September 10,2020

Testimony before the CARB studying impact of AB617

My name is Monsignor John Moretta, Pastor of Resurrection Catholic Church located in Boyle Heights, approximately one mile from Exide battery recycling. I am part of the local committee that participates in this necessary study of our three neighborhoods.

The monitoring of are community is sorely needed. We are the direct victims for generations of the impact of the diesel trucks, freeways, and the unregulated polluters especially in Vernon.

For example, three or four of the chrome platers are within blocks of each other in Boyle Heights. Of the eighty operators in our State of hazardous waste storage facilities and transfer stations, seven are located within a three-mile radius of my parish. That is almost 7% of the operators. Something that has not been in the discussion of our meetings because the community has not been properly notified is the toxic emissions emitted by companies that sterilize medical equipment. One notorious plant is located next to the former Exide plant. I am told that they use super-toxic chemicals for their cleansing process.

I am not a chemist, but I do hope that this study will not turn out to be a sham if it fails to be sensitive enough to do the job that the community deserves.

Thanks for your time,

Monsignor John