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# California State Senate

SENATOR
KEVIN DE LEÓN
CHAIR
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
TWENTY-SECOND SENATE DISTRICT

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LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

September 19, 2013

Jared Blumenfeld
Region 9 Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

**RE: Exide Lead Battery Recycling Facility in Vernon, CA**

Dear Mr. Blumenfeld:

I have been very concerned with the harmful levels of pollution in my district, including toxic emissions of lead and arsenic releases from the Exide lead battery recycling facility in Vernon. New information this week regarding violations of South Coast AQMD's Rule 1420.1, specifically an exceedance of lead levels by the facility, requires a further and immediate review of the situation.

Toward that end, **I am organizing a community Town Hall meeting in my district on Tuesday, October 8 at Resurrection Catholic Church** (3324 East Opal Street, Los Angeles, CA 90023) **from 6:00pm to 8:00pm**. The goal of the town hall meeting is to help provide greater transparency, understanding, and information about the regulatory actions related to Exide.

I am writing to request your participation at the Town Hall, as it is critical that the US EPA present the latest updates on the status of the compliance, permitting and enforcement activities related to Exide facility directly to the affected residents. In addition to your agency, I am also requesting participation from the Department of Toxics and Substances Control (DTSC) and South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

My constituents need assurances that emissions levels from the facility are safe. Every night that goes by when they lack these assurances is one night too many.

I look forward to your immediate reply. To confirm your participation at the Town Hall, please contact my staff, Nidia Bautista, at nidia.bautista@sen.ca.gov or by phone (916) 451-6022.

Sincerely,

Kevin de León

**KEVIN DE LEÓN**
**Twenty-Second Senate District**