



## Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning

*Planning for the Challenges Ahead*



November 10, 2014

Richard J. Bruckner  
Director

Dear Neighbors:

### **UPDATE ON THE BALDWIN HILLS COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT (CSD)**

I write to share with you an update on the implementation of the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD) that has taken place since my report to you last year. The CSD 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 in the Baldwin Hills area. The main purpose of the CSD is to ensure that operations are conducted in a safe manner with minimum impacts to the surrounding communities. This includes a 400 foot buffer from drilling for residential and sensitive areas, air quality monitoring at the drill rigs, reduction of noise levels, and an annual drilling and monitoring plan reviewed by the County. By applying these measures, the operator has drilled 127 new wells without incident.

I would also like to reaffirm that no wells are currently being hydraulically fracked within the Inglewood Oil Field. The approved 2014 Annual Drilling Plan did not include hydraulic fracturing of any wells and the approved 2015 Annual Drilling Plan does not propose hydraulic fracturing of any wells.

Since the CSD was adopted, the Inglewood Oil Field operator (Freeport McMoRan Oil & Gas) has improved the appearance of the property and worked on keeping the oil field operating in a safe and unobtrusive manner. To date, the operator has completed required landscaping along La Brea Avenue, a portion of La Cienega Boulevard and an area behind the Lewis Homes tract. Combined, over 400 trees, 1,500 shrubs, and 26,000 square feet of groundcover have been planted. These improvements have created an immediate visual improvement along these perimeter areas, and additional benefits are anticipated when the remaining landscaping improvements along La Cienega Boulevard and Stocker Ave are installed within the next few years.

The CSD also requires a periodic review at least every five years, and the Department of Regional Planning is currently conducting this comprehensive review to determine if the provisions of the CSD are adequately protecting health, safety, and the general welfare. Public comments have been received, are currently being reviewed, and will be considered when the final draft of the Periodic Review is completed next year.

My staff is also working with consultants on an Air Quality Monitoring Study for the Inglewood Oil Field. The consultants have gathered emission data from the oil field and

Neighbors  
November 10, 2014  
Page 2

are currently drafting a report. Further updates of the Periodic Review and the Air Quality Monitoring Study are available on our website which can be found at [planning.lacounty.gov/baldwinhills](http://planning.lacounty.gov/baldwinhills).

The Baldwin Hills Community Advisory Panel (CAP), comprised of community stakeholders, was established by the CSD to foster communication about ongoing operations at the oil field and to ensure continued input by community stakeholders for the County of Los Angeles and for the operator. CAP meetings are open to the public and continue to be held at the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Community Room every month. Information regarding upcoming CAP meetings can be found at the website listed in the paragraph above. Your participation is welcomed.

If you have any questions regarding the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District 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,



Richard J. Bruckner  
Director

RJB:DLS:JDL:ts

S\_LUR\_111014\_L\_BALDWIN HILLS CSD