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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Supervisor Janice Hahn Opposes Quemetco Expansion Proposal

Hacienda Heights, CA—Today, Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn released the following statement regarding her opposition to a proposal to expand the operations of the Quemetco battery recycling facility in the City of Industry in the wake of a new State civil complaint against the plant alleging 29 violations.

“There are many reasons why Quemetco should not be allowed to expand their operations and the 29 violations detailed in the state lawsuit give me 29 new reasons,” said Supervisor Janice Hahn. “If these allegations are true, Quemetco has repeatedly violated state law in handling toxic substances including lead, endangering the health and safety of their workers and the neighboring communities. These violations should be resolved immediately and any proposal to expand their operations should be denied.”

Last week, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) filed a civil complaint against the Quemetco battery recycling facility operating in the City of Industry for 29 alleged violations of the California Hazardous Waste Control Law including a non-functioning leak-detection system in a containment building that holds hazardous lead waste; failure to construct an adequate groundwater monitoring system; and failure to minimize the possibility of releases of hazardous waste into the environment, among other violations.

Prior to this lawsuit, Supervisor Hahn sent letters to the SCAQMD and DTSC stating her opposition to the proposal to expand Quemetco’s operations.

The facility borders the unincorporated neighborhood of Hacienda Heights, which Supervisor Hahn represents.

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