

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 07/07/08		Item Number: <u>A-1</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Adoption of a Resolution Urging Plains Exploration and Production Company to Voluntarily Abide by the Terms of the Expired Los Angeles County Moratorium on the Drilling of New Oil Wells or the Deepening of Existing Oil Wells.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Heather Baker/City Attorney		Phone Number: (310) 253-5660	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☐ No ☒		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: Master E-Mail Notification List (07/02/08); Greater Baldwin Hills Alliance			
Department Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (06/26/08)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (06/26/08)	
Fiscal Impact Review: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (07/02/08)		City Manager Approval: Jerry Fulwood (07/02/08)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council adopt a Resolution urging Plains Exploration and Production Company (PXP) to voluntarily abide by the terms of the Los Angeles County moratorium on the drilling of new oil wells or the deepening of existing oil wells, which moratorium expired on June 26, 2008. <u>BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:</u> On June 27, 2006, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (the "County") adopted an Interim Ordinance for an initial period of 45 days, which temporarily placed additional development standards and restrictions on the drilling of new oil wells or deepening of existing oil wells on property zoned A-2 (Heavy Agricultural) or M-1½ (Limited Heavy Manufacturing) in the Baldwin Hills Zoned District, which includes the Inglewood Oil Field operated by PXP. On August 8, 2006, the Interim Ordinance was extended for another ten months and 15 days, until June 26, 2007, and extended for a second time on May 29, 2007 for an additional 12 months until June 26, 2008. This second extension of the Interim Ordinance included a moratorium on the drilling of new oil wells or the deepening of existing oil wells (the "Moratorium"), in order to give the County sufficient time to complete a thorough environmental analysis of the oil field activities in the Baldwin Hills area and to develop permanent oil field regulations. The Moratorium expired on June 26, 2008, prior to the County completing its environmental review process or developing any permanent oil field regulations. The County's Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD) relating to the			

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Inglewood Oil Field was released on June 19, 2008. The environmental review process for this CSD, including adoption of any regulations, could take at least another five months to complete.

On June 23, 2008, a representative of the Greater Baldwin Hills Alliance (GBHA), Ken Kutcher, presented to the City Council a list of twelve items that GBHA requests the City Council consider in relation to the DEIR and CSD. One of the items requested by GBHA is City Council's adoption of a resolution urging PXP to voluntarily abide by the terms of the expired Moratorium on the drilling of new oil wells and the deepening of existing oil wells until such time as the County has adopted its permanent oil field regulations and those regulations have become effective.

The City Council directed staff to bring back the requested resolution for consideration. The proposed Resolution is attached.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There is no fiscal impact from the Council's consideration or adoption of the Resolution.

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposed Resolution

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

Adopt a Resolution urging Plains Exploration and Production Company to voluntarily abide by the terms of the Los Angeles County moratorium on the drilling of new oil wells and the deepening of existing oil wells, which moratorium expired on June 26, 2008.