1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- 1.1 Introduction**
- 1.2 California Environmental Quality Act**
- 1.3 Project Location**
- 1.4 Project Background**
- 1.5 Regulatory Requirements Applicable to Quemetco**
- 1.6 Project Description**
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1.1 INTRODUCTION

Quemetco currently operates an existing secondary lead smelting facility in the City of Industry, Los Angeles County, California. Western Lead Products first established the use of the Quemetco facility site for recycling lead acid batteries and other lead scrap materials in 1959 and Quemetco took over the site in 1970. Quemetco recovers and reprocesses lead from secondary sources (primarily used batteries). At this facility, used batteries are received, fragmented, and the lead containing materials are then stored, recovered, purified and sold to customers who use lead or lead alloys in their processes. There are four primary processes involved with secondary lead smelting which purify lead until final alloys are produced, including: the rotary feed drying furnace, the reverberatory furnace, the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace, and the refining kettles.

Quemetco also operates air pollution control equipment including: a wet electrostatic precipitator (WESP) to reduce metallic particulate matter (PM) emissions, including lead, and a regenerative thermal oxidizer (RTO) to reduce potential odors and volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from the rotary feed drying furnace. All of the primary and control equipment processes and units have current Permits to Operate issued by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

In particular, the SCAQMD permit for the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace contains a condition which limits the amount of feed to 600 tons per day. When the daily throughput is met, Quemetco turns off the rotary feed drying furnace and its burner and drops the firing rate of the burner in the reverberatory furnace from operational mode (e.g., 16-20 million BTU) to idle mode (e.g., 5-6 million BTU); this is known as the compliance stop period. Quemetco would like to recycle more batteries and eliminate the existing daily compliance stop periods.

In addition, the facility is currently permitted to use calcined coke as a reagent (catalyst) in the smelting process which recovers metals from lead bearing scrap, and petroleum coke¹ as a purifying agent in the refinery process. However, because there is a dwindling supply of calcined coke available in the local market, Quemetco would like to use petroleum coke, in addition to or in lieu of, calcined coke as a reagent for the smelting process that occurs in the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace.

For these reasons, Quemetco is proposing the Quemetco Upgrade Capacity Project (Project) to modify their 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 may 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

¹ Petroleum coke is a carbonaceous solid delivered from oil refinery processes and is also referred to as green coke. Calcined coke is derived from thermally processing petroleum coke in a rotary kiln to drive off excess compounds and moisture.

per day and as a consequence, the refined lead product output will increase from approximately 460 tpd to 575 tpd.

1.2 CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq., requires environmental impacts of proposed projects to be evaluated and feasible methods to reduce, avoid or eliminate significant adverse impacts of these projects to be identified and implemented. The lead agency is the public agency that has the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a project that may have a significant adverse effect upon the environment (Public Resources Code Section 21067). The proposed modifications at the Quemetco facility constitute a project as defined by CEQA. The SCAQMD has the primary responsibility for evaluating and approving or carrying out the entire project because the proposed modifications to the existing stationary source equipment permits issued by the SCAQMD require discretionary approval. Therefore, the SCAQMD is the most appropriate public agency to act as lead agency (CEQA Guidelines² Section 15051(b)). The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) also has some discretionary approval power over the proposed Project, and as such will take the role of responsible agency for any of their required permits and/or approvals. The following is a list of any public agency that has jurisdiction by law with respect to the facility, and any city or county that borders on a city or county within which the facility is located: California Department of Transportation (CalTrans), City of Industry, Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD), Los Angeles County Health Department, Los Angeles County Public Works, Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD), and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). These agencies are identified as commenting agencies because they may have interest in the proposed Project but none would have discretionary approval authority.

To fulfill the purpose and intent of CEQA, the SCAQMD is the lead agency for this proposed Project and has prepared a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and /Initial Study (IS) to address the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed Project at the Quemetco facility. This NOP/IS informs the public, responsible agencies, and any other public agency that may have interest in the proposed Project, that the SCAQMD is seeking comment on the scope and content of the EIR. Since the proposed Project was identified in this NOP/IS as potentially having statewide, regional or areawide significance, a CEQA scoping meeting is required pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21083.9(a)(2) and will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2018 at Hacienda Heights Community Center, 1234 Valencia Avenue, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Any comments received at the CEQA scoping meeting will be responded to and included in the EIR. Similarly, for any written comments received relative to the NOP/IS, responses will be prepared and the comment letters with responses will be included in the EIR.

1.3 PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed Project is located at the existing Quemetco facility, at 720 South 7th Avenue (S. 7th Avenue) in the City of Industry, County of Los Angeles, California (latitude – longitude coordinates of N 34.036 and W 117.98). The proposed Project is entirely within the property boundaries of the existing Quemetco facility on approximately 13 acres. The Quemetco facility is

² The CEQA Guidelines are codified at Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15000 *et seq.*

near the Pomona (State Route 60) Freeway, roughly 15 miles east of downtown Los Angeles, at the northeast corner of S. 7th Avenue and Salt Lake Avenue. Figure 1-1 depicts the regional location. Figures 1-2, 1-3 and 1-4 depict the project site location within the City of Industry as well as an aerial view of the existing Quemetco facility.

The facility is located in an area predominately zoned as commercial and light industrial. The location of the facility itself is zoned as industrial. Manufacturing operations surround Quemetco to the north, south, east and west. The northern boundary of the property is San Jose Creek, a concrete-lined channel that flows east to west. Salt Lake Avenue, Union Pacific Railroad Company right of way and an industrial manufacturing facility are located to the south. The facility receives rail service via Union Pacific Railroad Company’s rail spur, which enters the property at the northeast corner. The nearest residences are located approximately 600 feet to 700 feet south and southwest of the southern boundary of the facility; these homes are situated between the Clark Avenue and State Route 60 freeway.

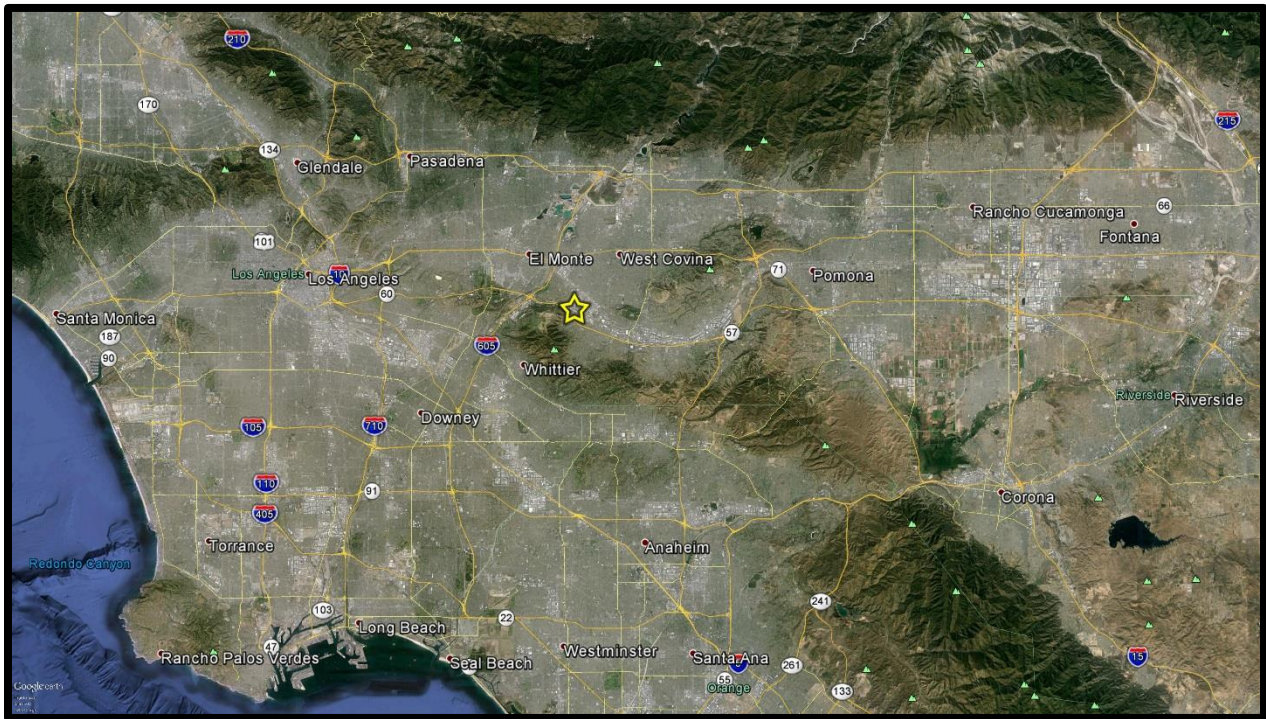
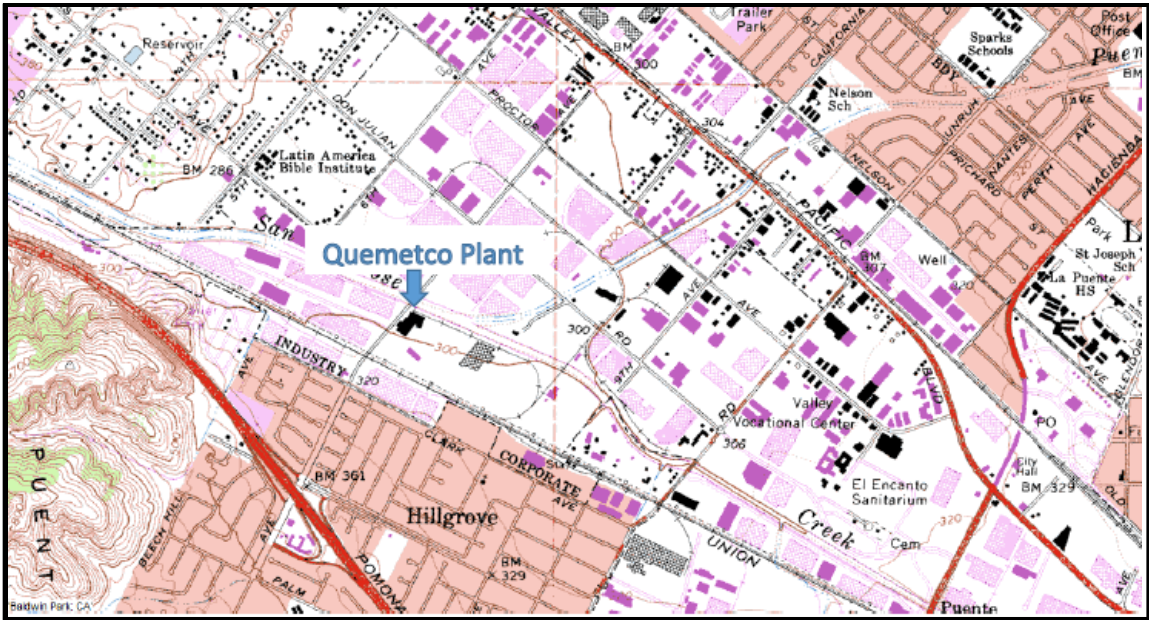


Figure 1-1
Regional Location



Note: Shaded pink areas are industrial/commercial and shaded light brown areas are industrial.

Figure 1-2
Project Site Location

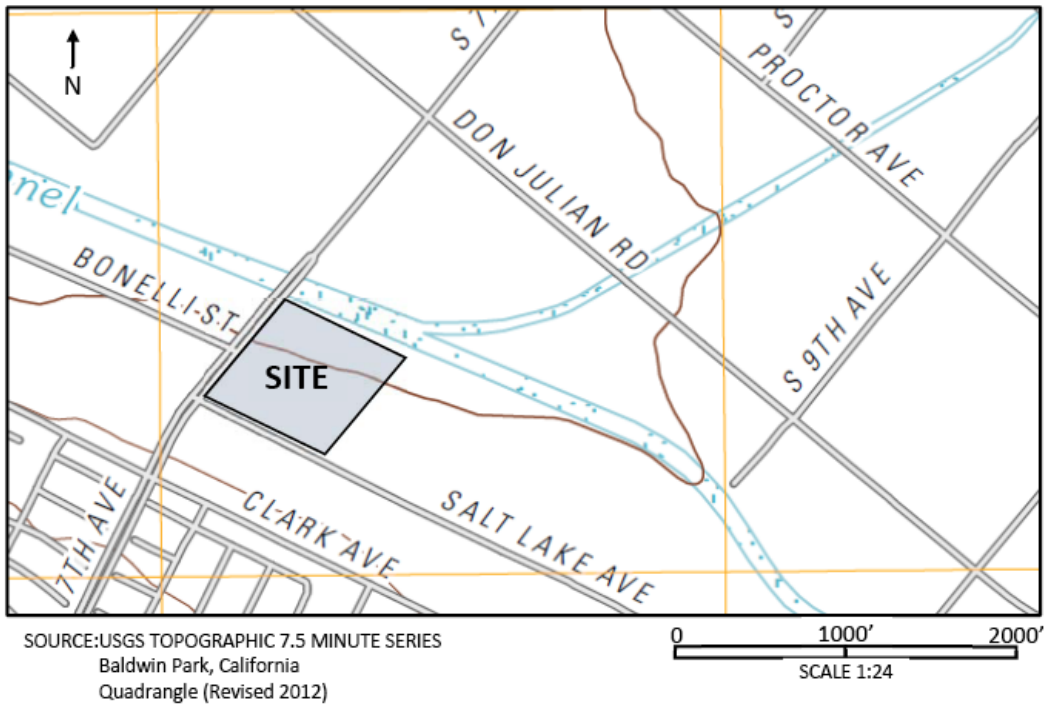


Figure 1-3
Focused Project Location



Figure 1-4
Project Site Aerial

1.4 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Quemetco is an existing secondary lead smelting processing facility that has been operating in its current location since 1970; Western Lead Products first established the use of the Quemetco facility site for recycling batteries and lead in 1959. Quemetco recovers, reprocesses, and recycles lead from allowed secondary scrap sources referred to as “feed stock,” which includes used automotive batteries, steel cases, and oversized batteries, along with other lead-bearing scrap ranging from boat keels to materials not meeting manufacturer specifications from battery manufacturers. The process of secondary lead smelting extracts lead from feed stock for reuse. The feed stock is fed through a crusher, a rotary feed drying furnace and then a series of furnaces and refining kettles which combine heat and smelting reagents (commonly carbon, such as coke, a refinery by-product) to form lead ingots or blocks. Quemetco is a 24-hour facility which is operated in three shifts. The following describes the detailed flow of feed stock through the Quemetco facility.

Figure 1-5 depicts the overview of Quemetco’s lead recycling process and air flow.

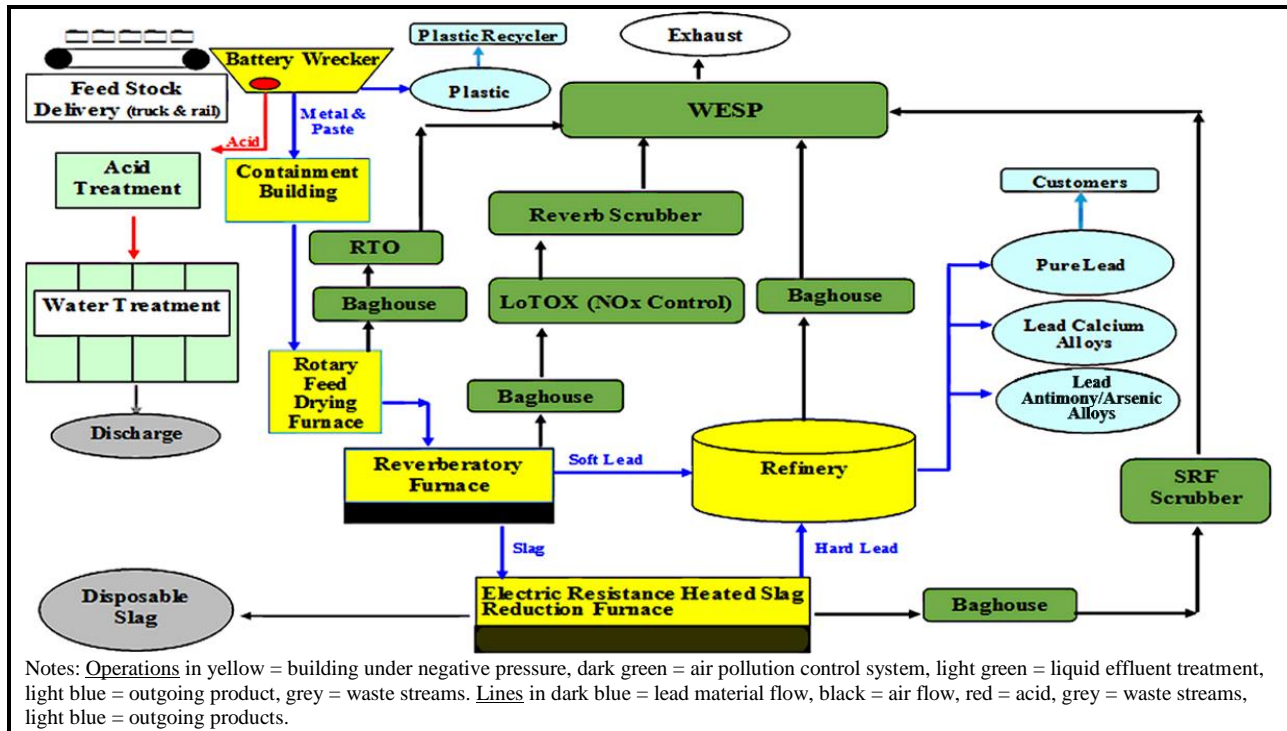


Figure 1-5
Overview of Quemetco Lead Recycling Process and Air Flow

1.4.1 Delivery of Feed Stock

The feed stock, comprised of scrap or used batteries and other lead bearing materials, is currently delivered to the Quemetco facility primarily via trucks and occasionally slag via railcars. Suppliers of feed stock include scrap yards, battery manufacturers and used battery distributors located throughout the western United States, generally west of the Rocky Mountains. The source of batteries supplied are primarily from vehicles, but can also come from other equipment. Trucks access the Quemetco facility through a controlled gate by appointment at an average rate of two to three trucks per hour and 53 trucks in a peak day (24-hour period) carrying an average load of 25 tons per truck. Each truck moves directly through the controlled gate to a scale to measure the weight of the load and then reverses into the truck dock so that the feed stock can be offloaded and moved into the “battery wrecker” building (see Figure 1-5). The truck dock door has a seal and the ventilation system of the battery wrecker building operates under negative air pressure. A forklift moves the used batteries from the truck dock to inside the “battery wrecker” building and drops them into a hopper, which conveys the feed stock into the battery wrecker. Oversized batteries are also delivered by truck and are stored in the permitted battery storage area until they are transferred by forklift to the “battery wrecker” building for dismantling (including removing or sheering off the steel casing) and processing. All feed stock is transferred from the truck loading dock into a feed hopper and a conveyor within the “battery wrecker” building.

Also, very small amounts (e.g., 42 tons) of slag (e.g., lead-bearing scrap) are delivered by railcar at a rate of one railcar every couple of years and moved from the railcar via an on-site loader from the rail receiving building to the containment building. The railcar-delivered slag is then fed to the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace.

1.4.2 Battery Dismantling

After the used batteries are transferred into the feed hopper, they are conveyed into the battery wrecker, which is an electrically driven drum with metal teeth. The drum rotates and batteries roll around the circumference of the drum. The batteries are maneuvered between the battery wrecker teeth and a wall while the metal teeth puncture and break apart the batteries into various components (e.g., lead, plastics, sludge and acid). As the batteries break into pieces, the components drop to the bottom of the battery wrecker into a sink-float tank filled with a water solution. The battery components gravitationally separate in the sink-float system; as the lead and sludge sinks, the plastics float to the top, and the battery acid contained in the water solution is collected into a sump and sent to the on-site wastewater treatment system.

After the plastics are collected and removed from the sink-float tank, it is mechanically sorted for size, washed, and dried via a centrifugal water separator. All of this activity occurs in the battery wrecker building. A polymer is added to the primary sink float tank in order to precipitate solids. The polymer solution of about 50 percent is added to three to four thousand gallons of recycled water per day. Fifteen thousand gallons per day of recycled water is added to the sink float tank. The recycled water is introduced through rinsing sprays of the discharge augers at a rate of 30,000 to 35,000 gallons per day. The plastics washing water solution has a pH of 6-7; nothing is added to control water pH.

Recovered plastics are then placed into truck trailers. When full, each trailer is hauled off-site via heavy-duty truck to a plastics recycling facility in Bakersfield, California.

The steel cases that are manually sheered in the battery wrecker building, are also recovered, washed and placed in bins. When full, each bin is hauled off-site via heavy-duty truck to a local steel recycling facility in southern California.

1.4.3 Lead Processing – Furnaces and Refinery

The lead components that are recovered from the used batteries feed stock during the battery wrecking process (e.g., lead plates, posts and grids), are initially staged in the containment building (see Figure 1-5), and then fed to the rotary feed drying furnace via a front-end loader. The rotary feed drying furnace is a pre-dryer that is equipped with a 10 million British thermal units (BTU) burner that vaporizes excess water and dries the moisture-laden feed stock. The rotary feed drying furnace is direct fired and the inlet temperature into the following baghouse is approximately 300 degrees Fahrenheit. The furnace may incorporate oxygen enrichment for temperature control and reduce nitrogen levels. Emissions in the rotary feed drying furnace exhaust are first controlled by the rotary feed drying furnace baghouse to collect particulates (PM), including lead, and then by the RTO to destroy volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and finally to the WESP to collect more toxic PM.

After the lead material is dried in the rotary feed drying furnace, it is then routed to and processed in the reverberatory furnace which converts the solid lead-containing materials into molten lead. The reverberatory furnace is fully enclosed and operates at a temperature which exceeds 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The molten lead exiting the reverberatory furnace is poured into molds and cooled to form lead bullion blocks (hogs). The lead hogs from the reverberatory furnace are then transferred via forklift to the refinery where they are melted in the refinery kettles, purified and alloyed to meet customer specifications using commodities (e.g., antimony, silver, cobalt) as

needed. Remaining scrap, or slag from the reverberatory furnace is transferred to the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace where it is processed to recover any remaining lead. The recovered lead from the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace is poured into molds and cooled. The cooled, recovered lead from the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace is also transported by forklift to the refinery where it is also melted in the refining kettles. Any remaining slag that is generated from the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace does not contain recoverable amounts of lead. As such, this “second-pass” slag is conveyed to the containment building. Each load of slag is analyzed according to EPA’s Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP)³. Based on the results of the TCLP analysis the slag is sorted based on whether it meets the criteria of a hazardous waste or not. Slag from the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace is periodically loaded into truck trailers to be hauled off-site by heavy-duty truck to an authorized landfill. See Section XVI - Solid and Hazardous Waste in Chapter 2 for further details regarding the off-site disposal of slag.

The exhaust emissions from the reverberatory furnace are controlled by an air pollution control system that consists of a reverberatory furnace baghouse to collect PM, a LoTox scrubber to remove NO_x, a reverberatory furnace scrubber to remove oxides of sulfur (SO_x), and the aforementioned WESP to collect more toxic PM. The exhaust emissions from the electric furnace are controlled by an air pollution control system that consists of an electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace baghouse to collect PM, an electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace scrubber to remove SO_x, and the aforementioned WESP to collect more toxic PM. Both the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace are operated within a building equipped with a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtration system that operates under negative air pressure to prevent fugitive PM emissions from being released into the ambient air.

Quemetco currently operates seven refinery kettles where lead bullion blocks (hogs) from the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace are further refined into final alloys that meet individual customer specifications before casting. For example, customers order either pure lead or lead mixed with alloys, based on their individual industrial process requirements. Emissions from the refinery kettles include: kettle process emissions, fugitive emissions, and refinery burner combustion exhaust gases. Each refinery kettle is equipped with a ventilation hood to capture the kettle process emissions from the refining activities and vent them to an air pollution control system. In particular, the kettle process emissions are controlled by a refinery baghouse to collect PM, and then the aforementioned WESP to collect more toxic PM. All seven of the refinery kettles are operated within a building equipped with a HEPA filtration system that operates under negative air pressure to prevent fugitive PM emissions from being released into the ambient air.

The rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace are currently subject to a daily “compliance stop period” because of a permit condition that specifically limits the feed rate to the rotary feed drying furnace to 600 tons per day. Because the process is designed such that the feed first goes into the rotary feed drying furnace and then to the reverberatory furnace, this permit condition has the effect of also limiting the amount of feed stock entering the reverberatory furnace. During this compliance stop period, when the daily throughput is met, Quemetco turns

³ U.S. EPA, SW-846 Test Method 1311: Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure. <https://www.epa.gov/hw-sw846/sw-846-test-method-1311-toxicity-characteristic-leaching-procedure>

off the rotary feed drying furnace and its burner and drops the firing rate of the burner in the reverberatory furnace from operational mode (e.g., 16-20 million BTU) to idle mode (e.g., 5-6 million BTU). During idle mode, the temperature within the reverberatory furnace gradually decreases. It is important to note however, that all other equipment and processes and air pollution control equipment continue to operate at full capacity in accordance with SCAQMD permit conditions during the compliance stop period. For example, the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace continues to process reverberatory furnace slag and the refinery kettles continue to process lead metal to meet customer specifications.

1.4.4 Fuels and Additives

The rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace are fueled with natural gas (or LPG) and oxygen; the refinery kettles are fueled with natural gas, and the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace uses electricity for its operations. The natural gas is supplied by Southern California Gas and the electricity is supplied by Southern California Edison.

Calcined coke is an additive that is currently used as a reagent in the smelting process to enhance the removal of impurities from lead bearing scrap in the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace. Petroleum coke is also used exclusively in the refinery kettles as a purifying agent. Limestone (e.g., pebble lime and dolomite lime) and cobbled steel are also used in the smelting process. Other additives such as arsenic, caustic soda beads, cobalt, metallic sodium, pyrite, red phosphorus, silver, sodium nitrate, sulfur and tin may also be added to the refinery kettles at each customer's request.

Soda ash is utilized as needed for pH adjustment in the air pollution control system (e.g., the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace scrubbers). The soda ash is stored in existing on-site silos located next to the water quality system, so it can be transferred into a day tank, mixed into a slurry with water and pumped into the scrubbers.

Similar to soda ash, sulfuric acid is also used in Quemetco's on-site wastewater treatment system as a pH adjustment agent in the wastewater treatment process. Most of the sulfuric acid is obtained from the battery acid that is collected during the battery dismantling process that is described in Section 1.4.2; small amounts of sulfuric acid are occasionally purchased if additional supply is needed.

All additives are intermittently delivered to Quemetco by truck (up to two trucks per day) and stored in enclosed containers in the chemical product warehouse for use as needed. The consumption levels of some additives fluctuate by customer specification. For the quantities of each of the additives utilized by Quemetco, see Section 1.6, Table 1-1.

1.4.5 Water and Wastewater

Quemetco's wastewater treatment system is located at the northeast corner of the site. Potable water is provided by San Gabriel Water Company and is used for rinsing the plastics and steel recovered from the battery dismantling process, operating the WESP and SO_x scrubbers, washing the outside areas of the facility, supplying water to the employee drinking fountains, kitchen, showers, and restrooms and watering facility landscaping. As explained in section 1.4.4, Quemetco uses sulfuric acid and soda ash as pH adjustment agents in its wastewater treatment process. Solids are also removed using a filter press. Quemetco discharges the treated wastewater

into the LACSD's regional wastewater system in accordance with Quemetco's LACSD Wastewater Discharge Permit. Sanitary wastewater generated from the employee kitchen, showers and restrooms is discharged to the sewer without undergoing treatment through a separate discharge line from the on-site wastewater treatment system.

1.4.6 Other Existing Buildings and Work Areas

Other existing buildings and work areas at the Quemetco facility include: a security building, administrative offices, a laboratory, a storage warehouse for chemicals, additives and finished goods, a receiving and shipping warehouse, and equipment maintenance areas.

1.4.7 Air Pollution Control Systems

Quemetco has extensive air pollution control systems that are utilized throughout the facility, as depicted in Figures 1-5 and 1-6 and as previously described in Section 1.4.3. In particular, emissions in the rotary feed drying furnace exhaust are first controlled by the rotary feed drying furnace baghouse to collect PM, including lead, and then by the RTO to destroy VOCs, and finally to the WESP to collect more toxic PM. The exhaust emissions from the reverberatory furnace are controlled by an air pollution control system that consists of a reverberatory furnace baghouse to collect PM, a LoTox scrubber to remove NO_x, a reverberatory furnace scrubber to remove SO_x, and the aforementioned WESP to collect more PM. The exhaust emissions from the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace are controlled by an air pollution control system that consists of an electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace baghouse to collect PM, an electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace scrubber to remove SO_x, and the aforementioned WESP to collect more toxic PM. Further, both the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace are operated within a building equipped with a HEPA filtration system that operates under negative air pressure to prevent fugitive PM emissions from being released into the ambient air.

In addition, the facility process buildings (including the battery wrecker, furnace buildings and refinery building) are equipped with 11 Busch International baghouse and HEPA air filtration and ventilation systems (building ventilation units) that create negative air pressure to prevent fugitive PM emissions from being released into the ambient air. The negative air pressure and ventilation system fans pull air into the building processing areas where PM emissions are captured by baghouse and HEPA filtration systems. Quemetco currently operates three diesel emergency internal combustion engines (ICEs) to supply backup power when there is a power outage to keep some of the air pollution control systems and ventilations systems operating with one ICE dedicated as backup power to the WESP.

There are air monitors on the fence lines of the facility to continuously monitor ambient lead and arsenic concentrations at the facility boundary; Quemetco is required to report to any exceedances SCAQMD under Rule 1420.1 – Emission Standards for Lead and Other Toxic Air Contaminants from Large Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Facilities.

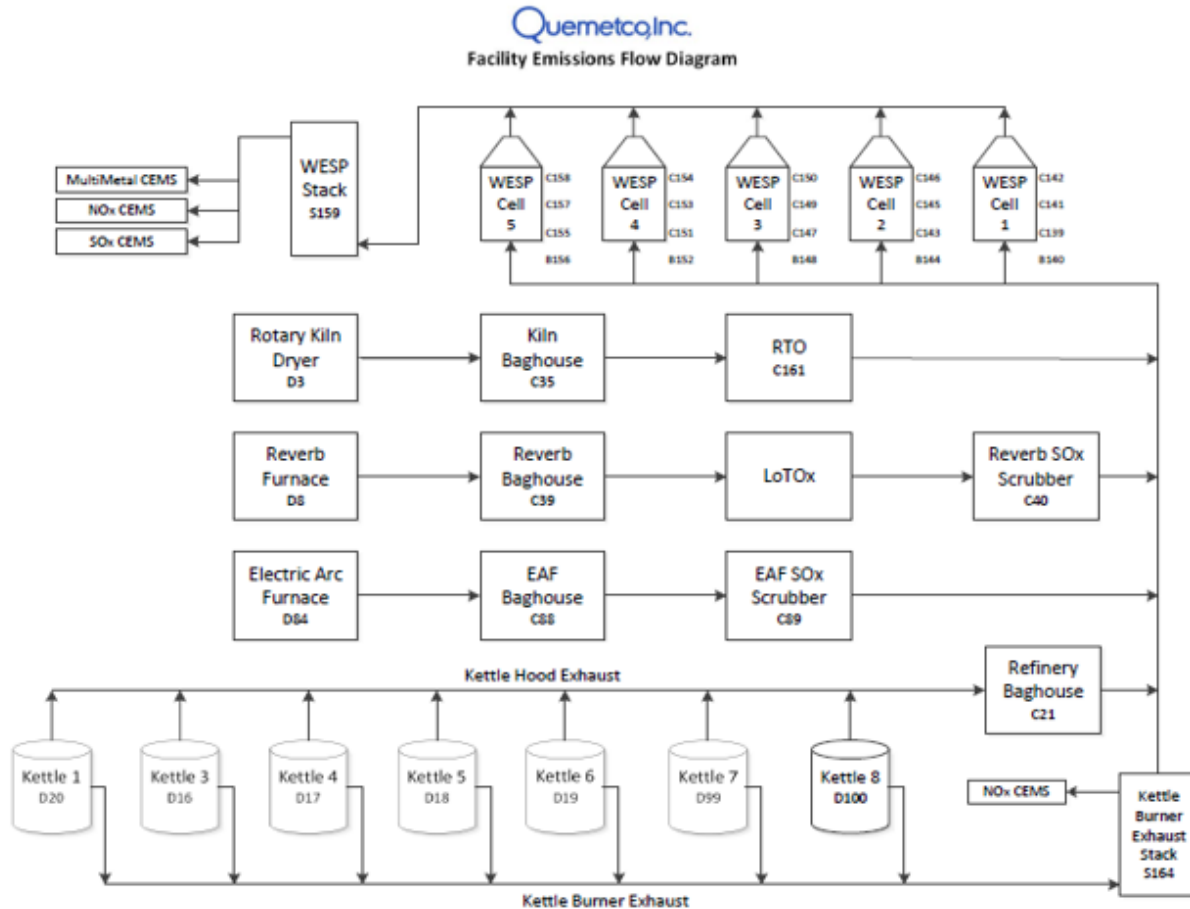


Figure 1-6
Overview of Quemetco Air Pollution Control Systems

1.5 REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO QUEMETCO

Since 2008, Quemetco has completed several environmental improvement projects in support of compliance requirements with the recently revised NAAQS for lead as well as with SCAQMD Rules 1402 and 1420.1. These emission reduction projects included the installation and operation of the WESP and RTO and enclosing the battery wrecking operations. The following discussion elaborates on Quemetco’s compliance with major SCAQMD regulatory requirements.

Quemetco is required to comply with SCAQMD Rule 1402 - Control of Toxic Air Contaminants From Existing Sources, which applies to facilities subject to the Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Information and Assessment Act (AB2588) and facilities with emissions that exceed significant or action risk levels. Rule 1402 specifies limits to reduce health risks if emissions of toxic air contaminants from existing sources exceed thresholds for the maximum individual cancer risk (MICR), cancer burden, or non-cancer acute and chronic hazard index (HI). In some cases facilities are required to prepare and implement Risk Reduction Plans (RRPs) to achieve these risk limits, as required by AB2588 and Rule 1402. In addition, Quemetco’s air permit condition E448.2

requires additional Health Risk Assessments (HRAs) to be prepared and submitted under a separate schedule, that are not subject to all of the requirements of AB2588 or Rule 1402.

Quemetco has prepared HRAs for SCAQMD approval, in accordance with AB2588 and Rule 1402. An AB2588 HRA was initially submitted by Quemetco to SCAQMD for review in May 2014, but it was subsequently revised several times before being approved by SCAQMD on May 17, 2016. The approved HRA⁴ applied the 2015 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) updated Risk Assessment Guidelines (2015 OEHHA Guidelines). The 2015 OEHHA Guidelines can result in residential cancer risks three to five times higher compared to using the previous guidance, even at the same emission level. This is primarily due to updates in cancer impacts for children, and default assumptions about exposure parameters such as breathing rates and exposure duration. The AB2588 HRA modeling for Quemetco's existing operations, based on the 2015 OEHHA Guidelines, exceeded SCAQMD's Rule 1402 health risk thresholds for public notification and risk reduction; therefore, a RRP was required. Quemetco submitted the RRP to SCAQMD on November 14, 2016 and SCAQMD issued a Conditional Approval of the RRP on June 22, 2017. The main requirements of the RRP are an annual arsenic limit of 6.5 pounds and continuous monitoring of arsenic emissions from the WESP.

On November 5, 2010, the SCAQMD adopted Rule 1420.1 - Emission Standards For Lead and Other Toxic Air Contaminants From Large Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Facilities, which includes emission standards for lead and other toxic air contaminants from large lead-acid battery recycling facilities. Rule 1420.1 was most recently amended on September 4, 2015 to incorporate a lower facility-wide lead emission rate and administrative provisions for facilities that have closed. Rule 1420.1 was crafted to: 1) protect public health by reducing exposure to and emissions of lead from large lead-acid battery recycling facilities; 2) help ensure attainment and maintenance of the NAAQS for lead; and 3) protect public health by limiting arsenic, benzene, and 1,3-butadiene exposure and emissions from these facilities. Because each of these compounds can be produced as a part of the secondary lead smelting process, Quemetco is required to comply with Rule 1420.1. The following list includes a summary of the key requirements contained in Rule 1420.1, which are applicable to the Quemetco facility:

1. Established new ambient arsenic monitoring requirement with curtailment requirements if an ambient arsenic concentration averaged over a 24-hour period exceeds 10.0 nanograms per cubic meter (ng/m³) or greater at any monitoring location.
2. Established and maintains a current facility-wide stack emission rate for lead at 0.003 pounds per hour (26.3 pounds per year).
3. Established a facility-wide stack emission rate for arsenic of 0.00114 pounds per hour (10 pounds per year) beginning January 1, 2015.
4. Established a WESP stack emission rate for benzene of 0.0514 pounds per hour (450 pounds per year) beginning January 1, 2015.
5. Established a WESP stack emission rate for 1,3-butadiene of 0.00342 pounds per hour (30 pounds per year) beginning January 1, 2015.

⁴ Available here: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/compliance/toxic-hot-spots-ab-2588/quemetco>

6. Established new ambient lead monitoring requirement with curtailment requirements if an ambient lead concentration averaged over 30 consecutive days exceeds 0.110 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) or greater at any monitoring station beginning January 1, 2016.
7. Established new ambient lead monitoring requirement with curtailment requirements if an ambient lead concentration averaged over 30 consecutive days exceeds 0.100 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) or greater at any monitoring station beginning January 1, 2017.

In particular, one requirement of Rule 1420.1 is for Quemetco to maintain 30-day, rolling-average fence line ambient lead concentrations at or below 0.110 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) through December 31, 2016 and at or below 0.100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ on and after January 1, 2017. The ambient monitoring stations at Quemetco's fence line are in place to verify that the ambient levels of lead concentrations are below both the aforementioned limits in SCAQMD Rule 1420.1 and the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) lead standards (0.15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ averaged over a rolling 90-day period).

However, during May 2017, an external power interruption resulted in ambient monitoring readings of arsenic and lead in excess of the Rule 1420.1 limits at one of the facility's four ambient monitoring stations. At approximately 7:06 pm on May 3, 2017, Southern California Edison notified the facility of a Demand Response Program event. This notification prompted power curtailment activity at the facility, which involves reducing power consumption and shutting down production operations. During this process, issues with electrical equipment affected operation of the WESP and compromised both the reverberatory furnace and the building negative pressure. As a result, recorded arsenic and lead concentrations exceeded Rule 1420.1 ambient limits. Immediately upon becoming aware of the exceedance, Quemetco activated the facility's SCAQMD-approved compliance plan and initiated a 50 percent process curtailment as required by SCAQMD Rule 1420.1, beginning on May 5, 2017. The curtailment period continued for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of occurrence (e.g., May 3, 2017). With the concurrence of SCAQMD, Quemetco resumed full production on June 3, 2017.

On-going source testing is required to be conducted to demonstrate compliance with the air quality permit and Rule 1420.1. Specifically, Rule 1420.1 requires source tests to be performed on all stacks at a minimum of once each year beginning in 2016. All source tests conducted for compliance purposes is governed by a SCAQMD-approved source testing methodology. Source test results for Years 2014-2016 will be included and analyzed in the EIR.

The proposed Project must also comply with all applicable SCAQMD rules and regulations, including but not limited to the following:

- Rule 203 - Permit to Operate
- Rule 212 - Standards for Approving Permits
- Rule 218 - Continuous Emissions Monitoring
- Rule 301 - Permitting and Associated fees
- Rule 401 - Visible Emissions
- Rule 402 - Nuisance
- Rule 404 - Particulate Emissions

- Regulation IX - New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for Secondary Lead Smelters (40 CFR 60 Subpart L)
- Regulation X - National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) from Secondary Lead Smelting (40 CFR 63 Subpart X)
- Regulation XIII – New Source Review (NSR), including key rule (Rule 1303 - Requirements)
- Rule 1401 - New Source Review of Toxic Air Contaminants
- Rule 1402 - Control of Toxic Air Contaminants from Existing Sources
- Rule 1407 - Control of Emissions of Arsenic, Cadmium and Nickel from Non-Ferrous Metal Melting Operations
- Rule 1420 - Emissions Standard for Lead
- Rule 1420.1 - Emissions Standard for Lead from Large Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Facilities
- Regulation XVII - Prevention of Significant Deterioration Permits
- Regulation XX - Regional Clean Air Incentive Market (RECLAIM) including key rules (Rule 2005 - NSR for RECLAIM Pollutants)
- Regulation XXX - Title V Permits

Quemetco currently complies with Rule 1402 that applies to facility risk based on reported emissions as well as applicable Risk Reduction Plan. Rule 1401 applies to permit units based on maximum potential to emit that will be evaluated in the CEQA document and during the issuance of the air quality permits. Quemetco's emissions control technology, such as the WESP and RTO, will need to be tested and demonstrated to be toxics best available control technology (TBACT). Quemetco's existing air pollution control systems have been tested and demonstrated to be in compliance with Rule 1407 and no change is expected as a result of the proposed Project.

The proposed Project is not modifying any existing operations equipment; compliance with Regulation IX - NSPS is expected. Existing Quemetco operations have demonstrated compliance with Regulation IX.

Rule 1420.1 is more stringent than Regulation X - NESHAP. Through on-going annual compliance demonstration of Rule 1420.1, Quemetco is also demonstrating compliance with Regulation X.

1.6 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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, Quemetco is proposing to modify existing SCAQMD permits to: 1) increase the rotary feed drying furnace feed rate limit from 600 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 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 the 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 type of feed stock received for processing is not expected to change as a result of the proposed Project.

The proposed Project also includes the following modifications to existing permit conditions by:

- Adding a new permit condition that would require Quemetco to maintain a differential pressure monitor on the WESP to add another compliance assurance monitoring parameter;
- Updating the compliance demonstration to include the WESP since all emissions now are routed to this air pollution control device; and
- Removing permit conditions that reference obsolete SCAQMD compliance requirements.

Table 1-1 presents a summary of Year 2014 (baseline) and proposed Project operations. Year 2014 is the most representative baseline data at the time of the preparation of this NOP/IS because it represents the lowest level of baseline operations since submittal of the application. By choosing Year 2014, the “Project increment” will reflect the largest potential increase and thus represent the most conservative scenario for the Project impact analysis.

Quemetco currently operates 24-hours per day and the existing air pollution control systems will remain in full operation. Given that the daily compliance period runs from noon until noon, the reverberatory furnace typically idles during the morning hours just before noon each day; the proposed Project would allow the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace to operate during these hours before noon. The proposed Project would be expected to increase the daily total feed through the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace and downstream processes. Further, although there is no permit limit for how much product the refinery can produce, the proposed Project will increase the total refined lead product output from the refinery over baseline conditions. In addition, there are permit conditions for how much material can be processed that will need to be modified pursuant to the project. With regard to air quality impacts, the peak hourly and daily emissions for all of the increased activities will be evaluated in the EIR.

While petroleum coke is currently permitted for use as a purifying agent in the refinery process, the proposed Project is requesting a permit modification to 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. In 2016, the SCAQMD issued a temporary research permit in accordance with SCAQMD Rule 441 - Research Operations that allowed the use of petroleum coke, in lieu of calcined coke, as a smelting reagent in the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace. The permit was contingent upon Quemetco performing all of the source tests requested by SCAQMD to determine whether all emissions of pollutants from the air pollution control system would be different or worse from using petroleum coke instead of calcined coke in the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace.

Other than substituting petroleum coke for calcined coke in the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace, no physical changes were made to the facility or to any process or control equipment as part of conducting this research project. Quemetco completed the source tests of its air pollution control systems and provided SCAQMD the results which contained

the measured emission levels from using petroleum coke as a smelting reagent in the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace. Quemetco is proposing a permit modification to permanently allow petroleum coke to be used for this purpose. The EIR will contain an air quality analysis of the effects of allowing 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.

The proposed Project would generate an increase in the transport of materials -- including feed, additives, finished product, recycling and waste -- in and out of the facility. The proposed Project would not change the type of additives or any of the other materials used; it would increase the amount of feed (raw material scrap) and additives (smelting reagent, limestone, cobbled steel, other additives (including acids) and soda ash). The proposed Project would increase total gas and electricity consumption as presented in Table 1-1 and analyzed in Section VI - Energy.

Table 1-1 presents estimates for daily truck traffic increase at 15 round trips per day from additional feedstock to be processed. The proposed Project could increase daily traffic by up to 15 trucks and six employee round trips per day. The addition of a maximum of 15 daily truck trips would include: scrap material and additives delivery trips; waste disposal trips (metals and plastics to recycling facilities and slag to landfill); and finished products trips. Further details and analysis of materials movement is presented in Chapter 2 under Section XVI - Solid and Hazardous Waste, and Section XVII - Transportation and Traffic.

A summary of the direct and indirect environmental impacts from the proposed Project (post-Project less pre-Project baseline conditions) is presented in Chapter 2.

**Table 1-1
Summary of Quemetco Operations**

	2014 Baseline Conditions (pre-Project)	Proposed Project (post-Project)	Post-Project Increment
Feed Stock Process Limits in Permits (tons/day)	600	750	150
CEQA Evaluation Scenario of Feed Stock Process Limits (tons/day)	510	750	240
Feed Stock Process Limits (tons/month)	15,340	21,099	5,759
Additives (tons/month):			
1) Smelting Reagents/Total Coke Material Processed in Rotary Feed Drying Furnace & Reverberatory Furnace	224	338	114
a. Calcined Coke	224	0	-224
b. Petroleum Coke	*	338	338

	2014 Baseline Conditions (pre-Project)	Proposed Project (post-Project)	Post-Project Increment
2) Limestone	73	116	43
3) Cobbled Steel	286	401	114
4) Other additives**	156	159	3
Soda Ash (tons/month)	1,771	2,654	883
Electricity Consumption (annual KWh)	38,912,004	52,009,717	13,097,713
Natural Gas Consumption (annual Cubic Feet (CCF))	2,750,998	3,610,761	859,773
Railcars Activity Per Month:			
Inbound	2	3	1
Outbound	8	10	2
TOTAL	10	13	3
Railcar Peak Day Trips (one-way)	2	2	0
Potable Water Consumed (gallons per day)	272,022	369,435	97,413
Wastewater Generated (gallons per day)	193,019	275,329	82,310
Solid Wastes (tons/year):			
Metals (recycled)	1,613	1,892	252
Plastics (recycled)	6,340	9,440	3,100
Slag (landfilled)	11,232	15,346	4,114
Truck Activity Per Month:			
Inbound	1,084	1,409	325
Outbound	531	621	90
TOTAL	1,615	2,030	415
Peak Daily Trucks (Inbound + Outbound)	53	67	14
Number of Employees	244	250	6
Peak Daily Employee Trips (Inbound + Outbound)	244	250	6

Source: Quemetco, Inc. 2015-2016

Notes:

* Petroleum coke usage during the 2016 Research Permit Test Program was 115,720 pounds or approximately 58 tons.

** The amount and type of other additives that may be used are determined by the customer and can consist of arsenic, caustic soda beads, cobalt, metallic sodium, pyrite, red phosphorus, silver, sodium nitrate, sulfur and tin.

1.7 RELATED PERMITS AND APPROVALS

The proposed Project would require discretionary approvals from the SCAQMD, as well as subsequent action by the DTSC. Table 1-2 summarizes the anticipated permits and approvals that may be associated with the proposed Project. The proposed Project could, for example, require DTSC to modify its Quemetco Hazardous Waste Facility Operation and Post-Closure Permit in compliance with the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA Permit); DTSC may also rely on this Capacity Upgrade Project EIR for its own projects such as its RCRA Permit Renewal with Quemetco.

In addition, Quemetco submits reports to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) two times per year to certify compliance with all Title V requirements (implemented by the SCAQMD). The project will result in a SCAQMD Title V permit revision, which is subject to U.S. EPA review.

**Table 1-2
Project Permits and Approvals**

Agency Permit or Approval	Permit/ Regulation	Applicability to Project
State		
California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC)	Hazardous Waste Facility Operation and Post-Closure Permit	The Hazardous Waste Facility Operation and Post-Closure Permit was initially issued by DTSC on September 15, 2005 and is currently in a renewal process. This permit allows Quemetco to operate the equipment and processes at issue in the Capacity Upgrade Project as Miscellaneous Hazardous Waste Management Units (“HWMUs”) along with the other HWMUs at the facility. The current permit establishes maximum capacities for each piece of equipment and a maximum daily throughput for the reverberatory furnace, electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace and rotary feed drying furnace. Any revisions to this permit as a result of the Capacity Upgrade Project would be a separate but related activity and DTSC would be a CEQA responsible agency to the proposed Project with discretionary approval.
Regional		
South Coast Air Quality Management	Quemetco Air Permits	The proposed Project requires the modification of existing air permits. See

Agency Permit or Approval	Permit/ Regulation	Applicability to Project
District (SCAQMD)		Section 1.6 - Project Description.

The following is a brief summary of the other agencies' rules, regulations and permits under which Quemetco operates and would not be subject to a discretionary action as a result of the proposed Project. These agencies would be considered commenting agencies.

1.7.1 California Department of Transportation (CalTrans)

Caltrans is the state agency responsible for highway, bridge, and rail transportation planning, construction, and maintenance. If the proposed Project were to affect a state facility, an encroachment permit would be required. Additionally, oversized loads would trigger special permits. No known aspects of the proposed Project would affect Caltrans operations. Because the proposed Project would not involve any construction of highways, bridges, or rail lines, and because there would be no substantial increases in traffic volumes due to increased workers or truck deliveries at the facility (as evaluated in Chapter 2, Section XVII - Transportation and Traffic), the proposed Project would not require an encroachment permit.

1.7.2 City of Industry

The City of Industry governs zoning and land development for the proposed Project area and is comprised of primarily industrial (92 percent) and commercial (8 percent) activities. As of the 2010 census, there were only 219 residents within the City of Industry. Because no soil or ground disturbances will occur from the production change, the proposed Project would not require any change in zoning or land use; therefore, the proposed Project would not require a land use action such as a building permit.

1.7.3 Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD)

Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACFD) regulates storage and handling of hazardous materials and hazardous waste. A Hazardous Materials Business Plan includes an inventory of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes, emergency response plan and procedures, employee-training program, and map showing the locations of the hazardous materials and wastes. This plan is updated annually or when any major changes in hazardous materials or waste on site occurs. The Hazardous Materials Business Plan inventory list of materials would not change. Quemetco will update the inventory quantities through a revision of the online reporting tool if necessary.

1.7.4 Los Angeles County Health Department

The Los Angeles County Health Department oversees public health and safety in Los Angeles County.

1.7.5 Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works manages the San Jose channel, immediately adjacent to Quemetco, as part of their county wide flood control responsibilities.

1.7.6 Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD)

Quemetco operates under an Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit. Issued on April 11, 2011, the permit identifies the LACSD's and U.S. EPA wastewater discharge limits. U.S. EPA discharge limits are based on production data from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. Quemetco submits production data quarterly to the LACSD in accordance with permit conditions. A production increase would increase wastewater discharge levels and is evaluated in Chapter 2 under Section IX - Hydrology and Water Quality.

1.7.7 Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)

Quemetco operates under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water General Permit through the RWQCB. The General Permit regulates industrial activities exposed to rainfall where possible contaminants may enter the storm water drainage system. The proposed Project does not include construction activities that would involve or affect the facility's existing storm water drainage system, and therefore would not require separate coverage under the NPDES storm water permit for construction activities. Quemetco has recently implemented a voluntary storm water filtration project.

1.8 INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

This NOP/IS incorporates by reference DTSC's previously certified Final EIR for its Hazardous Waste Management Operation and Post Closure Permit for Quemetco, Inc., August 2005, State Clearinghouse No. 1996041042 (DTSC 2001 and 2005). As discussed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15150, "an EIR or negative declaration may incorporate by reference all or portion of another document which is a matter of public record or is generally available to the public. Incorporation by reference is most appropriate for including long, descriptive, or technical materials that provide general background but do not contribute directly to the analysis of the problem at hand." A physical copy of this Final EIR is available for public review at the La Puente Library located at 15920 Central Avenue, La Puente, CA 91744. The Final EIR may be obtained from: SCAQMD's website at <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-permit-projects>; by visiting the Public Information Center at SCAQMD Headquarters located at 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765; or by contacting Fabian Wesson, Public Advisor by phone at (909) 396-2039 or by email at PICrequests@aqmd.gov.

The incorporated part of the referenced document must be briefly summarized or described. [CEQA Guidelines Section 15150(b)]. The DTSC Hazardous Waste Management Operation and Post Closure Permit for Quemetco, Inc. Final EIR is hereby incorporated by reference (DTSC 2001 and 2005). These documents provide the historic environmental setting and analysis as well as public review for Quemetco's operations in accordance with RCRA (DTSC 2001 and 2005). The RCRA permit authorizes the treatment, storage and transfer of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes related to the recycling of automotive batteries and other lead bearing material. The DTSC Draft and Final EIR found the following significant impact area: water resources/water quality. Quemetco has been working under the direction of DTSC to complete investigations to confirm whether the facility has had an effect on surface or groundwater resources.

This Final EIR also evaluated the following impact areas: Land Use, Earth Resources, Air Quality, Noise, Risk of Upset (Hazards), Public Services, and Traffic/Transportation. The impact analysis of Quemetco's operations for these issue areas supported findings that there were no significant

impacts for the facility operation levels of 600 tons per day; no mitigation measures were required. There were no outstanding issues to be resolved as part of the DTSC Draft and Final EIR (DTSC 2001 and 2005).

The primary area of controversy for the DTSC RCRA permit EIR was lead toxicity. To address on-going lead toxicity concerns and regulatory requirements, Quemetco has been preparing and is required to continue preparing HRAs as part of its SCAQMD permit conditions and in compliance with AB 2588. All of the previous HRAs concluded that no emission levels exceed acceptable health risk thresholds until the 2015 OEHHA Guidelines were adopted. The AB2588 HRA modeling for Quemetco's existing operations, based on the 2015 OEHHA Guidelines, exceeded SCAQMD's Rule 1402 health risk thresholds for public notification and risk reduction; therefore, a RRP was required. The RRP was submitted on November 14, 2016. SCAQMD issued a Conditional Approval of the RRP on June 22, 2017. The requirements of the RRP pertaining to Arsenic emissions from the WESP stack have been placed in Quemetco's Title V permit. The updated Title V permit includes additional arsenic testing at the WESP stack location, monitoring and monitor third party verification through quality assurance testing. As discussed above, an updated HRA that evaluates the potential effects of the proposed Project from both stationary and mobile sources will be included as part of this Capacity Upgrade Project's EIR evaluation and may include an ecological risk evaluation.

Quemetco has implemented the following changes and upgrades since the 2005 DTSC Final EIR: 1) the WESP and RTO air pollution control devices were installed; 2) the battery wrecker building was enclosed to eliminate fugitive emissions released to the ambient air; 3) a centrifugal "dryer" was installed for the plastics recovery system; and 4) system tanks were replaced for maintenance. In addition, there have been no substantive changes to the immediate proposed Project area since the preparation of the DTSC EIR. The immediate area continues to be industrial and is surrounded by the same infrastructure: Union Pacific Railroad Company, San Jose Creek, S. 7th Avenue, and Salt Lake Avenue.

CHAPTER 2 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

- 2.1 Introduction**
- 2.2 General Information**
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2.1 INTRODUCTION

The environmental checklist provides a standard evaluation tool to identify a project's adverse environmental impacts. This checklist identifies and evaluates potential adverse environmental impacts that may be created by implementing the proposed Project.

2.2 GENERAL INFORMATION

Project Title:	Quemetco Capacity Upgrade Project
Lead Agency Name:	South Coast Air Quality Management District
Lead Agency Address:	21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765
CEQA Contact Person:	Diana Thai, (909) 396-3443, dthai@aqmd.gov
Quemetco Capacity Upgrade Project Contact Person:	Craig Clark, (626) 937-3212, cjclark@rsrcorp.com
Project Sponsor's Name:	Quemetco, Inc. and RSR Corporation subsidiary
Project Sponsor's Address:	720 S. 7 th Avenue, City of Industry, CA 91746
General Plan Designation:	Industrial
Zoning:	Industrial
Description of Project:	<p>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 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 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 the 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.</p>
Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:	<p>The facility is located in an area that is predominantly zoned commercial and light industrial. Manufacturing operations surround Quemetco to the north, south, east and west. The northern boundary of the property is San Jose Creek, a concrete-lined channel that flows east to west. Salt Lake Avenue and the Union Pacific Railroad Company is located to the south. The</p>

nearest residents are located 600 feet southwest of the front gate/southern boundary of the facility and over 800 feet southwest of the WESP, separated by Salt Lake Avenue, the Union Pacific Railroad Company and another industrial facilities.

Other Public Agencies Whose Approval is Required:

Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC)

2.3 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AREAS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED

The following environmental impact areas have been assessed to determine their potential to be affected by the proposed Project. Any checked items represent areas that may be adversely affected by the proposed Project. An explanation relative to the determination of impacts can be found following the checklist for each area.

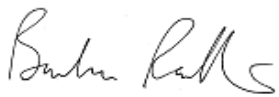
- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology and Soils | <input type="checkbox"/> Population and Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazards and Hazardous Materials | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology and Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid and Hazardous Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and Traffic |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

2.4 DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and that a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be significant effects in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect(s) on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) is required.
- I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Date: August 30, 2018

Signature: 

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

2.5 ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST AND DISCUSSION

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS.				
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

The proposed project impacts on aesthetics will be considered significant if:

- The project will block views from a scenic highway or corridor.
- The project will adversely affect the visual continuity of the surrounding area.
- The impacts on light and glare will be considered significant if the project adds lighting which would add glare to residential areas or sensitive receptors.

Discussion

The topography of the surrounding area of the Quemetco facility includes hills to the southwest and the San Gabriel Mountain range to the northeast. The Quemetco facility is industrial and the immediate area is developed with industrial facilities, a railroad corridor and State Route 60 and therefore has poor visual quality. The facility and the immediate industrial areas are surrounded by paving and fencing with limited landscaping and trees. The Quemetco facility is not located within any scenic viewshed.

I. a), b), and c) No Impact. The Quemetco facility is located in an industrialized setting in an area that is not characterized as having scenic vistas or scenic resources. Further, the facility is situated within the vicinity of State Route 60, which is not designated as a Scenic Highway. As described previously in Section 1.6 - Project Description, the components of the proposed Project will increase delivery and haul trips and railtrips. While they may be visible outside of the property line, these activities will not appear to be discernably different from the existing ongoing activities at the facility. For these reasons, the proposed Project would not be expected to adversely alter the existing visual character of the site or the visual continuity of the surrounding area.

I. d) No Impact. As described previously in Section 1.6 - Project Description, no component of the proposed Project would result in physical modifications requiring construction at the facility or change in lighting during operation, so no additional lighting would be required. Thus, the proposed Project is not expected to create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area of the facility. Therefore, the proposed project is not expected to create significant adverse aesthetic impacts.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, no significant adverse impacts from the proposed Project on aesthetics would be expected. Since no potentially significant adverse aesthetic resource impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES.				
Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code §12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code §4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code §51104 (g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Project-related impacts on agriculture and forest resources will be considered significant if any of the following conditions are met:

- The proposed project conflicts with existing zoning or agricultural use or Williamson Act contracts.
- The proposed project will convert prime farmland, unique farmland or farmland of statewide importance as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the farmland mapping and monitoring program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use.
- The proposed project conflicts with existing zoning for, or causes rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code §12220 (g)), timberland (as defined in Public Resources Code §4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code § 51104 (g)).
- The proposed project would involve changes in the existing environment, which due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use.

Discussion

II. a), b), c), d), and e) No Impact. The proposed Project would occur within the confines of the existing facility, which is zoned as industrial. Further, the facility is not located on agricultural land. No agricultural or forestry resources are present at, or in the vicinity of the facility. The proposed Project would not convert farmland to non-agricultural use or involve other changes in the existing environment that could convert farmland to non-agricultural use or conflict with agricultural land uses, or Williamson Act contracts. Additionally, the proposed Project would not result in the loss of forestland or conversion of forestland to non-forest use. Finally, there is no conflict with existing zoning for agricultural or forest use nor would the proposed Project require rezoning of agricultural or forest-zoned areas.

Conclusion

Based on the above consideration, no significant adverse impacts from the proposed Project on agricultural resources would be expected. Since no potentially significant adverse agricultural or forestry resource impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
III. AIR QUALITY AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.				
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Diminish an existing air quality rule or future compliance requirement resulting in a significant increase in air pollutant(s)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

To determine whether or not air quality criteria pollutants, greenhouse gas (GHG) and toxic emission impacts from implementing the proposed Project are significant, impacts will be evaluated and compared to the criteria in Table 2-1. If preliminary analysis of the proposed Project shows that overall emissions have the potential to equal or exceed any of the thresholds in Table 2-1, these potential impacts will be further evaluated in the EIR.

**Table 2-1
SCAQMD Air Quality Significance Thresholds**

Mass Daily Thresholds ^a		
Pollutant	Construction ^b	Operation ^c
NOx	100 lbs/day	55 lbs/day
VOC	75 lbs/day	55 lbs/day
PM10	150 lbs/day	150 lbs/day
PM2.5	55 lbs/day	55 lbs/day
SOx	150 lbs/day	150 lbs/day
CO	550 lbs/day	550 lbs/day
Lead	3 lbs/day	3 lbs/day
Toxic Air Contaminants (TACs), Odor, and GHG Thresholds		
TACs (including carcinogens and non-carcinogens)	Maximum Incremental Cancer Risk \geq 10 in 1 million Cancer Burden $>$ 0.5 excess cancer cases (in areas \geq 1 in 1 million) Chronic & Acute Hazard Index \geq 1.0 (project increment)	
Odor	Project creates an odor nuisance pursuant to SCAQMD Rule 402	
GHG	10,000 MT/yr CO ₂ eq for industrial facilities	
Ambient Air Quality Standards for Criteria Pollutants ^d		
NO₂ 1-hour average annual arithmetic mean	SCAQMD is in attainment; project is significant if it causes or contributes to an exceedance of the following attainment standards: 0.18 ppm (state) 0.03 ppm (state) and 0.0534 ppm (federal)	
PM₁₀ 24-hour average annual average	10.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (construction) ^e & 2.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (operation) 1.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	
PM_{2.5} 24-hour average	10.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (construction) ^e & 2.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (operation)	
SO₂ 1-hour average 24-hour average	0.25 ppm (state) & 0.075 ppm (federal – 99 th percentile) 0.04 ppm (state)	
Sulfate 24-hour average	25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (state)	
CO 1-hour average 8-hour average	SCAQMD is in attainment; project is significant if it causes or contributes to an exceedance of the following attainment standards: 20 ppm (state) and 35 ppm (federal) 9.0 ppm (state/federal)	
Lead 30-day Average Rolling 3-month average	1.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (state) 0.15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (federal) at or below 0.110 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ through December 31, 2016 and at or below 0.100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ on and after January 1, 2017 (SCAQMD Rule 1420.1)	

^a Source: SCAQMD CEQA Handbook (SCAQMD, 1993), Revision: March 2015

^b Construction thresholds apply to both the South Coast Air Basin and Coachella Valley (Salton Sea and Mojave Desert Air Basins).

^c For Coachella Valley, the mass daily thresholds for operation are the same as the construction thresholds.

^d Ambient air quality thresholds for criteria pollutants based on SCAQMD Rule 1303, Table A-2 unless otherwise stated.

^e Ambient air quality threshold based on SCAQMD Rule 403.

KEY: lbs/day = pounds per day ppm = parts per million $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ = microgram per cubic meter \geq = greater than or equal to
MT/yr CO₂eq = metric tons per year of CO₂ equivalents $>$ = greater than

Discussion

III. a) Less than Significant Impact. The 2016 Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) demonstrates that the applicable ambient air quality standards can be achieved within the timeframes required under federal law. Growth projections from local general plans adopted by cities in the district are provided to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the agency that develops regional growth forecasts, and they are then used to develop future air quality forecasts for the 2016 AQMP. Development consistent with the growth projections in the City of Industry is considered to be consistent with the 2016 AQMP. The City of Industry designates the Quemetco facility as industrial; the proposed Project is consistent with this land use. The proposed Project would be consistent with the City of Industry General Plan for the following reasons:

- Because no new construction workers would be needed for the proposed Project, no construction worker-related traffic will be generated.
- As described in both Section XIII - Population and Housing, and Section XVII - Transportation and Traffic, the operation of the proposed Project is expected to need six additional permanent employees that can be supplied by the existing labor pool in the southern California area. Therefore, no substantial increases in the demand for additional housing or recreational facilities would be expected. Similarly, for six additional employees, six new passenger vehicle round trips associated with additional worker-related traffic would be expected if the proposed Project is implemented.

Further, because the need for six additional employees would not exceed growth projections in the City of Industry General Plan, no General Plan amendment would be required. Thus, the proposed Project would be considered consistent with the City of Industry General Plan. Since the proposed Project would be consistent with the City of Industry General Plan, it would also be consistent with the 2016 AQMP.

Additionally, Quemetco is currently and will continue to be required under the proposed Project to comply with all applicable SCAQMD rules and regulations (as discussed previously in Section 1.5) and this compliance will ensure the integrity of the emission inventories in the 2016 AQMP.

For these reasons, the proposed Project is not expected to conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan or diminish an existing air quality rule or future compliance requirement resulting in a significant increase in any air pollutants. Therefore, this topic will not be further analyzed in the EIR.

III. b) and f) Potentially Significant Impact. The Project is proposing to modify existing SCAQMD permits to: 1) increase the rotary feed drying furnace feed rate limit from 600 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 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 the 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 facility has reported experiencing periodic loss of power at the site such as the one noted

earlier in Chapter 1. These events can result in the loss of negative pressure in the reverberatory and electric slag furnaces that can cause an increase in arsenic emissions. By increasing the processing hours and material, the frequency of these events and corresponding impact on emissions could increase. In addition, the use of petroleum coke has the potential for higher VOC and CO emissions. Finally, a breakdown of the RTO and WESP could result in higher toxic emissions.

The proposed Project has the potential to increase criteria pollutants and TAC emissions. In particular, the proposed Project will increase the usage of natural gas, electricity, water consumption, and wastewater treatment, which are all expected to potentially contribute towards significant adverse air quality impacts. The proposed Project will also increase the amount of feedstock, additives, finished product, and solid waste that is either delivered to the facility or hauled away for recycling and disposal. Thus, the proposed Project is expected to increase the amount of trucks trips, railcars, and additional workers visiting the facility and the emissions associated with these transportation activities (e.g., increased use of diesel fuel and gasoline) are also expected to potentially contribute towards significant adverse air quality impacts. All of these potential sources of emission impacts will be evaluated in the EIR. While the proposed Project will be required to comply with all applicable SCAQMD rules and regulations, for any areas that are concluded to have potentially significant adverse air quality impacts, feasible mitigation measures and an alternatives analysis may also be required in the EIR.

III. c) Potentially Significant Impact. Because the proposed Project has the potential to generate significant adverse air quality impacts, it also has the potential to generate significant adverse cumulative air quality impacts. Since the Project-specific air quality impacts may be significant, they may contribute to impacts that are cumulatively considerable. Therefore, cumulative air quality impacts are potentially significant and will be evaluated in the EIR.

III. d) Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed Project could potentially generate additional TAC emissions (e.g., combustion emissions, transport emissions, etc.) which will be subject to the requirements of SCAQMD Rule 1401 - Toxic Air Contaminants. The cancer and non-cancer health risk impacts of the TAC emissions that may result from implementing the proposed Project at the Quemetco facility, with particular focus on sensitive populations, including individuals at hospitals, nursing facilities, daycare centers, schools, and elderly intensive care facilities, as well as residential and off-site occupational areas, have the potential to exceed the significance threshold identified in Table 2-1 and, therefore, will be evaluated in the EIR.

III. e) Less than Significant Impact. The proposed Project is not anticipated to create any new, significant objectionable odors during construction or operation. The facility is equipped with air pollution control technology that is capable of reducing odors, particularly when the used battery feedstock is being broken down and rinsed in the battery wrecker building, and then dried in the rotary feed drying furnace while being conveyed to the reverberatory furnace. For example, the emissions from the rotary feed drying furnace are routed to an air pollution control system which utilizes a RTO which destroys VOCs and their associated odors. Further, the SCAQMD has not issued any Notices of Violation to Quemetco since the RTO was installed in 2008. Further, any additional odors that may be generated from increasing the feed stock and additives throughput as a result of implementing the proposed Project will also be routed to and destroyed by the existing air pollution control system. The existing materials warehouse would receive and store additional petroleum coke and other additives; this materials warehouse is dry and has not historically been

a source of facility odors. Quemetco maintains a 24-hour environmental monitoring program where operators are trained to report odors so that the source can be identified and remedied promptly, which helps to minimize the frequency and magnitude of odor events. For these reasons, the additional petroleum coke and other additives are not expected to be a new source of odors.

With regard to odors from all diesel-fueled vehicles (trucks and trains) and off-road equipment (e.g., forklifts) that are currently utilized and will continue to be utilized at the Quemetco facility, diesel fuel is required to have a low sulfur content (e.g., 15 ppm by weight or less) in accordance with SCAQMD Rule 431.2 – Sulfur Content of Liquid Fuels⁵. The deliveries of feed stock and additives and the removal of solid waste for disposal or recycling will occur within the confines of the Quemetco facility. Sufficient dispersion of diesel emissions over distance generally occurs such that odors associated with additional truck and train diesel emissions may not be discernable to offsite receptors depending on the location of the source(s) of the diesel exhaust within the facility and the distance relative to the nearest offsite receptor. Further, the current use and any increased use of diesel-fueled delivery or haul trucks will not be allowed to idle longer than five minutes in accordance with the CARB idling regulation⁶, so an increase in odors from any additional haul trucks visiting the facility as a result of the proposed Project would not be expected. Also, it is important to note that any additional trucks or trains or more frequent use of forklifts, for example, that may occur as a result of the proposed Project would be intermittent and over a relatively short period of time. Therefore, the proposed Project would not be expected to generate diesel exhaust odor greater than what is already typically present.

Also, it is important to note that the nearest sensitive receptors (i.e., residences) are located more than 600 feet from the potential odor-causing activities occurring at the Quemetco facility. In addition, a warehouse/industrial building (not owned or operated by Quemetco), as well as train tracks and a major roadway are located between the Quemetco facility and the sensitive receptors, thus providing the sensitive receptors substantial buffers from odors that may be occurring at the Quemetco facility. Moreover, the proposed Project will be required to comply with all relevant SCAQMD rules and regulations, including Rule 402 - Nuisance, which will ensure that odors are not emitted that would cause an adverse impact.

Quemetco conducts 24-hour surveillance of the facility and has operators who are specifically trained to identify and report odors so that an odor source can be promptly remedied. These efforts help to minimize the frequency and magnitude of odor events. Further, increases in odors from the increased operations will be controlled by the existing air pollution control equipment currently in use to control Quemetco's existing odors. For these reasons, implementing the proposed Project is not expected to create significant adverse objectionable odors. Therefore, since no significant odor impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are required. Potential odor impacts from the proposed Project will not be further analyzed in the EIR.

III. g) and h) Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed Project will: 1) increase the rotary feed drying furnace feed rate limit from 600 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

⁵ SCAQMD, Rule 431.2 – Sulfur Content of Liquid Fuels, September 15, 2000.
<http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/rule-book/rule-iv/rule-431-2.pdf>

⁶ CARB, Multi-Regulation Summary (MRS) Requirements for Diesel Truck and Equipment Owners,
<https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/documents/multirule.pdf>

in the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace from 600,000 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 the 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. All of the operational changes will increase the frequency of feedstock, additives, finished product, and solid wastes transported to and from the facility. Thus, the proposed Project will increase the amount of fuels combusted (e.g., natural gas, diesel fuel, and gasoline) that will generate GHGs. Consequently, the overall effects of these construction and operational activities have the potential to exceed the GHG emissions significance threshold in Table 2-1 and these effects will be evaluated in the EIR. The Quemetco facility is subject to federal and state GHG emission regulations (e.g., Assembly Bill 32). Potentially significant adverse impacts relating to GHG emissions, compliance with GHG plans and GHG reduction regulations will be evaluated in the EIR.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, no significant adverse impacts from the proposed Project relative to the 2016 AQMP as discussed in III.a) and odors as discussed in III.e) would be expected. Since no potentially significant adverse impacts relative to the 2016 AQMP and odors were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of impacts relative to the 2016 AQMP and odors will be required in the EIR.

For the remaining questions (e.g., III.b), III.c), III.d), III.f), III.g) and III.h)), Project-specific and cumulative adverse air quality impacts associated with increased emissions of air contaminants (criteria air pollutants, greenhouse gases, and toxic air contaminants) during construction and operation activities associated with implementing the proposed Project will be evaluated in the EIR. For any areas in the EIR that are concluded to have potentially significant adverse impacts, feasible mitigation measures and an alternatives analysis would be required. Impacts to sensitive receptors will also be analyzed in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES.				
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by §404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflicting with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Impacts on biological resources will be considered significant if any of the following criteria apply:

- The project results in a loss of plant communities or animal habitat considered to be rare, threatened or endangered by federal, state or local agencies.
- The project interferes substantially with the movement of any resident or migratory wildlife species.
- The project adversely affects aquatic communities through construction or operation of the project.

Discussion

IV. a), b), c), d), e) and f) No Impact. The proposed Project would occur at the existing Quemetco facility which is located in an industrial area, entirely within the boundaries of an existing industrial facility. The facility has been fully developed and is essentially void of vegetation except for landscaping at the fence line along S. 7th Avenue and in the parking lot. The facility controls the growth of vegetation at the site for fire prevention purposes. All native habitats have been removed from the site since the site was originally developed in 1959. There is a concrete drainage channel (San Jose Creek) to the north that is surrounded by industrial operations throughout the City of Industry. There are no native plants or protected habitats in the drainage channel.

The proposed Project does not include or require the acquisition of additional land for use by the facility. Because the proposed Project has no flora or fauna or sensitive habitats on or adjacent to the facility, there would be no direct or indirect biological impacts on any sensitive biological species, riparian habitat, or other sensitive natural habitat. The proposed Project would not result in the addition or the elimination of water ponds that could be used by animals or migratory fowl. Further, the proposed Project would not adversely affect federally protected wetlands as defined in §404 of the Clean Water Act as there are none on or adjacent to the facility. Because the proposed Project site is completely developed and managed as an industrial operation, there are no rare, endangered, or threatened species on the proposed Project site. There are no significant plant or animal resources, locally designated species, natural communities, wetland habitats, or animal migration corridors that would be adversely affected by the proposed Project. The proposed Project would not impact any local policies or ordinances that protect biological resources or conflict with the provisions of a Habitat Conservation Plan or other similar plan. Because the area in and near the proposed Project is devoid of native habitat, impacts to other, non-listed species are not expected; therefore, no impacts on biological resources are expected from the proposed Project. Finally, because the proposed Project does not include any additional physical ground disturbance (e.g., no excavation, grading or paving), the proposed Project does not have the potential to impact biological resources.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, no significant adverse impacts from the proposed Project to biological resources are expected. Since no potentially significant adverse biological resources impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of biological resources will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES.				
Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource, site, or feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code §21074?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Impacts to cultural resources will be considered significant if:

- The project results in the disturbance of a significant prehistoric or historic archaeological site or a property of historic, cultural significance, or tribal cultural significance to a community or ethnic or social group or a California Native American tribe.
- Unique paleontological resources or objects with cultural value to a California Native American tribe are present that could be disturbed by construction of the proposed project.
- The project would disturb human remains.

Discussion

V. a), b) and c) No Impact. CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 states that resources listed in the California Register of Historical Resources or in a local register of historical resources are considered “historical resources.” Additionally, CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a)(3) states that “generally, a resource shall be considered by the lead agency to be ‘historically significant’ if the resource meets the criteria for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources including the following:

- Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic values;
- Has yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

The proposed Project is located at the Quemetco facility which is an existing industrial facility in an industrial zone and has been previously graded and paved. The proposed Project would be located within the confines of the existing facility and would not involve any ground disturbances within Quemetco's property or in the surrounding area.

No cultural resources have been found during past construction projects. There are no buildings listed as a historic resource within the proposed Project area. The entire proposed Project site has been previously graded and developed. The entire site is already paved and this project would not involve any excavation or soil exposure. There are no known prehistoric or historic structures or objects within the facility or adjacent areas.

Previous construction activities at the proposed Project site have not uncovered any archaeological or paleontological resources. Further, any archaeological or paleontological resources that may have been present prior to development of the facility are not expected to be found at the site since no ground disturbing activities will occur at the Quemetco facility. Therefore, any unique paleontological resources that may exist on the facility property are not expected to be disturbed.

There are no existing structures at the facility which are considered architecturally or historically significant by the County of Los Angeles, the City of Industry or any other group. Also, because there would be no ground disturbing activities, no buildings or structures will be physically altered, the proposed Project would not cause an adverse change in the significance of a resource listed in the California Register of Historical Resources or in a local register of historical resources; cause substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5; or directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource, site, or feature.

For these reasons, the proposed Project does not have the potential to impact cultural resources.

V. d) No Impact. No known human remains, burial sites, or formal cemeteries have been identified at the proposed Project site during previous construction activities. Further, since there would be no ground disturbing activities as part of the proposed Project, the proposed Project is not expected to disturb any soils that would affect or disturb human remains, if any, including those interred outside formal cemeteries.

V. e) No Impact. The proposed Project is not expected to require physical changes, feature, place, cultural landscape, sacred place or object with cultural value to a California Native American Tribe. Furthermore, the proposed Project is not expected to result in a physical change to a resource determined to be eligible for inclusion or listed in the California Register of Historical Resources or included in a local register of historical resources. For these reasons, the proposed

Project is not expected to cause a significant adverse change in to any tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resources Code §21074.

As part of releasing this CEQA document for public review and comment, the SCAQMD also provided a formal notice of the proposed Project to all California Native American Tribes (Tribes) that requested to be on the Native American Heritage Commission's (NAHC) notification list per Public Resources Code §21080.3.1(b)(1). In addition, Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1(d) provides a 30-day period during which a Tribe may respond to the formal notice, in writing, requesting consultation on the proposed Project.

In the event that a Tribe submits a written request for consultation during this 30-day period, the SCAQMD will initiate a consultation with the Tribe within 30 days of receiving the request in accordance with Public Resources Code §21080.3.1(b). Consultation ends when either: 1) both parties agree to measures to avoid or mitigate a significant effect on a Tribal Cultural Resource and agreed upon mitigation measures shall be recommended for inclusion in the environmental document [see Public Resources Code §21082.3(a)]; or, 2) either party, acting in good faith and after reasonable effort, concludes that mutual agreement cannot be reached [see Public Resources Code §21080.3.2(b)(1)-(2) and §21080.3.1(b)(1)].

Conclusion

Based upon these considerations, no significant adverse impacts to cultural resources would be expected. Since no potentially significant adverse cultural resources impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of the environmental topic area will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VI. ENERGY.				
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with adopted energy conservation plans?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the need for new or substantially altered power or natural gas utility systems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Create any significant effects on local or regional energy supplies and on requirements for additional energy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create any significant effects on peak and base period demands for electricity and other forms of energy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with existing energy standards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Impacts to energy resources will be considered significant if any of the following criteria are met:

- The project conflicts with adopted energy conservation plans or standards.
- The project results in substantial depletion of existing energy resource supplies.
- An increase in demand for utilities impacts the current capacities of the electric and natural gas utilities.
- The project uses non-renewable resources in a wasteful and/or inefficient manner.

Discussion

VI. a) and e) Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project includes an increase in operation levels which would lead to increased consumption of natural gas, oxygen and electricity in the existing furnaces and air pollution control systems, diesel for additional trucks, forklifts, cranes and railcars and gasoline for additional worker commutes. Because the compliance stop period currently occurs in the morning periods before noon, Quemetco anticipates that the effect of no longer having a compliance stop period if the proposed Project is implemented would generate additional demand of natural gas, oxygen and electricity during morning periods before noon. With the implementation of the proposed Project, Quemetco will continue its standard practice of optimizing the operation of its furnaces and air pollution control systems so that natural gas, oxygen, and electricity are consumed in the most efficient manner possible. Further, implementing the proposed Project will take full advantage of the furnaces by eliminating the compliance stop period and idle time and thereby eliminate the natural gas consumed solely to keep the reverberatory furnace in idle mode until production can resume.

In addition, Quemetco has an energy management plan in place as a part of the “Energy Management System” required for ISO 50001 certification. ISO 50001 is a voluntary International Standard developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) to provide organizations an internationally recognized framework to manage and improve their energy performance. The certification must be reissued once every three years after the completion of a third-party audit process.

The standard addresses the following:

- Energy use and consumption
- Measurement, documentation, and reporting of energy use and consumption
- Design and procurement practices for energy-using equipment, systems, and processes
- Development of an energy management plan and other factors affecting energy performance that can be monitored and influenced by the organization.

ISO 50001 certification provides a framework through which each organization can set and pursue its own goals for improving energy performance. An energy management system is a series of processes that enables people of varied responsibilities across an organization to use data and information to maintain and improve energy performance, while improving operational efficiencies, decreasing energy intensity, and reducing environmental impacts. For these reasons, implementation of the proposed Project is not expected to conflict with energy conservation plans or existing energy standards, or use non-renewable resources in a wasteful manner.

VI. b) & c) Less Than Significant Impact.

Natural Gas

Natural gas and oxygen are currently utilized to operate the feed system, rotary feed drying furnace, reverberatory furnace, refinery kettles and RTO. Southern California Gas Company provides natural gas and Quemetco creates its own oxygen on-site while Noble America provides back up supplies of oxygen to the Quemetco facility, as needed. As previously explained in Section 1.4 - Project Background, Quemetco’s air pollution control systems and other operations, including the battery wrecker and the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace, continue to operate even when the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace are in idle mode. During the current daily compliance stop period, the rotary feed drying furnace burner is turned off so no natural gas is burned during this time. However, the reverberatory furnace burner continues to operate during daily compliance stop period in “idle mode” which means that natural gas and oxygen are consumed, albeit at a reduced rate when compared to normal operations, in order to maintain the minimum temperature necessary for the lead in the furnace to remain in a molten state. Other activities that require natural gas to operate (e.g., up to seven refinery kettles and the RTO) will continue to burn natural gas throughout the daily compliance stop period. The proposed Project would eliminate the compliance stop period such that the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace will increase operations by approximately one to six hours per day, to effectively allow operations up to 24 hours per day. This means that additional natural gas and oxygen will be burned in these two units to meet the increased operations.

As previously described in Section 1.6 – Project Description, Year 2014 was chosen for the

baseline year for natural gas consumption. The baseline natural gas usage and the projected natural gas usage was provided by Quemetco and is presented in Table 2-2. On a worst-case basis, the additional natural gas consumption that may occur as a result of the proposed Project is projected to be approximately 852,073 hundred cubic feet (ccf) per year. The California Energy Commission projects that the natural gas consumption for Southern California Gas in 2020 will be 7,388 million (MM) therms for all sectors and 3,782 MM therms for the industrial sector. The proposed Project increase would be 0.0118% of all sectors and 0.023% of the industrial sector. As indicated in Table 2-2, the anticipated increase in natural gas usage from implementing the proposed Project does not exceed the SCAQMD's CEQA significance threshold for energy.

The Southern California Gas Company has indicated that they can and will serve the expanded demand for natural gas if the proposed Project is implemented and that the existing natural gas delivery system has sufficient capacity to handle the projected increase (Yee and Warwick personal communication⁷). For this reason, the proposed Project does not require the installation of additional natural gas infrastructure or the modification of existing natural gas infrastructure that currently serves the Quemetco facility. Additionally, Quemetco's existing oxygen generation facility and on-site distribution system can handle the additional demand that may result from implementing the proposed Project. For this reason, the installation of a new or an alteration to Quemetco's existing oxygen generation facility or on-site distribution system is not expected.

Table 2-2
Existing and Proposed Project Natural Gas Usage

	Total Natural Gas Usage	
	(ccf / year)	(therms/year)
2014 Baseline Conditions (pre-Project) ^a	2,750,988	2,806,018
Proposed Project (post-Project) ^a	3,603,061	3,675,123
Post-Project Increment (net change between 2014 baseline and proposed Project)	852,073	869,105
Total Southern California Gas Industrial Demand 2020^b	3,707,843,000	3,782,000,000
Percent of Southern California Gas Industrial Demand 2020	0.023%	0.023%
Significant?^c	NO	NO

Notes: One therm is approximately the energy equivalent of burning one hundred cubic feet (ccf) of natural gas.

^a Source: Quemetco 2015

^b Source: California Energy Commission 2015

^c SCAQMD's energy threshold for natural gas used is 1 percent of fuel supply.

Electricity

Electricity is required to operate the battery wrecker, electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace, WESP, RTO, HEPA ventilation systems, oxygen generation, LoTox system and basic system operations. The Southern California Edison Company provides electricity to the Quemetco

⁷ Yee, Michael and Joshua Warwick. 2015 and 2016. Senior Account Representative. Southern California Gas (SCG). Telephone conversations and email verification with Valerie Rosenkrantz of Trinity Consultants, Inc. on March 23, 2015 and May 23, 2016 confirming that SCG can and will serve the increased gas demand as part of the Capacity Upgrade Project.

facility. As described in the Section 1.4 - Project Background, these systems, including the battery wrecker and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace, continue to operate even when the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace are in idle mode.

The proposed Project would consume additional electricity to allow for processing the additional feedstock of 150 tons per day due to: 1) additional batteries that will be processed in the battery wrecker; 2) increased use of the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace; 3) additional refinery processing; 4) additional water consumption and wastewater treatment; and 5) increased generation of oxygen. The following existing operations are not affected by the amount of feed stock processed because they currently operate during the idle period and as such, will not cause more electricity to be consumed if the feed stock throughput is increased as part of the proposed Project: 1) all of the baghouses and scrubber blowers; 2) the WESP; and 3) facility support functions including break areas, locker rooms, administrative functions, shipping and receiving, and maintenance operations. The rotary feed drying furnace feed limit restriction does not directly impede the facility's existing electricity-based operations, including the electric resistance heated slag reduction furnaces, the air pollution control systems, the battery wrecker or the water treatment operations; all of these processes continue to operate during the daily compliance stop period.

The proposed Project electricity consumption for the Year 2014 (baseline) and proposed Project conditions is presented in the Table 2-3. On a worst-case basis, the additional electricity consumption that may occur as a result of the proposed Project is projected to be approximately 13,097,713 kilowatt hours (kWh) per year and 1.5 megawatts (MW) of instantaneous electricity demand on a daily basis. The California Energy Commission projects the electricity consumption for Southern California Gas in 2020 is 136,079 million kWh for all sectors and 38,825 million kWh for the industrial sector. The proposed Project increase would be 0.0096% of all sectors and 0.034% of the industrial sector. As shown in Table 2-3, the anticipated increase in electricity usage from implementing the proposed Project does not exceed the SCAQMD's CEQA significance threshold for energy.

Southern California Edison Company has indicated that they can and will serve the expanded demand for electricity as part of the proposed Project; there would be no secondary construction-related impacts to this service increase (Zavala personal communication⁸). For this reason, the proposed Project does not require the Southern California Edison Company to install an additional electricity infrastructure or to modify the existing electrical infrastructure that currently serves the Quemetco facility.

⁸ Zavala, Joe. 2015. Service Planner. Southern California Edison. Telephone conversation with Valerie Rosenkrantz of Trinity Consultants, Inc. on March 10, 2015 confirming that Southern California Edison can and will serve the expanded electricity demand as part of the Capacity Upgrade Project.

**Table 2-3
Existing and Project Annual Electricity Usage**

	Total Electricity Usage (kWh / year)	Instantaneous Electricity Demand^b (MW)
2014 Baseline Conditions (pre-Project)	38,912,004	4.44
Proposed Project (post-Project)	52,009,717	5.94
Post-Project Increment (net change between 2014 Baseline and proposed Project)	13,097,713	1.5
Total Electricity Demand from Industrial Section 2020	38,825,000,000	4,432.08
Percent Total Industrial Demand 2020	0.034%	0.034%
Significant?^a	NO	NO

Source: Quemetco 2015, Trinity Consultants 2015 and California Energy Commission 2014.

^a SCAQMD's energy threshold for natural gas used is 1 percent of fuel supply.

^b Daily instantaneous electricity demand derived by dividing annual kWh usage by 365 to establish a daily usage, then 24 to establish hourly, then 1000 to convert kWh to MW.

Diesel and Gasoline

Diesel is required for internal facility off-road diesel equipment such as cranes, loaders and forklifts, the delivery of feed stock and additives, distribution of finished goods and disposal of solid wastes. Gasoline is used in passenger vehicles driven by employees and contractors who commute to and from the Quemetco facility. The proposed Project would generate up to six permanent additional employees (and 12 additional commuter one-way trips) and up to 15 additional diesel truck deliveries (30 one-way trips) per day for the delivery of feed stock and additives, distribution of finished goods and disposal of solid wastes.

Table 2-4 presents an estimate of the additional gasoline and diesel consumption from the proposed Project. These estimates are based 14.7 average miles per trip and 15 miles per gallon for gasoline commuter vehicles and 16.6 average miles per trip and 5 miles per gallon for diesel heavy-duty trucks.

On a worst-case basis, the additional gasoline and diesel consumption that may occur as a result of the proposed Project is projected to be approximately 4,292 gallons per year of gasoline and 36,354 gallons per year of diesel. The California Energy Commission reports California Retail Fuel Outlet for fuel sales by county; the most recent year available is 2016. In Los Angeles County in 2016, the gasoline usage was 3,577 million gallons and the diesel usage was 302 million gallons. The proposed Project increase would be 0.00012% of 2016 gasoline usage for Los Angeles County and 0.012% of 2016 diesel usage for Los Angeles County. As indicated in Table 2-4, the anticipated increase in gasoline and diesel usage from implementing the proposed Project does not exceed the SCAQMD's CEQA significance threshold for energy.

**Table 2-4
Projected Additional Gasoline and Diesel Usage**

	Projected Fuel Usage (gallons/year)
Additional Gasoline (gallons)	4,292
Additional Diesel (gallons)	36,354
2016 Los Angeles County Gasoline Consumption	3,577,000,000
2016 Los Angeles County Diesel Consumption	302,000,000
Percent Gasoline Consumption	0.0012%
Percent Diesel Consumption	0.012%
Significant?^a	NO

Notes: Based on 2016 reports of annual sales of gasoline and diesel fuels from California Energy Commission California Retail Fuel Outlet Annual Reporting (CEC-A15) Results, website accessed on April 16, 2018 at:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/almanac/transportation_data/gasoline/piira_retail_survey.html

^a SCAQMD's energy threshold for diesel and gasoline fuel use is 1 percent of fuel supply.

Given that the increases in natural gas, electricity, gasoline and diesel consumption would all be less than the SCAQMD's energy threshold of one percent, Quemetco's energy consumption impacts would therefore be less than significant.

VI. d) Potentially Significant. The proposed Project will increase the amount of electricity, natural gas, diesel and gasoline consumed. As previously explained in Section VI. b) and c), the projected increases in diesel and gasoline use would be substantially less than the SCAQMD's threshold of significance for energy demand (e.g., one percent of the area sales of these fuels) for both construction and operations phases. Additionally, the time of day when the additional usage of diesel and gasoline would be needed would be distributed throughout the day such that no significant effects on peak and base period demands would be expected. . For this reason, the projected usage of diesel and gasoline fuels would have a less than significant impact on the peak and base period energy demands for these fuel types.

Also as discussed in Section VI. b) and c), the projected increases in natural gas consumption would be substantially less than the SCAQMD's threshold of significance for energy demand (e.g., one percent of the regional demand for 2020). Additionally, the time of day when the additional usage of natural gas would be needed is not expected to affect the ability of the Southern California Gas Company to provide natural gas services to the facility because the pipeline has sufficient capacity to handle the projected increased demand throughout the day such that no significant effects on peak and base period demands would be expected. For this reason, the projected increased demand for natural gas would have a less than significant impact on the peak and base period energy demand for natural gas.

In particular to electricity, however, Quemetco anticipates that the additional demand of electricity will occur during morning periods (during the existing compliance stop period). Because mornings are potentially the time of day when peak load periods occur for electricity service providers, the proposed Project would therefore have a potentially significant impact on peak and

base period demands on electricity loads. Therefore, peak and base period demands on electricity loads will be evaluated in the EIR.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, less than significant impacts from the proposed Project would be expected to occur relative to energy resources (e.g., natural gas, electricity, gasoline and diesel fuels) for the following checklist questions: VI.a) adopted energy conservation plans; VI.b) need for new or modified utility systems; VI.c) energy supplies; and VI.e) energy standards. Since no significant adverse energy resource impacts were identified for these questions, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation will be required in the EIR relative to checklist questions VI.a), VI.b), VI.c) and VI.e).

In addition, for checklist question VI.d), less than significant impacts would also be expected to occur relative to peak and base period demands for diesel, gasoline and natural gas. Since no significant adverse energy resource impacts were identified for peak and base period demands for diesel, gasoline and natural gas use, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of peak and base period demands diesel, gasoline and natural gas use will be required in the EIR.

However, for checklist question VI.d), potentially significant adverse impacts would be expected to occur relative to peak and base period demands on electricity loads. Project-specific and cumulative energy impacts relative to peak and base period demands on electricity loads will be evaluated in the EIR. If the EIR concludes that potentially significant adverse impacts to peak and base period demands on electricity loads will occur, mitigation measures and an alternatives analysis would also be required.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS.				
Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
• Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Impacts on the geological environment will be considered significant if any of the following criteria apply:

- Topographic alterations would result in significant changes, disruptions, displacement, excavation, compaction or over covering of large amounts of soil.

- Unique geological resources (paleontological resources or unique outcrops) are present that could be disturbed by the construction of the proposed project.
- Exposure of people or structures to major geologic hazards such as earthquake surface rupture, ground shaking, liquefaction or landslides.
- Secondary seismic effects could occur which could damage facility structures, e.g., liquefaction.
- Other geological hazards exist which could adversely affect the facility, e.g., landslides, mudslides.

Discussion

Activities that may occur during Project implementation would be similar to, if not identical, with the current uses and ongoing activities at the Quemetco facility. The proposed Project is located in the Los Angeles Area, an area of known seismic activity (seismic Zone 4). The most significant potential geologic hazard at the proposed Project site is estimated to be seismic shaking from future earthquakes generated by active or potentially active faults in the region. Quemetco is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone (USGS 2014). However, there are several active faults and fault systems within 60 miles of the City of Industry including the Walnut Creek fault; it is only known as a subsurface water barrier (California Department of Conservation 1998). Most of the materials used at the facility are stored within buildings or in secure containment structures and these practices are not expected to change after the proposed Project is implemented. The existing materials storage warehouse would accommodate any potential increase in storage volume. Further, Quemetco is required to comply with all rules and regulations applying to hazardous materials management and emergency preparedness and response and these practices are not expected to change after the proposed Project is implemented. For these reasons, any existing risks of an earthquake-related chemical release are small and these risks are expected to remain unchanged after the proposed Project.

VII. a) No Impact. Quemetco is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone (USGS 2014). Also the existing facility was previously designed to comply with Los Angeles County Building Code (which represents the California Uniform Building Code) requirements for geologic hazards for the Los Angeles area. The Quemetco facility, as an industrial lead recycling facility, is subject to numerous regulations that would control the escape of hazardous substances in the event of a seismic event. For instance, as required by CCR Title 8 Section 3220. Quemetco has developed an Emergency Response Plan outlining procedures in the event of an emergency. Additionally, all existing staff have completed and all new staff will be required to complete the 24-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard training and the annual 8-hour review.

The Project site is also located a substantial distance (approximately 600 feet) from the nearest residences, and separated from those residences by an existing industrial building and train tracks. This distance would further mitigate any impacts associated with a seismic event. For these reasons, the proposed Project would not be expected to expose people or structures to any new substantial adverse effects, including impacts resulting in the risk of loss, injury, or death involving the rupture of an earthquake fault, seismic ground-shaking, or seismic-related ground failure including liquefaction.

VII. b) and c) No Impact. As described previously in Section 1.6 - Project Description, the proposed Project is anticipated to require no physical modifications that would result in construction at the facility. For these reasons, the proposed Project would have no impacts on soil erosion or topsoil loss.

VII. d) No Impact. The existing Quemetco facility was previously designed to comply with Los Angeles County Building Code requirements for geologic hazards for the Los Angeles area. Activities that may occur during Project implementation would be similar to, if not identical, with the current uses and ongoing activities at the Quemetco facility. The Quemetco facility (and much of the City of Industry) is located on soil known as Quaternary Deposit (see Figure 5.5-2, City of Industry General Plan Draft EIR (Industry, City of, 2014b)). The Quemetco facility is sitting on a mix of sandy clays, silty clays, gravelly clays, clays, silts, gravelly sands, and sands. Clays tend to adsorb water and expand and are considered expansive soils.

Because the site has been graded, filled, compacted, and paved, and there is no ground disturbance proposed, there are low risks related to unstable soils. For these reasons, the proposed Project would not be expected to create substantial risks to life or property and thus, would have no impact on landslides, lateral spreading, subsistence, collapse or expansive soils.

VII. e) No Impact. As described previously in Section 1.6 - Project Description, the proposed Project is anticipated to require no physical modifications that would result in construction at the facility that would cause ground disturbance. Also, as described in Section 1.4.5, the facility is already connected to a sewer and operates its own wastewater treatment system. While the proposed Project would require the use of additional water that would generate additional wastewater as analyzed in Section IX – Hydrology and Water Quality, the proposed Project would not require the use of new septic tanks or alternative wastewater systems. Therefore, implementation of the proposed Project will have no impact relative to the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater systems that would release directly to soils.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, no significant adverse impacts from the proposed Project to geology and soils are expected. Since no potentially significant adverse geology and soils impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are required. Thus, no further evaluation will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.				
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, and disposal of hazardous materials?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions, or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 and, as a result, would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public use airport or a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Significantly increased fire hazard in areas with flammable materials?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Impacts associated with hazards will be considered significant if any of the following occur:

- Non-compliance with any applicable design code or regulation.
- Non-conformance to National Fire Protection Association standards.
- Non-conformance to regulations or generally accepted industry practices related to operating policy and procedures concerning the design, construction, security, leak detection, spill containment or fire protection.
- Exposure to hazardous chemicals in concentrations equal to or greater than the Emergency Response Planning Guideline (ERPG) 2 levels.

Discussion

Quemetco is a Large Quantity Waste Generator permitted through the U.S. EPA and DTSC, as described in Section 1.7 - Related Permits and Approvals. Quemetco is also permitted through the LACFD to store hazardous materials and hazardous waste. The LACFD permit does not limit the quantity of hazardous materials or hazardous waste stored on-site. Quemetco submits updated inventory information to the Los Angeles County Fire Department annually or when there is a significant change in the inventory.

VIII. a), b) and d) Potentially Significant Impact.

As described previously in Section 1.6 - Project Description, the proposed Project is anticipated to require no physical modifications that would result in construction at the facility. Thus there would be no materials for solid or hazards waste disposal generated. For these reasons, Quemetco anticipates that there would be no significant hazards or hazardous materials during construction activities.

During operation, the proposed Project would increase the amount of (e.g., total volume) hazardous materials currently received and hazardous wastes landfilled (Table 1-1). The proposed Project would not receive any new types of hazardous materials or generate any new types of hazardous waste streams; it would only increase the amounts of the existing materials already handled as summarized in Table 2-5.

**Table 2-5
Summary of Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Waste**

	2014 Baseline Conditions (pre-Project)	Proposed Project (post-Project)	Post-Project Increment
Feed Stock Process Limits in Permits (tons/day)	600	750	150
CEQA Evaluation Scenario of Feed Stock Process Limits (tons/day)	510	750	240
Feed Stock Process Limits (tons/month)	15,340	21,099	5,759
Additives (tons/month):			
1) Smelting Reagents/Total Coke Material Processed in Rotary feed drying furnace & Reverberatory Furnace	224	338	114
a. Calcined Coke	224	0	-224
b. Petroleum Coke	*	338	338
2) Limestone	73	116	43
3) Cobbled Steel	286	401	114
4) Other additives**	156	159	3
Soda Ash (tons/month)	1,771	2,654	883
Solid Wastes (tons/year):			
Metals (recycled)	1,613	1,892	252
Plastics (recycled)	6,340	9,440	3,100
Slag (landfilled)	11,232	15,346	4,114

Source: Quemetco, Inc. 2015-2016

Notes:

* Petroleum coke usage during the 2016 Research Permit Test Program was 115,720 pounds or approximately 58 tons.

** The amount and type of other additives that may be used are determined by the customer and can consist of arsenic, caustic soda beads, cobalt, metallic sodium, pyrite, red phosphorus, silver, sodium nitrate, sulfur and tin.

The data in Table 2-5 summarizes the maximum increase in hazardous materials used and solid wastes (including hazardous) generated based on the permitted capacity increase from 600 to 750 tons per day in allowed feed stock processing. There would be an increase of approximately 5,760 tons per month in raw material scrap generated. There would be an increase in the amounts of additives used by 114 tons/month of smelting reagent, 43 tons/month of limestone, 114 tons/month of cobbled steel and three tons/month of other additives. There would be an increase in metals and plastics recycled in the amounts of 252 tons/year and 3,100 tons/year, respectively. Landfilled slag would increase by up to 4,114 tons/year; each slag batch is tested and sent to either a RCRA or a non-RCRA landfill, based on the contents of each load.

Public Resources Code §21092.6 requires the lead agency to consult the lists compiled pursuant to Government Code §65962.5, managed by DTSC, to determine whether the proposed Project and any alternatives (to be analyzed in the Draft EIR) are located on a site which is included on such list. The proposed Project is a site listed pursuant to Government Code §65962.5 as a hazardous waste facility subject to corrective action and is under DTSC management with respect to its Hazardous Waste Facility Operations and Post-Closure Permit. DTSC is a responsible agency for the proposed Project; any updates to Quemetco's Post-Closure Permit would only be related to the volume of materials being processed at the facility; no new hazardous materials would be introduced to facility operations.

Increases in potential hazards associated with the implementation of the proposed Project could potentially alter the probability for upset and accident conditions that could cause a release of hazardous materials into the environment. The potential effects of the management and an accidental release of the additional hazardous materials being stored, used, and transported (including raw material scrap, additives (smelting reagent, limestone, cobbled steel, other additives (including acids) and soda ash), recycled waste, landfilled waste, discharged waste and finished product) as part of implementing the proposed Project will be evaluated in the EIR.

VIII. c) No Impact. The proposed Project is not located within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school site. The nearest school is Palm Elementary School, more than 0.6 miles to the southwest. Appendix A provides a list and image of all the schools within a two-mile radius of the Quemetco facility. The proposed Project is not expected to impact school sites from handling hazardous materials or wastes. Because there are no schools located within a quarter mile, there would be no hazardous emissions impacts on schools nearest to the Quemetco facility.

VIII. e) No Impact. The nearest airport, El Monte, is approximately seven miles from the Quemetco facility. Because the proposed Project site is not located within an airport land use plan or within two miles of a public or private use airport, the proposed project will not have any impact on safety hazards for people residing or working within two miles of an airport.

VIII. f) Less Than Significant Impact. Quemetco is under DTSC management with respect to its Hazardous Waste Facility Operations and Post-Closure Permit, and maintains a Hazardous Materials Business Plan. As a permitted Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility, Quemetco has developed an Emergency Response Plan in full compliance with CCR Title 8 Section 3220. Additionally, all existing staff have completed and all new staff will be required to complete the 24-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard training and the annual 8-hour review. All existing and proposed activities will be subject to the facility's existing Emergency Response Plan, Hazardous Materials Business Plan and Hazardous Waste Facility Operation and Post-Closure Permit. Quemetco is currently handling petroleum coke for other processes, and therefore, the additional amounts of petroleum coke that will be delivered, stored and used at the facility as part of the proposed Project will not create new or additional environmental, fire hazards or emergency response conflicts with its use of petroleum coke. As Quemetco's capacity increase is not proposing to modify its facility operating procedure, it is anticipated that Quemetco will not be required to update its existing emergency response plans. For these reasons, the proposed Project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere

with emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans, and therefore would have a less than significant impact.

VIII. g) No Impact. As explained in Section IV – Biological Resources, the proposed Project would occur at the existing Quemetco facility which is located in an industrial area, entirely within the boundaries of an existing industrial facility. The facility has been fully developed and is essentially void of vegetation except for landscaping at the fence line along S. 7th Avenue and in the parking lot. The facility controls the growth of vegetation at the site for fire prevention purposes. All native habitats have been removed from the site since the site was originally developed in 1959. There is a concrete drainage channel (San Jose Creek) to the north that is surrounded by industrial operations throughout the City of Industry. There are no native plants or protected habitats in the drainage channel and there are no wildlands surrounding the facility. Finally, the facility is not located in an area where residences are intermixed with wildlands. For these reasons, the proposed Project would not increase the existing risk of fire hazards in areas with flammable brush, grass, or trees or expose people or structures to wildland fires. Therefore, the proposed Project would not impact people or structures due to fire hazards from wildland fires.

VIII. h) Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed Project would increase the amount of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes handled and stored at the Quemetco facility. The potential effects of fire hazards in areas with flammable materials that are currently or will be stored, used, and transported as part of implementing the proposed Project will be evaluated in the EIR.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, the increase in the amount of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes being transported, hazardous materials management pursuant to Government Code §65962.5, and the potential effects of fire hazards in areas with flammable materials being stored, used and transported as part of the proposed Project have been identified as having potentially significant impacts in checklist questions VIII.a), VIII.b), VIII.d), and VIII.h) and as such, will be evaluated in the EIR. For any of these areas that are concluded in the EIR to have potentially significant adverse impacts, then mitigation measures and alternatives will be required and analyzed in the EIR.

As indicated in the responses to checklist questions VIII.c), VIII.e), VIII.f) and VIII.g), the proposed Project will not create any significant adverse hazards and hazardous materials impacts to: 1) schools, residences, or daycares within one-quarter mile of the facility; 2) airport safety; 3) emergency response or emergency evacuation plans; or 4) wildlands. Since no potentially significant adverse hazards and hazardous materials impacts were identified for these checklist questions, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of these checklist questions will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.				
Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards, waste discharge requirements, exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board, or otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g. the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site or flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned storm water drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Place housing or other structures within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map, which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam, or inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or new storm water drainage facilities, or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Potential impacts on water resources will be considered significant if any of the following criteria apply:

Water Demand:

- The existing water supply does not have the capacity to meet the increased demands of the project, or the project would use more than 262,820 gallons per day of potable water.
- The project increases demand for total water by more than five million gallons per day.

Water Quality:

- The project will cause degradation or depletion of ground water resources substantially affecting current or future uses.
- The project will cause the degradation of surface water substantially affecting current or future uses.
- The project will result in a violation of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements.

- The capacities of existing or proposed wastewater treatment facilities and the sanitary sewer system are not sufficient to meet the needs of the project.
- The project results in substantial increases in the area of impervious surfaces, such that interference with groundwater recharge efforts occurs.
- The project results in alterations to the course or flow of floodwaters.

Discussion

Quemetco currently uses approximately 270,000 gallons per day (Year 2014) of reused water in the battery dismantler, reverberatory furnace, scrubber, oxygen generation and facility washdown (Table 2-6). Water is supplied to the facility by the San Gabriel Valley Water Company. Wastewater is collected and transferred to the on-site wastewater treatment unit, which adjusts pH levels and reduces suspended solids prior to either reusing or discharging. Wastewater entering the treatment unit is first adjusted for pH using different caustics and acids including acid removed from dismantled batteries. The wastewater is transferred to a series of clarifiers and pressure filters to settle out suspended solids. During the daily compliance stop period, most of the water-consuming activities at the facility continue. The air pollution control equipment that utilize water (e.g., the scrubbers and the WESP) are operated throughout the daily compliance stop period. Soda ash deliveries and use will continue; water additions to the main soda ash tank necessary to achieve target density will also continue. The battery wrecker scrubber continues to operate during the daily compliance stop period. All aspects of the water treatment continue to operate during the daily compliance stop period. Housekeeping activities including washdowns and wet scrubbing continue during the compliance stop period. All facility support areas including break areas, kitchen, locker rooms, administrative functions and maintenance continue through the compliance stop period.

Quemetco is permitted through its Industrial Waste Discharge Permit from the LACSD to discharge treated wastewater generated at the facility. The wastewater discharge is tested quarterly by a third party laboratory for metals. Quemetco submits quarterly reports to the LACSD.

Because of the proposed increase in the feed rate, there will be an increase in water demand (albeit not proportional to the feed rate increase). The projected increase in water demand is presented in Tables 1-1 and 2-6 which show an increase of approximately 100,000 gallons of water use.

Table 2-6 presents Year 2014 baseline and proposed Project water demand and wastewater flow. Increases in water use will be necessary for battery crushing and during the separation process as a result of the feed stock increase. Quemetco currently uses acid collected from the dismantled batteries to neutralize the process wastewater in the on-site wastewater treatment facility. However, the acid collected from the dismantled batteries does not always supply adequate volumes of acid necessary for the wastewater treatment and occasionally additional acid additives are required and purchased from a supplier. If the proposed Project is implemented, an increased amount of acid will also be collected from the additional feed stock processing and utilized in the existing water treatment process. The chemicals listed in Table 2-6 are currently within the permitted limits and the proposed Project will not cause an exceedance of these limits.

Quemetco contacted the San Gabriel Valley Water Company to inquire as to whether the proposed increase in water demand could be supplied. A representative from the San Gabriel Valley Water Company confirmed that an increase in water demand from Quemetco of up to 100,000 gallons

per day would provide no impact on the ability to serve water to Quemetco or its other customers because they have adequate water rights (Arrighi personal communication)⁹.

Table 2-6
Water Usage and Wastewater Effluent

Parameter	Permitted	2014 Baseline Conditions – Average (pre-Project)	Proposed Project - Maximum Conservative Estimate (post-Project)	Post-Project Increment
Water Demand, Average (GPD)	N/A	272,022	369,435	97,413
Wastewater Flow, Average (GPD)	N/A	193,019	275,329	82,310
pH	5	8.23	6.14 – 10.38	N/A
Suspended Solids (mg/L)	N/A	13.75	3.75 – 38.75	N/A
Cyanide (mg/L)	10	0.014	0.005 – 0.061	N/A
Soluble Sulfide (mg/L)	0.1	< 0.1	< 0.1	N/A
Arsenic, Total (mg/L)	3	0.044	0.028 – 0.062	N/A
Cadmium, Total (mg/L)	15	0.340	0.113 – 0.863	N/A
Chromium, Total (mg/L)	10	0.028	0.008 – 0.076	N/A
Copper, Total (mg/L)	15	0.052	0.002 – 0.119	N/A
Lead, Total (mg/L)	40	0.057	0.012 – 0.138	N/A
Nickel, Total (mg/L)	12	0.693	0.240 – 1.625	N/A
Zinc, Total (mg/L)	25	0.145	0.075 – 0.250	N/A
Antimony, Total (mg/L)	2.06	0.543	0.300 – 0.925	N/A

Source: Quemetco 2013

Quemetco currently operates under a NPDES Industrial Storm water permit. Storm water from process and service areas are contained within walled or bermed area. Storm water drains into a series of stainless steel sumps and is pumped to a storm water storage tank. The storm water is screened and pumped to a recycle tank that is used in the process instead of city water. Storm water in non-process areas enter storm water drains. No aspects of the proposed project would

⁹ Arrighi, Dan. 2015. Water Quality Manager, San Gabriel Valley Water Company. Telephone conversation with Valerie Rosenkrantz of Trinity Consultants, Inc. on January 20, 2015 and email confirmation on April 29, 2016 that San Gabriel Valley Water Company can serve increased water service. A copy of the email confirmation is included in Appendix B.

cause a change in the facility footprint or paved areas or disturb any storm water drains. For this reason, the proposed Project will not require a change to the existing storm water system.

IX. a) Potentially Significant. The facility pre-treats and neutralizes wastewater prior to discharge and has a history of meeting water quality standards with the RWCQB. However, LACSD has questioned whether the facility currently generates high sulfide levels in its wastewater discharge and whether increasing the water demand and in turn, increasing the amount of wastewater generated would cause substantial changes to water quality. For these reasons, the proposed Project would be expected to a potentially significant adverse impact on water quality standards and waste discharge requirements and these potential impacts will be evaluated in the EIR.

IX. b), c) and h) Less Than Significant Impact. As previously explained, water is provided by the San Gabriel Valley Water Company and a representative from the San Gabriel Valley Water Company confirmed that an increase in water demand from Quemetco of up to 100,000 gallons per day would provide no impact on the ability to serve water to Quemetco or its other customers because they have adequate water rights (Arrighi personal communication)¹⁰. The source of the water is from the main San Diego groundwater basin. Because the amount of water needed for the proposed project is less than the significance thresholds for potable water and total water, the increased need for water would have less than significant impacts on water demand. Further, because the San Gabriel Valley Water Company can supply the additional water needed to implement the proposed project, the proposed project would have less than significant impacts on water supply including groundwater. Finally, because the source of the additional water for the proposed Project will be from the main San Diego groundwater basin, no stream or river water will be utilized for the proposed project; thus, implementation of the proposed project would not alter the course of a stream or river. For these reasons, the proposed Project would have less than significant impacts on water demand, water supply, groundwater resources, and drainage and drainage patterns at Quemetco.

IX. d) Less Than Significant Impact. All on-site wash down water is currently treated at the on-site water treatment facility. As part of existing Rule 1420.1 housekeeping measures, the Quemetco facility is routinely washed down; the frequency is not tied to the furnace feed rate. No aspects of the proposed Project would cause a change in the facility footprint or paved areas, disturb any storm water drains, or change the frequency of facility washdown. For this reason, the proposed Project would not substantially affect how much water is used for washdown at the facility, will not require a change to the existing storm water system and will not increase the drainage runoff in the event of rain. The proposed Project would also not require the construction of any new storm drainage facilities and 4) For the aforementioned reasons, the proposed Project would be expected to have a less than significant impact on existing stormwater drainage systems and would not provide substantial additional sources of polluted water runoff. The proposed Project would therefore have a less than significant impact on drainage patterns at the Quemetco facility.

¹⁰ Arrighi, Dan. 2015. Water Quality Manager, San Gabriel Valley Water Company. Telephone conversation with Valerie Rosenkrantz of Trinity Consultants, Inc. on January 20, 2015 and email confirmation on April 29, 2016 that San Gabriel Valley Water Company can serve increased water service. A copy of the email confirmation is included in Appendix B.

IX. e) No Impact. The proposed Project does not require the construction of new housing and the Quemetco site is outside the 100- and 500-year floodplains and not within a flood hazards area on the City of Industry flood hazards map (City of Industry 2014b, Chapter 5.8 Hydrology and Water Quality). Thus, no new housing or new structures will be built within a 100-year flood hazard area. For this reason, the proposed Project would not be expected to impede or redirect flood flows or create a new flood hazard impact. Thus, no flood hazard impacts are expected to result from implementing the proposed Project.

IX. f) No Impact. The Quemetco site is located outside of the 100- and 500-year floodplains (City of Industry 2014b, Chapter 5.8 Hydrology and Water Quality). Quemetco is also located outside of the City of Industry's potential seiche zone from the Sante Fe and/or Whittier Narrows Dams. The City of Industry and Quemetco are located approximately 25 miles east of the Pacific Ocean so there would be negligible, if any, risks from being impacted by flood waters from a tsunami, if one occurs. While a heavy downpour could make the Puente Hills susceptible to mudflows, Quemetco is sufficient distance from the Puente Hills to avoid impacts from mudflows ((City of Industry 2014b, Chapter 5.8 Hydrology and Water Quality).

Because the proposed Project will occur at Quemetco and no physical modifications would be made that would alter the facility's proximity to the floodplains, dams, hilly areas susceptible to mudflows, and the ocean, the proposed Project will not expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam, or inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. Further, the proposed Project will not disturb so no modifications to any floodplains would be expected. For these reasons, no flooding or inundation impacts from natural disasters, such as flooding, seiche, tsunami, or mudflow, would be expected if the proposed Project is implemented.

IX. g), and i) Less Than Significant Impact. Quemetco is permitted through its Industrial Waste Discharge Permit from the LACSD to discharge treated wastewater generated at the facility. The wastewater discharge is currently tested by a third party laboratory on a quarterly basis to determine the metals content. Quemetco also submits quarterly reports to the LACSD and is currently in compliance with its LACSD permit. The proposed Project is expected to increase the amount of wastewater discharged because it is projected to use an additional 100,000 gallons in water to process additional feed stock in the battery breaker, sink-float tank, and plastics rinsing process.

The additional wastewater to be generated will be treated and recycled on-site at Quemetco's wastewater treatment facility and reused in air pollution control systems and internal facility washdown. As described in Section 1.4.5 – Water and Wastewater, water is used in the WESP and scrubbers; the water usage is not tied to the furnace feed rate. As discussed above in Section IX. D), facility wash down is required as part of existing Rule 1420.1 housekeeping measures; the frequency is not tied to the furnace feed rate and reused water is not used for any outdoor facility wash down activities. The on-site Quemetco wastewater treatment facility has the capacity to treat and reuse additional wastewater through its system. The additional wastewater generation would use additional additives and additional filter cakes, as described above in Section 1.6 - Project Description and Table 1-1; the use of these additives will neutralize the wastewater in accordance with LACSD permit requirements. The proposed Project will increase the amount of feed processed in one day without changing in the type of feedstock to be processed; as such, this increase in wastewater discharge volume through the existing facility wastewater treatment plant

capacity will be expected to comply with the existing LACSD permit. Also as explained in Section IX.d), the proposed Project would also not require the construction of any new storm drainage facilities. For these reasons, the proposed Project would therefore have a less than significant impact on wastewater treatment facilities.

Conclusion

Based upon these considerations, as indicated in the response to checklist question IX.a), the proposed Project's potential to increase the amount of wastewater generated could create substantial changes to water quality which could cause potentially significant adverse water quality impacts. Therefore, checklist question IX.a) will be evaluated in the EIR and If the analysis in the EIR concludes that potentially significant adverse wastewater generation impacts will occur, then mitigation measures and alternatives would be required.

For checklist questions IX.b) through IX.i), no significant adverse impacts to groundwater, drainage, storm water runoff, flood hazards, water or wastewater treatment capacity, or water supplies were identified; thus, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of these hydrology and water quality issues will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING.				
Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Land use and planning impacts will be considered significant if the project conflicts with the land use and zoning designations established by local jurisdictions.

Discussion

X. a) No Impact. Because the proposed Project would occur entirely within the boundaries of the existing Quemetco facility and, therefore, would not disrupt or divide an established community, it would therefore, have no land use impact on dividing an established community.

X. b) No Impact. The Quemetco facility is located within the City of Industry area within the Industrial land use area within an existing secondary lead smelter (City of Industry, 2014a). Activities under the proposed Project would be the same activities that are currently being conducted at Quemetco's facility, which do not conflict with the City of Industry's General Plan Land Use Map (2014a) nor trigger any land use permits or modifications.

Because no soil or ground disturbances will occur, the proposed Project would not require any change in zoning or land use; therefore, the proposed Project would not require a land use action such as building permit. The components of the proposed Project would similarly not result in any conflicts with the City of Industry's General Plan. Because the proposed Project at the Quemetco facility is not expected to conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy or regulation, there would be no land use impact.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, no significant adverse impacts from the proposed Project on land use and planning would be expected to occur. Since no potentially significant adverse land use and planning impacts were identified, no further evaluation will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI. MINERAL RESOURCES.				
Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Project-related impacts on mineral resources will be considered significant if any of the following conditions are met:

- The project would result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state.
- The proposed Project results in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan.

Discussion

XI. a) and b) No Impact. The Project proposes to increase the amount of feedstock processed and the use of petroleum coke, limestone, cobbled steel and other additives such as arsenic, caustic soda beads, cobalt, metallic sodium, pyrite, red phosphorus, silver, sodium nitrate, sulfur and tin at the Quemetco facility. However, none of these components are a known mineral resource that is of value to the region and the residents of the state such as aggregate, coal, clay, shale, et cetera, or of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan. Thus, there are no provisions in the proposed Project that would result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource.

Conclusion

Based upon these considerations, significant adverse mineral resource impacts are not expected from implementation of the proposed Project. Since no potentially significant adverse mineral resource impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of mineral resources will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XII. NOISE.				
Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of permanent noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public use airport or private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Noise impact will be considered significant if:

- Construction noise levels exceed the local noise ordinances or, if the noise threshold is currently exceeded, project noise sources increase ambient noise levels by more than three “a-weighted” decibels (dBA) at the site boundary. Construction noise levels will be considered significant if they exceed federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) noise standards for workers.
- The proposed Project operational noise levels exceed any of the local noise ordinances at the site boundary or, if the noise threshold is currently exceeded, project noise sources increase ambient noise levels by more than three dBA at the site boundary.

Discussion

Noise is generally defined as loud, unpleasant, unexpected, or undesired sound that is typically associated with human activity, and that interferes with or disrupts normal activities. Although exposure to high noise levels has been demonstrated to cause hearing loss, the principal human response to environmental noise exposure levels is annoyance. The responses of individuals to similar noise events are diverse and are influenced by many factors, including: the type of noise; the perceived importance of the noise; its appropriateness to the setting; the time of day and the

type of activity during which the noise occurs; and individual noise sensitivity. Sound is a physical phenomenon consisting of minute vibrations that travel through a medium, such as air, and are sensed by the human ear.

Sound is generally characterized by several variables, including frequency and amplitude. The standard unit of sound pressure measurement is the decibel (dB). Sound from a tuning fork contains a single frequency (a pure tone), but most sounds one hears in the environment do not consist of a single frequency but rather a broad band of many frequencies differing in sound level. Because of the broad range of audible frequencies, methods have been developed to quantify these values into a single number. Human hearing is less sensitive at low frequencies and extremely high frequencies than at the mid-range frequencies. This process of discriminating frequencies based upon human sensitivity is termed “A-weighting,” and the resulting dB level is termed the “A-weighted” decibel (dBA). A-weighted sound pressure levels of typical sources of noise are shown in Table 2-7.

Table 2-7
Sound Levels of Typical Noise Sources and Noise Environments

Noise Source (at a given distance)	Scale of dBA Sound Levels	Noise Environment	Human Judgment of Noise Loudness (Relative to a Reference Loudness of 70 dBs*)
Commercial Jet Take-Off (200 feet)	120	Airport runway	Threshold of pain *32 times as loud
Pile Driver (50 feet)	110	Rock Music Concert	*16 times as loud
Ambulance Siren (100 feet) Newspaper Press (5 feet) Power Lawn Mower (3 feet)	100	Outdoors	Very loud *8 times as loud
Motorcycle (25 feet) Propeller Plane Flyover (1,000 feet) Diesel Truck, 40 mph (50 feet)	90	Boiler Room Printing Press Plant	*4 times as loud
Garbage Disposal (3 feet)	80	High Urban Ambient Sound	*2 times as loud
Passenger Car, 65 mph (25 feet) Vacuum Cleaner (10 feet)	70	Various	Moderately loud *70 decibels (Reference loudness)
Normal Conversation (5 feet) Air Conditioning Unit (100 feet)	60	Data Processing Center Department Store	*1/2 as loud
Light Traffic (100 feet)	50	Private Business Office	*1/4 as loud
Bird Calls (distant)	40	Lower Limit of Urban Ambient Sound	Quiet *1/8 as loud

Noise Source (at a given distance)	Scale of dBA Sound Levels	Noise Environment	Human Judgment of Noise Loudness (Relative to a Reference Loudness of 70 dBS*)
Whisper (5 feet)	30	Quiet Bedroom	
Soft Whisper	20	Recording Studio	Quiet
Calm breathing	10	Quiet room	Very quiet
No sound	0	Quiet room	Threshold of hearing

Source: URS Corporation (2007).

Notes: dB = decibel, dBA = A-weighted decibel, mph = miles per hour

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 United States Code § 651 et seq.), the Department of Labor, OSHA has adopted regulations designed to protect workers against the effects of occupational noise exposure (29 Code of Federal Regulations § 1910.95). These regulations list permissible noise exposure levels as a function of the amount of time during which the worker is exposed. See Table 2-8 for the applicable OSHA worker noise exposure standards.

Table 2-8
OSHA Worker Noise Exposure Standards

Duration of Noise (hours per day)	A-Weighted Noise Level (dBA)
8.0	90
6.0	92
4.0	95
3.0	97
2.0	100
1.5	102
1.0	105
0.5	110
0.25	115

Source: 29 Code of Federal Regulations § 1910.95

Notes: dBA = A-weighted decibels

OSHA = Occupational Safety and Health Administration

California Government Code Section 65302(f) encourages each local governmental entity to perform noise studies and implement a noise element as part of its general plan. In addition, the California Office of Planning and Research has published guidelines for preparing noise elements, which include recommendations for evaluating the compatibility of various land uses as a function of community noise exposure. The State of California, Office of Noise Control, prepared the Model Community Noise Control Ordinance, which provides guidance for acceptable noise levels in the absence of local noise standards; this would be applicable for CEQA purposes to the proposed Project as the City of Industry's municipal code addresses noise nuisance, and relies on the State's noise guidelines. This model also defines a simple tone, or "pure tone," as one-third

octave band sound pressure levels that can be used to determine whether a noise source contains annoying tonal components. The Model Community Noise Control Ordinance further recommends that, when a pure tone is present, the applicable noise standard should be lowered (made more stringent) by 5 dBA. The California OSHA has promulgated occupational noise exposure regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 8, §§ 5095-5099) that set employee noise exposure limits. These standards are equivalent to federal OSHA standards (see Table 2-8).

The City of Industry is devoted to industrial and commercial uses that are less sensitive to noise than typical sensitive receptors: residential uses, schools, hospitals and senior centers. Certain land uses are particularly sensitive to noise and vibration, including residential, school, and open space/recreation areas where quiet environments are necessary for enjoyment, public health, and safety. Excessive noise levels are not only a potential annoyance but can constitute a health threat resulting in temporary or permanent hearing loss and mental distress. City of Industry Municipal Code regulates noise nuisances under Chapter 1.30, which addresses public nuisances; and under Chapter 17.12, which addresses noise from entertainment uses. Industrial and warehousing operations are major noise sources in the City of Industry. In addition to on-site mechanical equipment, which generates noise, warehousing and industrial land uses generate substantial truck traffic, which results in additional noise on local roadways in the vicinity of industrial operations. (City of Industry 2014a)

Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) is an average sound level over a 24-hour period between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., with weighted penalties (a 10 dB penalty applied to nighttime sounds occurring between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.). City of Industry General Plan Noise analysis (based on a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) noise prediction model) estimates noise levels in the proposed Project area at: 1) 74.7 dBA CNEL at S. 7th Avenue and south of Don Julian Road; and 2) 80 dBA CNEL immediately next to the State Route 60 (City of Industry 2014b). Based on this data, exterior noise levels at the existing Project vicinity fence line would be 75 dBA CNEL based on noise attenuation formulas and the project setback from the adjacent roads and existing facility operations; these ambient noise levels are typical in industrial areas near railroads.

The nearest “sensitive noise” receptors would be a residential community approximately 600 feet to the south from the southern facility fence line and 800 feet to the south of the WESP. Salt Lake Avenue and the Union Pacific Railroad Company separate the proposed Project from the nearest residences, with State Route 60 in close vicinity; these transportation corridors are the dominant source of off-site ambient background noise (City of Industry 2014b).

XII. a), b) and c) Less Than Significant Impact. The Project proposes to alter feed rate permit conditions without requiring ground disturbance or modifications to existing process equipment or air pollution control equipment. The increased feed rate would cause additional feed and additives to be received at the facility, the furnaces to operate more hours in a day and daily traffic to increase by up to 15 truck visits per day, six employee round trips per day and three additional railcars per month (Table 1-1).

The proposed Project would allow Quemetco to continue to operate its lead smelting furnaces/processes for up to 24-hours per day; this would extend daily operations by one to six hours over existing operations. As discussed previously, a number of noise-causing sources (e.g., bag houses, building ventilation units, the RTO, the LoTox and other scrubbers, the WESP, materials receiving, the battery dismantler, the refinery, etc.) currently operate 24-hours per day at the facility, regardless of whether the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace are operating. The compliance period is from noon to noon each day, and the reverberatory furnace

is generally idle during the morning hours between 6:00 a.m. and noon, and most frequently idle in the hours just before noon. Thus, any increase in facility operations that may occur from ceasing the idle period would be during the morning hours.

With the exception of additional truck, worker vehicle, and train traffic (see Table 1-1), the day-to-day operations of the proposed Project will occur within the existing boundaries of the Quemetco facility. The additional employee trips would occur at the beginning and end of each shift.

Additionally, all operations at the facility occur within existing enclosed buildings, and there are intervening structures and a railroad berm that serve as a noise buffer between the Quemetco facility and nearby residences. The existing building structure acts as a buffer to absorb the furnace noise from increased furnace activity. Air pollution control devices and other activities within the existing Quemetco operation further absorb increased noise levels from furnace operations into the exterior background noise. For these reasons, the noise from the additional furnace operations would not make a substantial addition to the existing noise levels at the Quemetco property line.

The Project would potentially increase the amount of feed stock processed by an additional 240 tons per day within the enclosed battery dismantler building. Similar to the furnace activity described above, the battery wrecker building structure would reduce exterior noise levels from increased battery dismantling activity. Similarly, the on-going operations of the existing air pollution control systems and facility operations generate more noise than the enclosed battery dismantler, which is only one component of the Quemetco facility. For these reasons, the additional feed stock processed in the battery wrecker building would not make a measurable addition to the existing noise levels at the Quemetco property line.

The existing exterior ambient noise environment is dominated by exterior (arterial and railroad) and on-site (air pollution control devices, vehicle movement of materials and worker vehicles at the start and end of shifts) activities. Further, off-site activities, local traffic, rail and freeway noise sources dominate the area noise characteristics outside the facility fence line. Any additional exterior noise sources from the proposed Project operations (additional truck deliveries, forklift movements and additional employee vehicle ingress and egress at shift change) could incrementally add to the existing exterior noise environment. As described above and in Table 1-1, the proposed Project would generate up to six employee roundtrips a day, 15 additional trucks a day and three additional railcars per month. The additional employee activity would occur at shift change. The 15 additional trucks would generate no more than one additional truck per hour. One truck per hour passing by at 15 to 25 miles per hour would generate a noise effect of less than 35 dBA averaged over an hour. The facility buildings as well as nearby industrial buildings and the railroad berm would act as barriers between the noise generated by this additional truck activity and the nearest residents (approximately 600 feet south of the facility fence line and on the opposite side of the railroad berm). The potential noise impact from a project is evaluated at the nearest sensitive receptor, which is over 600 feet to the south of the Quemetco facility boundary. Noise levels diminish over a distance from a noise source, and can be estimated using noise attenuation formulas. For example, 75 dB(A) reduces to 49.75 dB(A) over 600 feet with no intervening structures, 80 dB(A) attenuates to 54.75, 85 dB(A) attenuates to 59.75 dB(A), and 90 dB(A) attenuates to 64.75 without any intervening noise barriers. In the case of Quemetco, there are intervening structures and a railroad berm that serve as a noise buffer between the Quemetco facility and nearest residences 600 feet to the south. Thus, additional noise from Quemetco would be reduced further than the attenuation scenarios presented above. For these reasons, an additional six employee roundtrips a day, 15 trucks a day and three additional railcars per month would not

be expected to substantially change the exterior noise environment of 75 dB(A) CNEL at the facility fence line. With respect to the three railcars, those cars would occur on the existing railroad right-of-way adjacent to Quemetco. Furthermore, three railcars per month would not substantially increase existing environmental noise because such noise would be extremely intermittent and in limited duration (up to three additional times per month). Finally, unloading of the railcar would occur at the northern boundary of the project site, thus further attenuating unloading noise by adding the facility as a buffer.

The proposed Project would not be expected to result in substantial noise over the existing noise levels that would be noticeable to the residences over 600 feet to the south of the fence line and 800 feet south of the WESP for the following reasons:

- 1) There would be no ground disturbance activities;
- 2) The noise from removing one diesel emergency generator and installing two new natural gas emergency generators are temporary and would occur during the daytime;
- 3) For operational noise, there is an industrial building and a railroad berm creating a noise buffer between Quemetco and the nearest sensitive receptors;
- 4) Post-Project operations-related noise levels are expected to be substantially similar to existing noise levels particularly given the proposed Project is ultimately a minor change in facility operations that would allow Quemetco to operate the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace, both interior equipment, 24-hours a day given the existing facility is operating 24-hours a day; and
- 5) Any additional furnace and battery dismantler operations would be absorbed within the existing buildings and background noise already created by the Quemetco facility, as well as other nearby sources.

Therefore, the proposed Project and associated increase in operations is not expected to substantially affect the existing industrial noise environment. For these reasons, the proposed Project-related noise levels would be less than significant.

XII. d) No Impact. The nearest airport, El Monte, is approximately seven miles from the Quemetco facility. Thus, the proposed Project is not located within an airport land use plan, within two miles of a public use airport, or within the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, the proposed Project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, no significant adverse impacts from the proposed Project on noise would be expected. Since no potentially significant adverse noise impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of noise will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING.				
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial growth in an area either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g. through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of people or existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Impacts of the proposed project on population and housing will be considered significant if the following criteria are exceeded:

- The demand for temporary or permanent housing exceeds the existing supply.
- The proposed project produces additional population, housing or employment inconsistent with adopted plans either in terms of overall amount or location.

Discussion

XIII. a) and b) Less Than Significant Impact. The construction and operation activities associated with the proposed Project are not expected to require the relocation of individuals, require new housing or commercial facilities, or change the distribution of the population. The reason for this conclusion is that the construction activities will be performed by current Quemetco employees. Additionally, the proposed Project operation is expected to require no more than six new permanent employees; these positions would be related to materials handling including shipping and receiving and inventory management. The reason for this conclusion is that Quemetco, as an existing established facility, can draw from the large existing labor pool in the local southern California area to supply the additional permanent employees for the proposed Project without having to relocate individuals, build new housing or commercial facilities, change the distribution of the population, or expand the “footprint” of the facility site due to the proposed Project. For these reasons, the proposed Project is expected to have less than significant impacts on growth inducement and no impact on displacing population or housing and population distribution.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, no significant adverse impacts from the proposed Project on population and housing would be expected. Since no potentially significant adverse population and housing impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further (population and housing) evaluation will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES.

Would the proposal result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered government facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a) Fire protection? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b) Police protection? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c) Schools? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d) Other public facilities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Significance Criteria

Impacts on public services will be considered significant if the project results in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, or the need for new or physically altered government facilities, the ground disturbing activities which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response time or other performance objectives.

Discussion

XIV. a) Less Than Significant Impact. The Los Angeles County Fire Department provides fire protection to the existing Quemetco facility. Quemetco has an Emergency Response Plan in place in the event of fires or another emergency. In addition, the proposed Project would not include ground disturbing activities or changes to existing processes that would require additional fire protection. The facility's emergency preparedness includes: 24-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard training for employees upon assignment; 8-hour annual refresher training; and an annual emergency response drill with the fire department for each shift. Quemetco is already a 24-hour facility; the proposed Project would not add hours of operation. Quemetco must already comply with all applicable code and ordinance requirements for access, water mains, fire flows and fire hydrants. The proposed Project would increase the number of hours for which the smelting furnaces are operating are full capacity and would increase the daily volume of feedstock and additives processed.

Because: (1) Quemetco is an existing 24-hour operation; (2) the proposed Project is increasing the production levels at an existing operation with no ground disturbing activities; (3) Quemetco is currently successfully handling the materials (feedstock and additives) proposed for increase; (4) Quemetco facility is reviewed by the Los Angeles County Fire Department as part of its Emergency Response Plan at least annually and already meets requirements for access, water mains, fire flows and fire hydrants; (5) Los Angeles County Fire Department already provides

Quemetco with emergency response services; and (6) Quemetco has Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard training in place for its staff which is renewed annually; therefore, the proposed Project (increasing production levels and handling of feedstock and additives) would not substantially affect the Los Angeles County Fire Department's service levels. The proposed Project would therefore have a less than significant impact on fire services.

XIV. b) Less Than Significant Impact. The Los Angeles County Sheriff Department provides law enforcement services for the City of Industry and Quemetco. Law enforcement units continuously patrol the entire community over a 24-hour period. In addition, Quemetco provides its own on-site security force permanently stationed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The existing Quemetco facility is fenced and a 24-hour security force would continue to be maintained. Entry and exit of the work force is currently and would continue to be monitored with the existing security force.

This proposed Project is an existing industrial activity within an existing industrial area. Because: (1) the proposed Project is not requiring any ground disturbing activities; (2) it is already within a secured facility; and (3) Quemetco already employs its own security patrol; the proposed Project is anticipated to have less than significant impact upon the usability, adequacy and responsiveness of existing law enforcement services within the City of Industry.

XIV. c) No Impact. There would be no ground disturbing activities and no construction workers, but the operation of the proposed Project may need six additional permanent on-site employees. However, Quemetco can draw from the large existing labor pool in the local southern California area to supply the additional permanent employees for the proposed Project without having to relocate individuals, build new housing or commercial facilities, change the distribution of the population, or expand the "footprint" of the facility. Lastly, the proposed Project would not require existing schools to be altered, or require new schools to be built. For these reasons, the proposed Project would have no impact on school services.

XIV. d) Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project would require discretionary approvals from the SCAQMD, as well as subsequent action by the DTSC. Table 1-2 summarizes the anticipated permits and approvals that may be associated with the proposed Project. The proposed Project could, for example, require DTSC to modify its Quemetco Hazardous Waste Facility Operation and Post-Closure Permit in compliance with the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA Permit); DTSC may also rely on this Capacity Upgrade Project EIR for its own projects such as its RCRA Permit Renewal with Quemetco. In addition, Quemetco submits reports to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) two times per year to certify compliance with all Title V requirements (implemented by the SCAQMD). The project will result in a SCAQMD Title V permit revision, which is subject to U.S. EPA review. Other agencies, such as CalTrans, the City of Industry, Los Angeles County Health Department, LACSD, and the RWQCB are identified as commenting agencies because they may have interest in the proposed Project but none would have discretionary approval authority. While these other public services may be affected by the proposed Project, the impacts would not require new government facilities to be built or existing government facilities to be physically altered in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives.

In addition to these public service agencies, public roadways may be impacted by the proposed Project. The proposed Project is anticipated to generate approximately 15 truck and six employee

round trips per day (see Table 1-1). Due to the small number of additional trips that may be needed, the existing roadways should be able to accommodate this minor increase in daily traffic levels without requiring the construction of new roadways. Therefore, the proposed Project would neither require additional maintenance of public roadways, nor would it create an increased demand for additional public roadways to be built.

Therefore, the proposed Project is anticipated to have less than significant impacts to other public services.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, no significant adverse impacts from the proposed Project on public services would be expected. Since no potentially significant adverse public service impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of public services will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XV. RECREATION.				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment or recreational services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Impacts to recreation will be considered significant if:

- The project results in an increased demand for neighborhood or regional parks or other recreational facilities.
- The project adversely affects existing recreational opportunities.

Discussion

XV. a) and b) No Impact. As discussed earlier in Section XIV - Population and Housing, there are no provisions in the proposed Project that would affect or increase the demand for or use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities or require the construction of new or the expansion of existing recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effects on the environment because the proposed Project will not directly or indirectly increase or redistribute population. Based upon these considerations, including the conclusion of “less than significant impact” for the topic of “Population and Housing,” significant recreation impacts are not expected from implementing the proposed project.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, no significant adverse recreation impacts from the proposed Project are expected. Since no potentially significant adverse recreation impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of recreation will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI. SOLID AND HAZARDOUS WASTE.				
Would the project:				
a) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid and hazardous waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

The proposed project impacts on solid and hazardous waste will be considered significant if the following occurs:

- The generation and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste exceeds the capacity of designated landfills.

Discussion

XVI. a) and b) Less Than Significant Impact. Quemetco's operation is a secondary lead smelting process; this involves recycling automobile and industrial batteries, thereby reducing the volume of hazardous waste that would normally be sent to a landfill. The "feed" material is separated at the receiving end and managed in accordance with the DTSC permit so that: 1) plastics and metals, which are recyclable materials, are rinsed in preparation for recycling; 2) liquids are neutralized at an on-site water treatment facility and re-used for facility operations; 3) the lead is smelted and refined into blocks and ingots and returned to the market for reuse; and 4) "slag," comprised of leftover, unusable impurities, is hauled off to a landfill. An increase in the amount of total feed processed at Quemetco would generate an additional 4,114 tons per year or less than 12 tpd of "slag" that would be need to be sent to a landfill for disposal(see Table 1-1).

This additional 4,114 tons per year would require 178 additional truck loads per year (see Section XVII - Transportation and Traffic, Table 2-9) of landfill bound slag. The slag is tested for its level of impurities and hazards, in accordance with the DTSC permit, and separated into either slag bound for the RCRA certified landfill in Beatty, Nevada or nonhazardous slag bound for the landfill in Parker, Arizona. Operators of both landfills confirmed that the landfills have sufficient capacity to handle this additional amount of slag (Reid personal communication and Sawyer personal communication)¹¹. Further, most of the additional slag can be added to the existing trucks already landfill bound; worst-case scenario is that the 178 additional truck loads per year would

¹¹ Reid, Jessica. 2014 Customer Service Representative, US Ecology, Beatty, Nevada. Telephone conversation with Valerie Rosenkrantz of Trinity Consultants, Inc. on December 17, 2014 to confirm landfill's capacity to accept additional amounts of slag. Sawyer, Willis D. 2016. Arizona Area Environmental Manager, Republic Services. La Paz County Landfill, Parker, Arizona. Email verification on May 3, 2016 confirming landfill's capacity to accept additional amounts of slag.

lead to 3.5 additional truck trip loads per week split between the two landfills (see Section XVII - Transportation and Traffic, Table 2-9). In practical application, this would generate an increase of one load every 3 to 5 days to each landfill. Since both landfills have the capacity to receive additional materials bound for landfill disposal and because Quemetco has historically and would continue to comply with rules and regulations governing the disposal of waste; the proposed Project would have a less than significant solid and hazardous waste disposal impact.

Conclusion

Based on these considerations, no significant impacts to solid/hazardous waste would be expected from the proposed Project. Since no potentially significant adverse solid waste impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of solid/hazardous waste will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVII. TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC.				
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Significance Criteria

Impacts on transportation and traffic will be considered significant if any of the following criteria apply:

- Peak period levels on major arterials are disrupted to a point where level of service (LOS) is reduced to D, E or F for more than one month.
- An intersection's volume to capacity ratio increase by 0.02 (two percent) or more when the LOS is already D, E or F.
- A major roadway is closed to all through traffic, and no alternate route is available.
- The project conflicts with applicable policies, plans or programs establishing measures of effectiveness, thereby decreasing the performance or safety of any mode of transportation.
- There is an increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system.
- The demand for parking facilities is substantially increased.
- Water borne, rail car or air traffic is substantially altered.
- Traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists or pedestrians are substantially increased.
- The need for more than 350 employees
- An increase in heavy-duty transport truck traffic to and/or from the facility by more than 350 truck round trips per day
- Increase customer traffic by more than 700 visits per day.

Discussion

The proposed Project could increase daily traffic by up to 15 truck and six employee round trips per day (Table 1-1 in Section 1.6 - Project Description). Table 2-9 provides the number of truck trips by the type of materials being moved through the secondary lead smelter facility on an annual basis. This annual summary of Project-related materials movements provides the distribution of the additional 3,422 raw material scrap trips, 283 plastic, metal and slag trips and 551 additives trips. On a daily basis, at its peak the proposed Project would generate no more than an additional 15 truck trips.

**Table 2-9
Annual Traffic Generation from Materials Movement**

Materials Movement	Year 2014 Baseline Conditions (pre-Project)	Proposed Project (post-Project)	Post-Project Increment
Plastics (trucks/year)	410	497	87
Metals (trucks/year)	118	136	18
Slag (trucks/year)	506	684	178
Additives (trucks/year):			
- Coke (smelting reagents)	172	212	40
-Limestone	35	116	43
-Cobbled Steel	157	401	114
- Soda Ash	803	1,154	351
-Other Additives	156	159	3
Raw Materials Scrap (trucks/year)	11,843	15,265	3,422
Finished Product (trucks/year)	5,335	6,135	800
Finished Product (railcars/year)	124	155	31
Total Trucks/Year (Round Trip)	19,659	24,914	5,084
Total Trucks/Day (Round Trip)	53.86	68.26	13.93

Source: Quemetco 2015.

The operations of roadway segments and intersections are described with the term “level of service” (LOS). LOS is a qualitative assessment of the motorists’ and passengers’ perceptions of traffic conditions. Six service levels are defined by the Transportation Research Board, designated by letters ranging from “A” for most favorable “free flow” conditions to “F” for least favorable. LOS E corresponds to conditions nearing “at-capacity” operations. Within the City of Industry, LOS D is the lowest acceptable operations at area intersections during peak-hours.

S. 7th Avenue is a four lane divided roadway. The intersection of S. 7th Avenue and Salt Lake Avenue is signalized. Access to Quemetco is from Salt Lake Avenue. Based on the recently adopted City of Industry EIR Traffic study, existing intersection LOS with S. 7th Avenue and the

State Route 60 ramps is “A” for the am peak hour and “C” for the pm peak hour; both are within the acceptable LOS of “D” or better (City of Industry 2014b). Figure 2-1 depicts the area roadways.

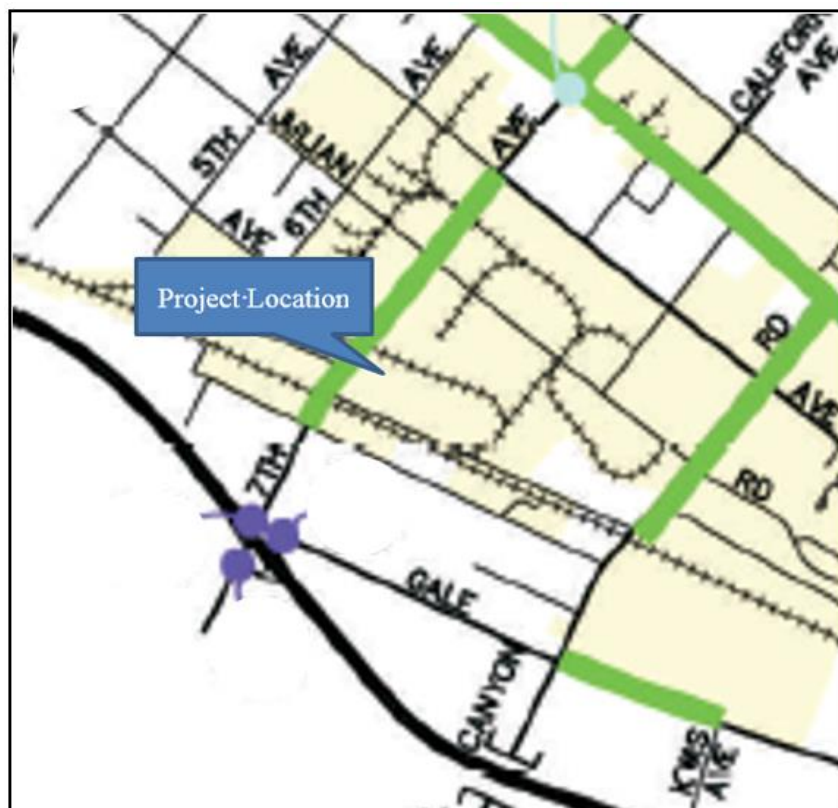


Figure 2-1
Overview of Project Area Roadways

XVII. a) and b) Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project could increase daily traffic by up to 15 truck and six employee round trips per day (Table 1-1). These additional truck trips would be spread out over a 24-hour period and would not be focused within a peak hour given all deliveries are scheduled. These trucks would most likely be travelling from State Route 60 along S. 7th Avenue to the facility. The most congested intersections along this path are State Route 60 ramps with S. 7th Avenue. Even one additional truck trip during a peak hour would not be expected to cause any significant impacts to the existing LOS “A” for the a.m. peak hour and “C” for the p.m. peak hour at these intersections.

The six additional employee round trips would arrive and depart from the facility during the shift changes. Assuming two employees added per shift and three shifts per day, two round trips (ingress and egress) would occur during each shift change. Given the nature of the Quemetco facility, and that these additional jobs could be filled by the available area work pool, it is highly likely that these would be re-directed regional trips, rather than new regional trips. Further, the origin of these additional round trips from the six new employees would be dispersed from various directions and would not all pass through the State Route 60 ramps with S. 7th Avenue, the most

congested intersections in the proposed Project vicinity. The intersections and roadways proximate to the Quemetco access are operating at accepted levels (City of Industry 2014b). Thus, the employee trips would only be adding traffic to the immediate facility intersection; given this intersection is operating at an acceptable LOS, six additional vehicle trips during the p.m. peak hour would create a less than significant impact at the intersection of S. 7th Avenue and Salt Lake Avenue.

Given the information above, the six new employee trips and 15 new truck trips would have no effect on area roadway and intersection LOS during the peak hours. Because: (1) there would be three construction-related round trips for equipment delivery; (2) the additional operations trips would likely add no more than six peak hour passenger vehicle trips and 15 truck trips dispersed over 24 hours; (3) the Project-related traffic would be less than the SCAQMD thresholds of 350 additional employees and 350 truck round trips per day; and (4) all local intersections and roadways are operating an acceptable LOS and the trips generated by the proposed Project would be spread throughout the day and would be negligible to existing movements on local streets, and these trips would have no measurable effect on peak hour regional roadway operations or local area intersection operations (City of Industry 2014b); therefore, the proposed Project would have a less than significant impact on applicable plans, ordinances and policies, or congestion management plans (including level of service standards).

XVII. c) No Impact. As explained in XVII. a) and b), the proposed Project will cause an increase of roadway traffic, but not air traffic. The proposed Project would require three heavy-duty diesel flatbed truck trips, and would only generate an additional 15 truck and six employee roundtrips per day.

The nearest airport, El Monte, is located approximately seven miles from the Quemetco facility. In addition, Quemetco is not located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport. Physical actions that would be taken to comply with the proposed Project, such as increased truck trips, are not expected to have any influence or impact on air traffic patterns. Also, implementing the operational changes of the proposed Project (e.g., increasing the rotary feed drying furnace feed rate limit and the amount of total coke material allowed to be processed in the rotary feed drying furnace and reverberatory furnace, allowing petroleum coke to be used as a smelting reagent in the reverberatory furnace and electric resistance heated slag reduction furnace, and increasing the amount of refined lead product output) will not have any influence or impact on air traffic patterns.

Therefore, implementation of the proposed Project would have no impact on air traffic patterns, and would not cause an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks.

XVII. d) and e) Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project is not expected to substantially increase traffic hazards or create incompatible uses at or adjacent to the site. The proposed Project does not include construction of roadways on-site or off-site that could include design hazards. Emergency access at the Quemetco facility would not be impacted by the proposed Project in that no on-site roadways would be altered as a result of the proposed Project and Quemetco would continue to maintain the existing emergency access gates to its facility.

Therefore, the proposed Project would have less than significant impacts to emergency response plans.

XVII. f) Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project would require an increase in six permanent employees which would result in an additional six round trips per day and 15 truck round trips per day during operations at the Quemetco facility.

Due to the relatively small number of additional road way trips that would occur as a result of implementing the proposed Project, no conflicts with any policies, plans, or programs regarding alternative transportation would be expected. Furthermore, the projected increases in roadway trips are not anticipated to generate significant traffic demand (see responses to questions XVII.a) and b)) or cause a significant increase in the use of alternative transportation since the anticipated truck trips cannot be served by such means. Therefore, alternative transportation facilities, including bicycle facilities, bus turnouts or other means of facilitating alternative transportation, or any associated plans, policies, and programs would have a less than significant impact from the proposed Project.

Conclusion

Based upon these considerations, significant adverse impacts to transportation and traffic are not expected to occur if the proposed Project is implemented. Since no potentially significant adverse transportation and traffic impacts were identified, no mitigation measures are necessary or required. Thus, no further evaluation of transportation/traffic will be required in the EIR.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion

XVIII. a) Less Than Significant Impact. The proposed Project would not have the potential to adversely affect the quality of the environment, reduce or eliminate any plant or animal species, or destroy prehistoric records. The proposed Project is located at a site that is part of an existing industrial facility, and does not contain biological resources; further the proposed Project would not include any demolition, excavation or disturbance to the soil or the physical environment. The Quemetco facility has been previously disturbed, graded, and developed; the proposed Project would not extend into environmentally sensitive areas, but would remain within the confines of an existing, operating Quemetco facility. Finally, the facility controls the growth of vegetation at the site for fire protection purposes. For additional information, see Section IV - Biological Resources, and Section V - Cultural Resources.

XVIII. b) Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed Project has the potential to result in air quality impacts (including criteria pollutants, toxic air contaminants, and greenhouse gas emissions), energy impacts, hazards and hazardous materials impacts, hydrology and water quality impacts, and has the potential to result in cumulative impacts in these areas. The potential cumulative impacts will be analyzed, as necessary, in the EIR. Potential adverse air quality and hazards and hazardous materials impacts could also adversely affect humans, either directly or indirectly. Potential adverse effects on humans will be included in the air quality and hazards and hazardous materials analyses.

XVIII. c) Potentially Significant Impact. The proposed Project has the potential to result in air quality impacts (including criteria pollutants, toxic air contaminants, and greenhouse gas emissions), energy impacts, hazards and hazardous materials impacts, hydrology and water quality impacts and has the potential to result in cumulative impacts in these areas. The potential cumulative impacts will be analyzed, as necessary, in the EIR. Potential adverse air quality and hazards and hazardous materials impacts could also adversely affect humans, either directly or indirectly. Potential adverse effects on humans will be included in the air quality and hazards and hazardous materials analyses.

Conclusion

Based on the review of the environmental impacts associated with the proposed Project, the proposed Project may result in significant adverse environmental impacts in the areas of air quality, energy, hazards and hazardous materials and hydrology and water quality impacts. Therefore, the preparation of an EIR is required.

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ACRONYMS

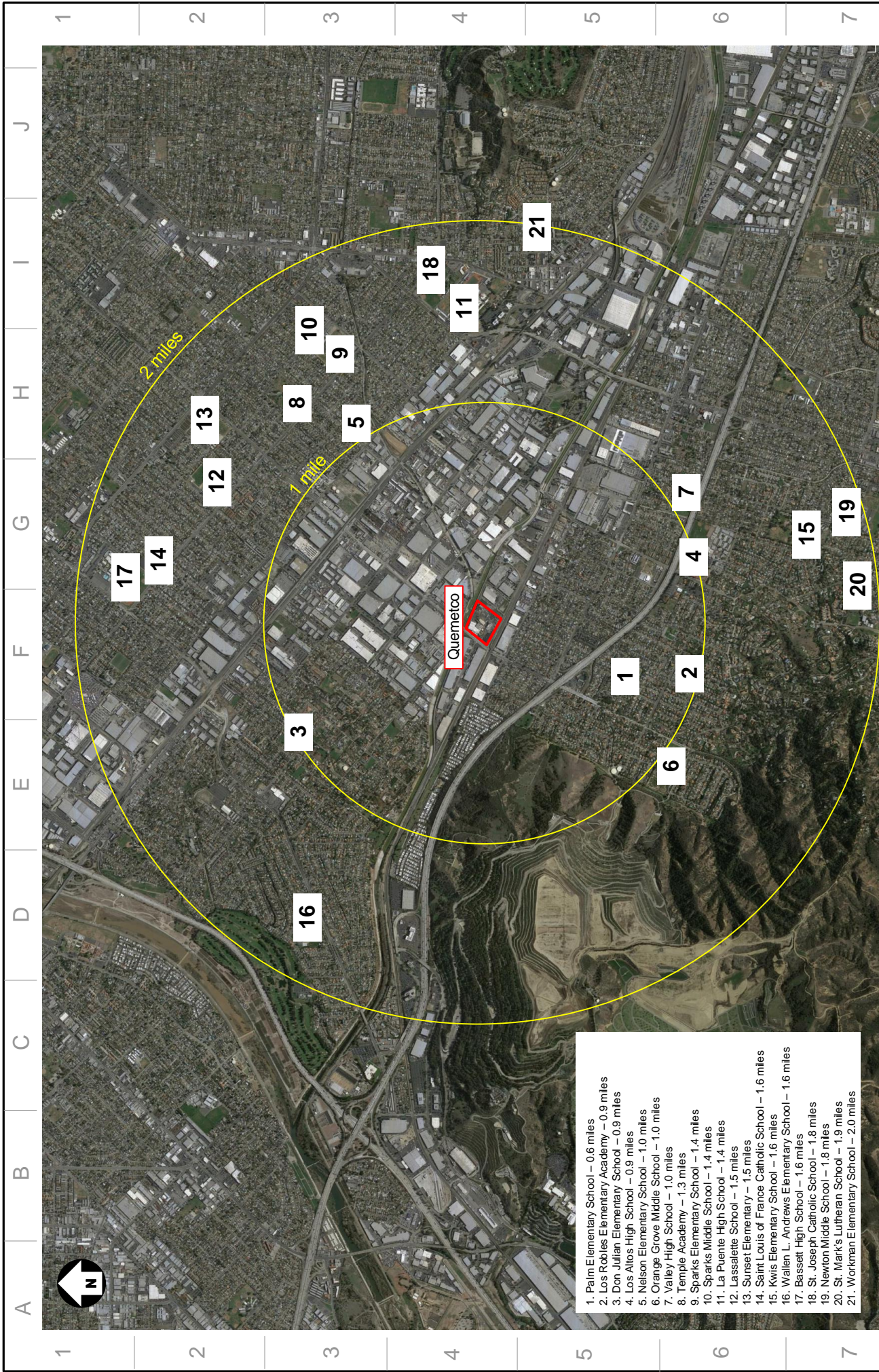
Acronym/Abbreviation	Definition
AAQS	Ambient Air Quality Standard
AST	Above Ground Storage Tank
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
BACT	Best Available Control Technology
BMP	Best Management Plan
BTU	British thermal unit
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CalTrans	California Department of Transportation
Ccf	hundred cubic feet
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CEC	California Energy Commission
CH ₄	Methane
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CO	Carbon Monoxide
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
CO ₂ e	Carbon Dioxide Equivalencies
CY	calendar year
dB	decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substance Control
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
ERPG	Emergency Response Planning Guide
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
GHG	Greenhouse gases
HARP	Hotspot Analysis and Reporting Program
HEPA	high-efficiency particulate air filtration system
HFC	Hydrofluorocarbon
HIC	chronic hazard index
HICR	Residential Chronic Health Index
HICW	Worker Chronic Health Index
HRA	Health Risk Assessment
H ₂ S	Hydrogen Sulfide
IS	Initial Study
LACFD	Los Angeles County Fire Department
LACSD	Los Angeles County Sanitation District
LOS	Level of Service
MEIR	Maximum Exposed Individual Resident
MEIW	Maximum Exposed Individual Worker
MICR	maximum individual cancer risk
MMTCO ₂ e	Million Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide equivalent
mg/m ³	milligrams per cubic meter

Acronym/Abbreviation	Definition
MMBtu	Million British Thermal Unit
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NESHAP	National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants
N ₂ O	Nitrous Oxide
NO	Nitric Oxide
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NO _x	Nitrogen Oxides
NOP	Notice of Preparation
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
O ₃	Ozone
PCF	perfluorocarbons
PM ₁₀	Suspended Particulate Matter; Ten micron Particulates
PM _{2.5}	Fine Particulate Matter
ppm	Parts per million
PTE	potential to emit
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
ROG	Reactive Organic Gases
RTO	Regenerative Thermal Oxidizer
SCAQMD	South Coast Air Quality Management District
SF ₆	Sulfur Hexafluoride
SAAQS	State Ambient Air Quality Standards
SCAG	Southern California Association of Governments
SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide
TAC	Toxic Air Contaminants
TCLP	Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure
U.S. EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
µg/m ³	micrograms per cubic meter
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
WESP	Wet Electrostatic Precipitator


**APPENDIX A – SCHOOLS WITHIN TWO-MILE RADIUS OF
THE QUEMETCO FACILITY**

Schools Within Two Miles of the Proposed Project

School Name	Address	City	Zip Code	Distance (mi.)
K-8 Schools				
St. Mark's Lutheran School	2323 Las Lomitas Dr.	Hacienda Heights	91745	1.9
Lassalette School	14333 Lassalette St.	La Puente	91744	1.5
St. Joseph Catholic School	15650 E. Temple Ave.	La Puente	91744	1.8
Saint Louis of France Catholic School	630 Ardilla Ave.	La Puente	91746	1.6
Elementary Schools				
Kwis Elementary School	1925 Kwis Ave.	Hacienda Heights	91745	1.6
Workman Elementary School	16000 Workman St.	La Puente	91744	2.0
Los Robles Elementary Academy	1530 Ridley Ave.	Hacienda Heights	91745	0.9
Palm Elementary School	14740 Palm Ave.	Hacienda Heights	91745	0.6
Wallen L. Andrews Elementary School	1010 S. Caraway Dr.	Whittier	90601	1.6
Don Julian Elementary School	13855 Don Julian Rd.	La Puente	91746	0.9
Sunset Elementary	800 Tonopah Ave.	La Puente	91744	1.5
Temple Academy	635 N. California Ave.	La Puente	91744	1.3
Sparks Elementary School	15151 E. Temple Ave.	La Puente	91744	1.4
Nelson Elementary School	330 N. California Ave.	La Puente	91744	1.0
Middle Schools				
Newton Middle School	15616 Newton St.	Hacienda Heights	91745	1.8
Orange Grove Middle School	14505 Orange Grove Ave.	Hacienda Heights	91745	1.0
Sparks Middle School	15100 E. Giordano St.	La Puente	91744	1.4
High Schools				
Los Altos High School	15325 Los Robles Ave.	Hacienda Heights	91745	0.9
La Puente High School	15615 Nelson Ave.	La Puente	91744	1.4
Valley High School	15430 Shadybend Dr.	Hacienda Heights	91745	1.0
Bassett High School	755 Ardilla Ave.	La Puente	91746	1.6



- 1. Palm Elementary School – 0.6 miles
- 2. Los Robles Elementary Academy – 0.9 miles
- 3. Don Julian Elementary School – 0.9 miles
- 4. Los Altos High School – 0.9 miles
- 5. Nelson Elementary School – 1.0 miles
- 6. Orange Grove Middle School – 1.0 miles
- 7. Valley High School – 1.0 miles
- 8. Temple Academy – 1.3 miles
- 9. Sparks Elementary School – 1.4 miles
- 10. Sparks Middle School – 1.4 miles
- 11. La Puente High School – 1.4 miles
- 12. Lassalette School – 1.5 miles
- 13. Sunset Elementary – 1.5 miles
- 14. Saint Louis of France Catholic School – 1.6 miles
- 15. Kwis Elementary School – 1.6 miles
- 16. Wallen L. Andrews Elementary School – 1.6 miles
- 17. Bassett High School – 1.6 miles
- 18. St. Joseph Catholic School – 1.8 miles
- 19. Newton Middle School – 1.8 miles
- 20. St. Mark's Lutheran School – 1.9 miles
- 21. Workman Elementary School – 2.0 miles

Prepared By: 	Quemetco Capacity Upgrade Project 720 S. 7th Avenue City of Industry, CA 91746		Description Schools Within Two Miles of the Proposed Project
	Scale 1" ~ 3500'	Date April 2018	Figure 1

**APPENDIX B – SAN GABRIEL VALLEY WATER COMPANY
EMAIL**

Valerie Rosenkrantz

From: Dan Arrighi <darrighi@sgwater.com>
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2016 2:29 PM
To: Valerie Rosenkrantz
Cc: Emily Lower; Robert J. DiPrimio; Matt Y. Yucelen; Kristofer J. Olsen
Subject: RE: request for confirmation of proposed water service expansion

Good afternoon Ms. Rosenkrantz:

San Gabriel Valley Water Company ("San Gabriel") is a public utility regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission ("Commission"). San Gabriel supplies water to customers in its service area in accordance with the company's tariff schedules and rules filed with the Commission.

The subject property is located entirely within San Gabriel's service area and San Gabriel currently provides public utility water service to the property through existing water distribution facilities. San Gabriel has the ability to produce and provide the additional water supply needed by Quemetco.

If you have any question or need additional information, please contact me.

Dan Arrighi

Water Resources Manager
San Gabriel Valley Water Company

From: Valerie Rosenkrantz [mailto:vrosenkrantz@insenv.com]
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2016 11:29 AM
To: Dan Arrighi
Cc: Emily Lower
Subject: request for confirmation of proposed water service expansion

Dear Mr. Arrighi,

As we just discussed, Quemetco located in the City of Industry has applied for an air permit amendment to increase its production levels. This could increase its water consumption by 100,000 gallons per day. Please confirm by reply email that San Gabriel Valley Water Company has the ability to produce the water to meet Quemetco's water needs through a "Will Serve" verification.

Thanks so much,
Valerie

VALERIE N. ROSENKRANTZ | Senior Consultant
Trinity Consultants, Inc.
719-685-1054 (Office) | 352-562-1520 (C) | email: vrosenkrantz@trinityconsultants.com
www.trinityconsultants.com



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