

Environmental Report: Oct. 16, 2017

Submitted by: Joan Licari

Quemetco:

We still do not have the results of soil testing by the California Dept. of Toxic Substances Control. The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is overseeing an investigation of past releases of lead and other constituents of concern into an area around the lead/acid battery recycling facility operated by Quemetco, Inc. The facility is located at 720 S 7th Avenue, City of Industry, CA 91746.

The investigation included a soil evaluation, which involves the collection of soil samples in residential and commercial areas, as well as public streets and waterways early in 2017 to determine if past emissions from the facility's operations may have impacted the surrounding community and to determine if soil cleanup is necessary.

U.S.C. Keck Medical Center continues voluntary testing of children for lead accumulation. The USC study will include an evaluation of children living within 2.5 miles from the Quemetco plant. Area children will be tested for metals including lead, arsenic, antimony and cadmium. Target ages for individuals in the study will be between 5 and 12 years who have lived in the area for the past two years. A comparison will be made of blood- metal contents between results from Vernon and our local areas. If interested in participating, parents of children need to contact Professor Jill Johnson at 323-442-1099.

La Subida School Site Public Meetings:

Tues. Oct. 17th 5-7 p.m. and Oct. 24th, 5-7 p.m. at the HLPUSD District offices at 15959 Gale Ave., City of Industry.

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District is discussing the possible sale of all or part of 4 school sites that include La Subida, Glenelder, Las Lomitas and Wedgeworth (possible partial sale). The reason cited for the possible sale is to obtain funding for construction of a new school at the Wedgeworth site. At meetings previously held, local residents expressed opposition to these sales and urged keeping La Subida as a possible park. Concern was raised because that area of Hacienda Heights has no park close by, the current closed site is used heavily by AYSO soccer teams and it is the last possible large open space site for a park within the Heights.

Come to these meetings if you are interested in this issue and express your views. Although bids have been received on sites from interested parties, the School District indicates no final decision has yet been made.

