October 17, 2008

The urban oil field blights Baldwin Hills homes, parks and health, as shown in the attached images from the final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) published in October 2008.

The County of Los Angeles has published draft regulations — known as the “County Draft Version 4” of the Community Standards District (CSD) — in anticipation of the Board of Supervisors taking action at public hearings on October 21 and 28, 2008.

The diverse Greater Baldwin Hills Alliance continues to advocate for regulations that will put people, homes, and parks before oil company profits.

The Alliance continues to fight for the following major reforms:

1. The County’s draft regulations would allow too many new oil wells to be approved with no public accountability. "PXP estimates on average: 15-20 new wells operating each year," according to PXP’s own sworn testimony and brochure. The County should hold PXP to its word and limit new wells to 15-20 each year.

2. Oil field clean up must start now. Clean up must not be deferred for decades until after “permanent facility shut down.”

3. Implementation guidelines must be prepared now.

4. The regulations must reflect a long-term vision and plan to restore the oil field to a natural state including parklands consistent with the General Plan. Read the Alliance’s position paper on the web at www.baldwinhillsoil.org.

The Final Environmental Impact Report does not analyze the “County Draft Version 4,” but only an old, abandoned draft by PXP.

Maps from the Final Environmental Impact Report showing the demographics of the Baldwin Hills community for people of color and poverty are also attached.
Figure 4.13-1  Location and Orientation Views of the Proposed Community Standards District and Vicinity Views
Figure 4.13-2 Views of the Inglewood Oil Field from Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area

View 2A
The picnic area depicted is situated adjacent to north off the Kenneth Hahn Community Center building and adjacent to the KHERA’s common southwestern boundary with the Inglewood Oil Field property and Proposed Baldwin Hills CSD. Although screening trees and eucalyptus trees have been planted along the edge of the grazed picnic area, sights of the adjacent oil fields and sounds and odors emanating from it can be experienced in the picnic area.

View 2B
Functioning oil well pumps within the Proposed Baldwin Hills CSD can be seen and heard from distances of approximately 50 yards from within picnic areas situated along the southwestern boundary of the KHERA.

View 2C
Vistas of producing oil wells, pressurized storage tanks, pipelines, and surface containment/pit/enclosure pumps within the Proposed Baldwin Hills CSD are readily visible from along the edge of the above picnic area.

View 2D
More distant northwestern horizon views of the Inglewood Oil Field ridges and slopes within the Proposed Baldwin Hills CSD (west of La Cienega Boulevard) can be seen from elevated trail made (Community Loop Trail) (arrows located in the KHERA from east of La Cienega Boulevard). The Kenneth Hahn Community Center is visible in the lower left portion of the photograph as are grazed picnic and recreation areas near it from which photographic views A, B, & C were taken.
4.13 Visual Resources and Aesthetics

Figure 4.13-3  Views of the Inglewood Oil Field from Culver City Park

View 3A – The upper tier of baseball fields within Culver City Park is situated well below the crest of the ridges at the northern end of the Baldwin Hills. Southerly views from the baseball fields look "uphill" toward the Inglewood Oil Field. Active oil well pumps and storage tanks are visible along the local viewed-themed ridgeline to the south. The Baldwin Hills CSD in Los Angeles County is not visible from the active use areas within the park.

View 3B – Communications tower facilities and Inglewood Oil Field facilities can be accessed through Culver City Park via gates through the chain link and barbed wire boundary fences. Operational oil well sites are situated immediately adjacent to the primary internal roads within Culver City Park. However, the Baldwin Hills CSD area within Los Angeles County is not visible from the actual use areas of the park.

View 3C – An enclosure with producing oil wells is situated within Culver City Park adjacent to the Park's primary interior road. Views of oil field equipment are commonplace both within the park and along its boundaries.
Figure 4.13-4  Views of the Inglewood Oil Field from Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook

View 4A
The Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook is accessed from Jefferson Boulevard via Holder Road. An access road leads to the summit of the ridge-top overlook (approximately 415 feet) that offers 360-degree views. The southwesterly view depicted shows a communications tower and a series of liquefied oil well drilling sites graded into the slopes and along ridge tops near the northern end of the Inglewood Oil Field. A baseball field abutting on an upper tier within Culver City Park is visible in the far right of the photograph.

View 4B
A southeasterly panoramic view from the summit of the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, providing a view of a portion of the adjacent residential development of Blue Hills. The higher-elevation ridges of the Baldwin Hills (west of La Cienega Boulevard) can be seen along the distal unaltered boundary in the KNFHA, which would total 1.3 miles of the Proposed Baldwin Hills CSD.
4.13 Visual Resources and Aesthetics

Figure 4.13-5 Views of the Inglewood Oil Field from Ladera Sports Fields

View 5A – The northeasterly view depicted is from the walking path at the northwestern corner of the Ladera Sports Fields. The view shows the central north-south trending valley that separates the western and eastern ridges of the Inglewood Hills Oil Field, and the Proposed Baldwin Hills CSD.

View 5B – The view depicted looks easterly from the walking path at the western end of the Ladera Sports Fields. The view shows oil storage tanks and oil well pumps at the bottom of the canyon followed by La Cienega Boulevard. A residential area of La Cienega Heights is visible west of La Cienega Boulevard and the Proposed Baldwin Hills CSD.

View 5C – The view depicted shows functioning oil well pumps located in close proximity to the northern side of the Ladera Sports Fields.
Figure 4.13-6 Views of the Inglewood Oil Field from Ladera Heights

**View 6A** - The west to northeast view depicted is taken at the fence line of residences north of Sherman Avenue in Ladera Heights. The foreground view shows the dissected expanse of the undeveloped ROW for an extension of Starker Street that separates Ladera Heights from the Inglewood Oil Field. At its narrowed, the ROW is 150 feet wide. An electricity substation is located behind the trees near the center of the view, and tall electricity transmission line towers lead toward it from right to left across the middle of the photographic view. Active oil pumping facilities can be seen to the left of the palm trees at the right of the photograph.

**View 6B** - The easterly view depicted is typical of the view of the Inglewood Oil Field to the east of La Cienega Boulevard that may be seen from residences along the eastern side of Charlois Avenue near the eastern end of W. 54th Street.

**View 6C** - The northwest to easterly view depicted illustrates the full range of Inglewood Oil Field facilities that may be seen from the backyards of residences located at the northeast corner of Ladera Heights. The view encompasses a foreground view of an active oil production site, middle distance views of tank farms, and distant views of active oil field facilities bordering the RISRA.
Figure 4.13-7  Views of the Inglewood Oil Field from Windsor Hills

View 7A – The northwesterly view depicted is taken from near the intersection of Northridge Drive and Secret Drive in Windsor Hills. The view location has an elevation of approximately 330 feet, approximately 40 feet higher than the intersection of Northridge Drive and La Brea Avenue seen in the center-right of the view. Views of the Inglewood Oil Field from the residential streets within Windsor Hills are typically restricted and confined by roadside structures and landscaping to relatively small portions of the oil field.

View 7B – The westerly to northerly panoramic view depicted is taken from La Brea Crest Drive. The view, across a vacant lot, encompasses foreground views of active oil production sites situated close to La Brea Avenue and distant scattered hilltops west of La Canada Boulevard. The view is typical of those available from private residences lining the western sides of La Brea Crest, Secret, and Archcrest Drives in Windsor Hills.

View 7C – The westerly view depicted is from Norman O. Houston Park. The viewpoint elevation is 425 feet and it overlooks La Brea Avenue and spans a narrow portion of the KHSPA to an elevated ridge at the western most of the Inglewood Oil Field west of Inglewood Avenue. A number of active oil production sites. The crest of the ridge to the west of La Brea Avenue rises to approximately 455 feet and it blocks views of most oil of the Inglewood Oil Field that lies to the west of it. Potential oil field views from Norman O. Houston Park to the west of Stocker Street resemble ones available from the more distant hills in the Hubbin Inglewood County Parkway to the east of Stocker Street.
Figure 4.13-8  Views of the Inglewood Oil Field from West Los Angeles College

View 8A – The northeasterly view depicted is taken from Sophomore Drive on the eastern side of the WLAC. In the view, road cuts cut into the relieves of the Baldwin Hills and Inglewood Oil Field rise steeply to restrict visibility to the immediately adjacent roadside terrace that is typically devoid of oil-field structures. Oil tanks and oil-production facilities can be seen along ridge crests in longer distance views to the northeast of the campus, however.

View 8B – The northeasterly to westerly view depicted shows the existing visual conditions of the Baldwin Hills/Inglewood Oil Field as seen from the eastern end of Stocker Street at Sophomore Drive. Tall electricity transmission line towers can be seen adjacent to the road and there is evidence of barren road cuts near the ridge crests, but views of oil-field structures are lacking.

View 8B – The view depicted illustrates the visibility of the Baldwin Hills viewed from Sophomore Drive as seen from Sophomore Drive adjacent to the football fields toward the northern end of the campus. In the view of the Inglewood Oil Field, small oil tank farms and oil production sites with pumps can be seen along the ridges that form the viewpoint boundary to the north and east of the WLAC campus.
Figure 4.16-1  Distribution of Minorities in the Study Area

Key
- Minority population < 25%
- Minority population > 25%
- Minority population > 50%
- Minority population > 75%

Source: US Census Bureau 2008
Figure 4.16-2  Distribution of Poverty in the Study Area