



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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

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

PROJECT TITLE: QUEMETCO CAPACITY UPGRADE PROJECT

PROJECT APPLICANT: QUEMETCO, INC.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) is the Lead Agency and has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the proposed Project identified above. The Draft EIR includes a project description and analysis of the proposed Project's potential environmental impacts. The purpose of this notice is to extend the public comment period to solicit comments on the Draft EIR. The original comment period was from October 14, 2021 to December 14, 2021. **This comment period is extended to February 15, 2022.** No other revisions have been made to the Draft EIR.

This letter and the attached NOC for the Draft EIR are not South Coast AQMD applications or forms requiring a response from you. Their purpose is to provide information on the proposed Project. The Draft EIR and other relevant documents, may be obtained by accessing the South Coast AQMD's website at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-permit-projects> or by contacting South Coast AQMD's Public Information Center by email at PICrequests@aqmd.gov or by calling (909) 396-2039. The NOC and Draft EIR has been electronically filed with the State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and posted on their CEQAnet Web Portal which may be accessed via the following weblink: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/Project/2018081096>. The NOC has also been filed for posting with the Los Angeles County clerk. Additional information about the Quemetco facility, including information about the draft permits, is available from South Coast AQMD's website at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/community-investigations/quemetco>.

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 124-day public review and comment period beginning October 14, 2021 and ending at 5:00 p.m. on February 15, 2022. **Please send any comments relative to the CEQA analysis in the Draft EIR to Kevin Ni (c/o CEQA) via email to kni@aqmd.gov, via facsimile to (909) 396-3982, or by mail to the address shown above.** Please include the name, phone number and email address of the contact person, and the organization name, if applicable.

**EXTENDED COMMENT PERIOD FOR NOTICE OF COMPLETION (NOC) OF A DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)
AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

To: Governor's Office of Planning and Research - State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth St, Suite 222
Sacramento, CA 95814-5502

From: South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Project Title: Quemetco Capacity Upgrade Project

Project Applicant: Quemetco, Inc. **South Coast AQMD Facility ID Number:** 8547

Project Location: 720 S. 7th Avenue, City of Industry, CA 91746 (Los Angeles County)

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: The project applicant, Quemetco, Inc. is seeking modifications to existing South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) permits for the Quemetco facility to increase the amount of lead product from approximately 460 tons per day (tpd) to 575 tpd and allow the facility to: 1) increase the throughput limit to the rotary/kiln feed dryer and reverberatory furnace from 600 tons per day (tpd) to 750 tpd; 2) increase the temperature of the exhaust from the rotary/kiln feed dryer from 330 degrees Fahrenheit (F) to 450 degrees F; 3) increase the amount of coke material (e.g., calcined coke, petroleum coke, or a combination thereof) processed in the rotary/kiln feed dryer and reverberatory furnace from 600,000 pounds per month (lbs/month) to 750,000 lbs/month; and 4) allow the use of petroleum coke, in lieu of or in addition to calcined coke, as a smelting reagent in the reverberatory furnace and electric arc furnace. Quemetco currently operates the facility and most equipment 24 hours per day except that the rotary/kiln feed dryer and reverberatory furnace operate between 18 and 23 hours per day. The proposed Project would allow the rotary/kiln feed dryer and reverberatory furnace to operate up to 24 hours per day. Potential impacts to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions, energy, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, and transportation were evaluated in the Draft EIR and the analysis concluded that the proposed Project would have less than significant impacts in each of these environmental topic areas. This facility is not 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 NOC, Draft EIR and all supporting documentation are available at:

- 1) **South Coast AQMD CEQA webpage:**
<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/research/documents-reports/lead-agency-permit-projects>
- 2) **South Coast AQMD Public Information Center:**
by email at PICrequests@aqmd.gov and by phone at (909) 396-2039
- 3) **State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research website at:**
<https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/Project/2018081096>
- 4) **La Puente Library**, 15920 Central Avenue, La Puente, CA 91744
- 5) **Hacienda Heights Library**, 16010 La Monde St, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

Additional information about the Quemetco facility, including information about the draft permits, is available from South Coast AQMD's website at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/community-investigations/quemetco>.

The Notice of the Extended Review Period and the NOC is provided to the public through the following:

- Los Angeles Times (December 3, 2021)
 - South Coast AQMD Mailing List & Interested Parties
 - South Coast AQMD Website
 - South Coast AQMD Public Information Center
 - Los Angeles County Clerk
 - La Puente Library and Hacienda Heights Library
 - State Clearinghouse of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research Website
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Draft EIR Extended Review Period (124 days): October 14, 2021 – **extended to 5:00 p.m. on February 15, 2022** (previously scheduled to end December 14, 2021)

Scheduled Public Meeting Date(s) (subject to change): No public meetings are scheduled at this time.

EXTENDED COMMENT PERIOD FOR NOC OF A DRAFT EIR AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
(concluded)

Send CEQA Comments to South Coast AQMD Contact Person: Kevin Ni	Phone: (909) 396-2462	Email: kni@aqmd.gov	Fax: (909) 396-3982
Project Proponent/Facility Contact Person: Bruce Davis	Phone: (626) 937-3221	Email: Bruce.Davis@ecobat.com	Fax: (626) 330-2502

Date: November 30, 2021

Signature:



Barbara Radlein
Program Supervisor, CEQA
Planning, Rule Development, and Area Sources