



# Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

*Planning for the Challenges Ahead*



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Dear Neighbors:

## **UPDATE ON THE BALDWIN HILLS COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT**

On behalf of the Department of Regional Planning (DRP), I would like to update you on the implementation efforts for the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (BHCS D) that have taken place since my last correspondence in March 2019. To review, the BHCS D was adopted by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in 2008 to monitor and regulate oil drilling and related activities within the Inglewood Oil Field located in the Baldwin Hills area. Sentinel Peak Resources is the current operator of the Inglewood Oil Field.

The County remains active in ensuring that the oil field operations meet all the requirements established by the BHCS D to minimize health, safety, environmental and nuisance impacts to the surrounding communities. The County's review of the required annual drilling plan, the review of other BHCS D-required permit compliance submittals, and monthly onsite field inspections document compliance with the requirements of the BHCS D. These requirements include development standards such as maintaining a 400-foot buffer between drilling operations and sensitive areas (e.g. residences, parks, and schools), air quality monitoring at the drill rigs, reduction of noise levels, and an annual drilling and monitoring plan reviewed and approved by the County. Since the inception of the BHCS D in 2008, 127 new wells have been drilled without incident through diligent monitoring by the County and other regulatory agencies. Please note that no new wells have been drilled since June 2014 and no new wells are expected to be drilled during 2020.

Strict state regulations have been enacted through Senate Bill 4 to monitor and report hydraulic fracturing and other well stimulation treatments within California. As of July 1, 2015, this legislation requires operators to obtain a permit from the Department of Conservation Geologic Energy Management Division prior to hydraulically fracturing a well. ***I would like to reaffirm that no wells are currently being hydraulically fracked within the Inglewood Oil Field, and the 2020 Annual Drilling Plan does not include the hydraulic fracturing of any new wells.***

As part of the requirements of the BHCSD, the operator must maintain the appearance of the property through general tidiness of equipment and operations, painting, and landscaping. On December 31, 2018, the operator completed the required landscaping for areas around the field. Specifically, the seven completed landscaping projects include areas along La Brea Avenue; La Cienega Boulevard (north of Stocker Street); behind the Lewis Homes tract; along Fairfax Avenue (between Stocker and the soccer fields); the east side of La Cienega (between Stocker Street and Slauson Avenue); and Stocker Street (between La Brea Avenue and La Cienega Avenue). The installation of the required landscaping was completed ahead of the April 30, 2019, deadline that had previously been set by the County.

The Baldwin Hills Community Advisory Panel (CAP), comprised of community stakeholders, continues to meet at 7:00 pm on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Community Center (4100 S. La Cienega Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90056) to discuss current operations, answer questions and discuss any future plans for the oil field. Continued input by community stakeholders is encouraged and all are welcome to attend each meeting. Updates regarding the BHCSD and CAP may be found at [planning.lacounty.gov/baldwinhills/cap](http://planning.lacounty.gov/baldwinhills/cap). Information regarding the BHCSD may also be found at the operator's website, [inglewoodoilfield.com](http://inglewoodoilfield.com).

Additionally, DRP is conducting the second Periodic Review of the BHCSD. The Periodic Review is designed to ensure that the BHCSD regulations are effective and proactive in protecting the health, safety, and general welfare of the community surrounding the Inglewood Oil Field. Community stakeholder participation in this process is also encouraged through written comments on the public draft as well as in person during the public hearing. More information regarding this Periodic Review process may be found at [planning.lacounty.gov/baldwinhills/review2](http://planning.lacounty.gov/baldwinhills/review2).

If you have any questions regarding the BHCSD, or if you would like to receive email updates, please do not hesitate to call Timothy Stapleton at (213) 974-6453 or by email at [tstapleton@planning.lacounty.gov](mailto:tstapleton@planning.lacounty.gov).

Sincerely,



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