

Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD)  
Community Advisory Panel (CAP)  
Minutes: 3/21/2013  
*DRAFT*

- A. CALL TO ORDER – 7:03PM
- B. AGENDA – Approved

- C. Sam Unger, RWQCB

PRESENTATION: A Discussion of the RWQCB's recently issued permits to PXP for NPDES and Bioremediation farms, and retention basin issues.

Mr. Unger stated that in February 2013 two permits were adopted regarding the Inglewood Oil Field and that these are updated from the previous permits that were decades old and are now more stringent. One permit adopted is for surface water runoff that applies to the six storm water retention basins and the other permit adopted is regarding the land treatment units (the "bio-farm").

Mr. Unger explained that enhancements to the surface water runoff permit include incorporation of Total Maximum Daily Loads ("TDMLs") that pertain to effluent and receiving limits for sediments and metals and a reduction of pollutants discharged into Ballona Creek. Enhancements to the permits for the land treatment units include standards for beneficial uses onsite, and the inclusion of nine monitoring stations (7 shallow – 70-feet to 100-feet and 2 deep 500-feet or deeper; depth provided by Candace Salway when asked by David McNeil). The existing pilot wells used for the fracking study will be utilized for the deep stations and the shallow stations will be downstream from the field. There are three ranges of oil levels measured: light = C4-C12, medium = C13-C22, and heavy = C24 and greater.

A member of the public asked Mr. Unger if dry soil will be tested in a lab. Mr. Unger answered that samples are taken during different seasons in order to monitor ground water and to encompass for wet years, dry years and seasonal fluctuations.

Paul Ferrazzi asked about the increase of discharge from 1 million gallons to 7 million gallons into Ballona Creek. Ms. Salway answered that both the new permits and the old permits had a set maximum of 7.75 million gallons.

Mr. Ferrazzi asked Mr. Unger if tests of water are conducted prior to discharge from the retention basins, specifically at the valve. Mr. Unger answered that the operator must take a sample with every discharge that is then tested at a State approved testing facility and that there is no requirement to take a sample of liquid within the retention basin. Ms. Salway stated that the operator will comply with all the provisions of the permits.

Mr. McNeil asked what the quantity of discharge from the basin is. Ms. Salway answered that on average, over the last 10 years, there are two discharges per basin per year. She also added that it is less than the 7.75 million gallon maximum.

John Kuechle asked about the issue regarding the green scum on the pond (Ms. Salway stated that this retention pond is called Vickers 2 Lower). Mr. Unger stated that RWQCB does step in for excessive algae as well as the discharge of pollutants into California's tributaries. Luis Perez stated that as Environmental Compliance Coordinator for the County of Los Angeles his group tested the water regarding the complaint of odors. He stated that there was a small hit for diesel in the parts per billion, but not significant. He stated that his research on the type of algae identified (cyanobacteria) produces oxygen when in bloom and takes oxygen from the water when it decays. He stated that it does not produce cyanide, as stated by a member of the public at the previous CAP. The name cyanobacteria corresponds to the blue-green color of the organism. Mr. Ferrazzi provided a hand out from the CDC entitled "Facts About Cyanobacteria & Cyanobacterial Harmful Algal Blooms".

A member of the audience asked Mr. Unger if the February RWQCB's February meeting discussed heavy metals, such as mercury and lead, levels on the remediated land farm, as well as measurements of discharge. Mr. Unger stated that it is unknown because the old permits did not require the measurement of mercury, but the current permit has a set limit and will provide data. To his knowledge, Mr. Unger stated that there has been no effluent exceeding previous heavy metal limits at the Inglewood Oil Field.

Mr. Ferrazzi asked if the RWQCB works with other agencies, such as the SCAQMD, regarding notices of violation. Mr. Unger stated that there is cooperation, but they are separate agencies. Mr. Unger later stated that the RWQCB was made aware of SCAQMD's notice of violation during the permit hearings held in February 2013.

Mr. Ferrazzi asked Mr. Unger if the RWQCB regulates the storage of drilling mud. Mr. Unger replied that is the responsibility of the California Division of Oil Gas and Geothermal Resources. The RWQCB regulates the discharge of waste into the water bodies of California.

#### D. QUESTIONS FROM CAP AND PUBLIC

Questions were recorded in the previous discussion.

#### E. OPERATOR UPDATE

Candace Salway reported that there were seven wells drilled and there are five rework rigs on the site. The 2012 EQAP report was finished and phases 4 and 5 of the landscape plan approved. They began shipping contaminated dirt offsite via a third party company and will continue for approximately 4 weeks.

Ms. Salway also provided an update to an inquiry raised at a previous CAP meeting, where CAP member Gary Gless showed the operator a video of well work activity. Ms. Salway stated that without being provided a more specific time frame of the date and time the video was taken, it is difficult to report back with any potential incident reports. However, Ms. Salway stated that based on the video provided, it does appear to be produced water flowing from the top of the equipment, where it is captured in the cellar below. Mr. Gless contended that the water did not go into the cellar as stated and that his video showed the water spraying on the pad area. Mr. Gless also stated that he had provided a timeline for his video. Luis Perez added that this would appear to be an injection well, not a producer well.

#### F. REGIONAL PLANNING/ECC UPDATE

Rena Kambara stated that the Department of Regional Planning ("DRP") had its monthly call with the air quality consultant Sonoma Technical, Incorporated ("STI"). STI stated that they had a minor issue with a communications cable that lead from a monitoring station that resulted in the data not being transferred remotely. The data was still on the hard drive of the monitoring station and was downloaded while the connection was repaired. STI stated that they are still on budget and will analyze the data at the end in order to stay on budget. STI is currently working with the operator and Marine Research Specialists ("MRS") to plot the oil field activity into GIS.

Mr. Perez stated that the operator began trucking the contaminated material, as cited for by the SCAQMD, last Monday. Ms. Salway added that the dirt is being transported to a Waste Management facility in Azusa that will dispose of the dirt through thermal destruction.

Gary Gless asked when the SCAQMD came by the oil field last. Ms Salway responded that it was on Friday.

Mr. Ferrazzi asked if the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) inspected the oil field. Ms. Salway responded that they had been at the field approximately within the last year. Furthermore, Mr. Ferrazzi requested that the Multi Agency Coordination Committee ("MACC") increase inter-agency information sharing regarding EPA visits.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT

H. CAP/OPEN DISCUSSION

Catherine Cottles raised a point that the materials posted online are not legible when printed due to a watermark. Ms. Salway stated that she will look into the problem.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (2/28/2013) – Not Approved. Awaiting proposed language amendments from CAP members.

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Next CAP scheduled for 4/25/2013

K. ADJOURN – 8:55PM

ATTENDANCE: 3/21/13  
 (\*absent)

**DESIGNATED SEATS PER 22.44.142.J.1.a**

***Governmental Entities***

1	Department of Regional	Rena Kambara
2	City of Culver City	Paul Ferrazzi
3	West Los Angeles College	Nabil Abu-Ghazaleh*

***Operator (per 22.44.142.C)***

4	Plains Exploration &	Candace Salway
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**NOMINATED SEATS PER 22.44.142.J.1.a**

**(Accepted first-come/first-served within each sub-group)**

***Landowners (per 22.44.142.C)***

5	Vickers Family Trust	Roger Shockley*
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6	Cone Fee Family Trust	Liz Gosnell
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***Neighborhood Organizations (Recognized Homeowners Association)***

7	Ladera Heights Civic Assoc.	Carmen Spiva
8	Windsor Hills HOA	Gary Gless
9	United HOA (View Park)	Catherine Cottles
10	Culver Crest Neighborhood	John Kuechle
11	Blair Hills HOA	Jon Melvin*
12	Raintree Community HOA	Mark Didak
13	Baldwin Hills Estates HOA	Ronda Jones*

***Neighborhood Organizations (No Recognized Homeowners Association)***

14	Ladera Crest Homeowner	George Mallory*
15	Baldwin Vista Homeowner	Irma Munoz*

***School Districts***

16	Los Angeles Unified	Glenn Striegler*
17	Culver City Unified	Scott Zeidman*

***Neighborhood Organizations (All Others)***

18	Windsor Hills Block Club	Toni Tabor*
19	Community Health Councils	Gwendolyn Flynn (Mark Glassock)*
20	Baldwin Hills Conservancy	David McNeill
21	The City Project	Robert Garcia (Ramya Sivasubramanian)

Luis Perez (DRP Consultants)  
Timothy Stapleton (DRP)