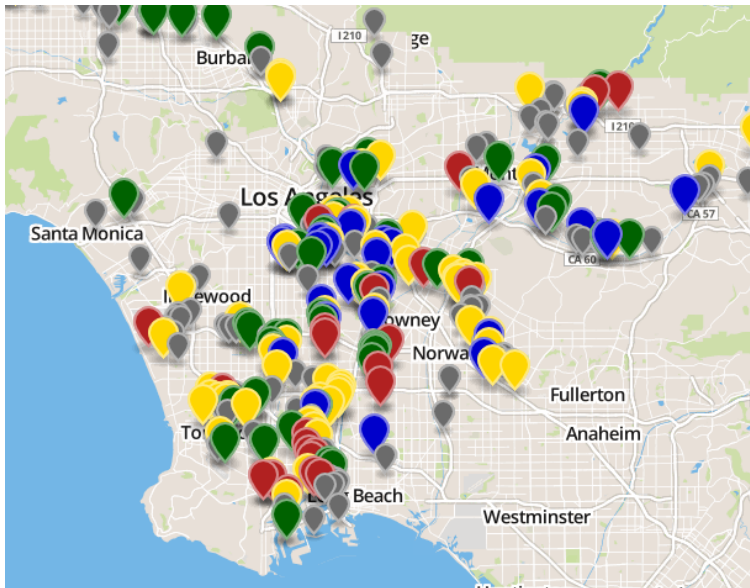


## POLICY FACTSHEET: UCLA TRI Challenge Team Releases First Interactive Map of Facilities in Los Angeles that Release Toxics Into the Environment

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### Introduction

[Cal EcoMaps](#), an interactive mapping tool, was created to enable residents of Los Angeles to view the environmental performance of facilities from the top four polluting industries in Los Angeles County. This map is hosted on the [UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability](#) website and provides environmental impact scores (EIS) and [Toxics Release Inventory](#) (TRI) information for facilities, among other features.



Cal EcoMaps provides companies the opportunity to compare their EIS with other facilities within their respective sectors and incentivizes them to reduce their negative impact on the environment and public health.

### Critical Findings

- TRI facilities released more than eight million pounds of toxic chemicals in Los Angeles County in 2012. The top four emitting industries accounted for more than seven million pounds, or 89%, of total releases.
- While the TRI has been successful at documenting disposal information, effective communication of local toxic release trends still remains an issue. The goal of this project was to improve on the communication of TRI data to the public.
- This user-friendly, interactive map allows users to view consolidated environmental performance information for each facility and view toxic trends.
- Environmental Impact Scores were generated for each facility using a set of five variables related to environmental impact indicators. A unique aspect of this analysis was to complement TRI information with external sources.
- This is the first known project to measure a facility's environmental impact relative to its performance by comparing the facility's toxic releases with its annual revenue.

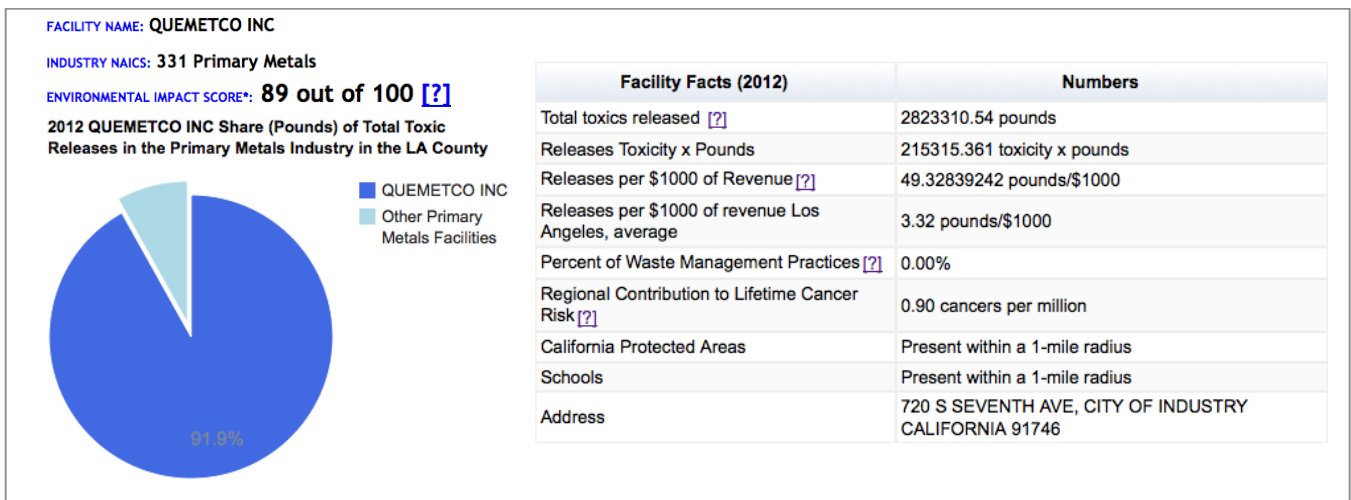
### Cal EcoMaps Website

[www.environment.ucla.edu/ccep/calecomaps](http://www.environment.ucla.edu/ccep/calecomaps)



## About the Website

The main feature of the *Cal EcoMaps* website is the interactive map. Users can search for facilities in Los Angeles by zip code or address, and facility information can be accessed through markers on the map which when clicked on expand to display a complete environmental performance profile. The figure below depicts a section of the environmental performance profile of Quemetco, a facility with high toxic releases. In addition to providing the facility's EIS, each profile contains consolidated facts and graphs about the five environmental impact indicators used to calculate this score. These indicators are - total pounds of toxic releases, toxicity of total releases, total releases per \$1000 revenue, regional contribution to lifetime cancer risk from air emissions, and waste managed through recycling, energy recovery, and treatment. Users can also view facility locations on the map in relation to sensitive populations, California Protected Areas, and schools.



Additional features of the website include a comprehensive list of scores and rankings categorized by industry, explanations of our methodology, downloadable data, and a feedback form to provide an outlet for facilities to update or correct their data.

## Implications

We hope that *Cal EcoMaps* will give the public, facilities, government, and other stakeholders access to information on local toxic release trends, and that it will also encourage facilities to reduce their releases. This project is part of an ongoing UCLA-EPA TRI University Challenge Project: more results are expected in Spring 2015.





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## 2013 UCLA-EPA TRI University Challenge Team

The 2013 UCLA-EPA TRI University Challenge Team was led by Dr. Magali Delmas, professor of Management at the UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability and the Anderson School of Management. She has written more than 50 articles, book chapters and case studies on business and the natural environment. She advised the group on all aspects of the project and in particular by providing insight with respect to evaluation environmental performance and selecting indicators to develop a robust methodology.

The UCLA team of seven students pursuing environmental studies developed *Cal EcoMaps* as part of their senior capstone project. Contact information for the team and team member profiles can be viewed on the *Cal EcoMaps* website.



From left to right: Fannie Hsieh, Larry Lai, Audrey Vinant-Tang, Ha Hyun Chung, Magali Delmas, Aachal Kohli, Carmen Ehlinger, Amy Tat and Leanna Huynh.

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