Periodic Review Assessment in the Communities Surrounding the Inglewood Oil Field

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Background

- LA County Board of Supervisors requested community health assessment

- Phase 1: April 2011
  - Mortality (LA County Public Health)
  - Low-birth-weight births (LA County Public Health)
  - Birth defects (CA Birth Defects Monitoring Program)
  - Cancer incidence (USC Cancer Surveillance Program)

- Phase 2: April 2012
  - Community survey (LA County Public Health), postponed to allow better assessment of the effects of drilling on residents

http://planning.lacounty.gov/baldwinhills/documents
Census Tracts & Zip Codes Near the Inglewood Oil Field

Estimated population:
PEPS 2007 = 152,035
Census 2000 = 146,461

Prepared by LA County Department of Public Health, Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, 12/2010
Race/Ethnicity of the Populations

Inglewood Oil Field Communities
- African American: 44.7%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 7.8%
- Caucasian: 19.0%
- American Indian: 0.2%
- Hispanic: 28.3%

Los Angeles County
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 13.3%
- Caucasian: 30.1%
- American Indian: 0.3%
- African American: 9.1%
- Hispanic: 47.2%
Methods

- Mortality
  - Compared rates for census tracts surrounding the oil field to LA County for overall mortality, top ten leading causes of death and premature death, plus asthma
  - Death certificate data from 2000-2007, adjusted for race/ethnicity

- Low Birth Weight Births
  - Compared rates of low-birth-weight births for census tracts surrounding the oil field to LA County
  - Low birth weight defined as < 5.5 lbs (2500 g)
  - Birth certificate data from 2000-2007, adjusted for race/ethnicity
Methods

- **Birth Defects**
  - California Birth Defects Monitoring Program analyzed all birth defects occurring 1990-2002

- **Cancer Incidence**
  - USC Cancer Surveillance Program analyzed 5 blood-related cancers (Some blood-related cancers have been linked to petroleum products)
  - Analysis by race/ethnicity to examine potential disparities
  - Time period divided into 1972-1999 and 2000-2005 to explore most recent trends
Methods

- Community Survey
  - Compared responses to LA County Health Survey (LACHS)
  - Telephone interview of 1,020 adults living near IOF
  - Survey conducted in English and Spanish
  - Snapshot of current health conditions and quality of life concerns identified in the health working group
    - Health conditions (asthma, respiratory illness, etc.)
    - Odors, noise, traffic, etc.
Limitations to These Analyses

- Cannot confirm whether oil drilling activities are associated with these health outcomes

- Do not take into account important determinants of health such as:
  - Behavioral risk factors (smoking, physical activity, etc.)
  - Social factors (education, income, access to care, etc.)
  - Environmental exposures (traffic-related pollution, etc.)

- Cannot establish causal relationships between emissions and specific health outcomes
Future Plans

- During periodic review consider analyzing health data that has been collected
- Respond to noise complaints concerning oil field operations
- Air emissions monitoring and odor complaints (AQMD)
- Air Quality Monitoring Study (consulting group)
Resources

Toxics Epidemiology Program
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/TEA
(213) 738-3220

LA County Department of Regional Planning
Baldwin Hills Community Standards District
Documents / Reports
http://planning.lacounty.gov/baldwinhills/documents