MOTION

Exide Technologies is among the worlds largest producers of lead-acid batteries, including automotive batteries and industrial batteries. The company's four global business groups provide a wide range of stored electrical energy products and services.

Exide has been operating a 15-acre battery recycling plant about five miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles since 1922. Every day the plant recycles about 41,000 batteries including car batteries — salvaging lead and plastic instead of sending it to landfills.

A January report the company submitted to the South Coast Air Quality Management district (SCAQMD), showed that emissions from the plant have elevated the cancer risk to people nearby to a point where approximately 156 cancer cases per million people can be expected to develop, mostly because of arsenic. Under air district regulations, when cancer risk from a facility reaches 10 per million, public notification is required. When it hits 25, facilities must take steps to reduce their emissions.

With approximately 110,000 people living in the immediate area, this recent report shows that this facility is potentially posing a danger to our community.

The South Coast Air Quality Management District announced last week that Exide Technologies must also hold public meetings this spring to inform residents that they face an increased cancer risk and outline steps being taken to reduce it.

Exide Technologies is also required to submit a "risk reduction plan" to the air district within 180 days. If the company fails to comply with AQMD's conditions, it could face fines of up to \$25,000 a day and, ultimately, a court order to shut down.

While Exide Technologies advances technology of batteries for hybrid and electric cars and for solar energy systems, and while is it is important for industry to strive to reduce, reuse and recycle wherever possible, this can not come at the health and safety of Angelenos.

I THERE MOVE that the City Attorney monitors the actions of SCAQMD against Exide Technologies and report back in one week on options for action the City of Los Angeles can take against Exide Technologies to ensure the health and safety of all Angelenos.

PRESENTED BY:

**ERIC GARCETTI** 

Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:

