



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

866 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT

Activities of the Office of the Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas on THE BALDWIN HILLS COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT

CHRONOLOGY

March 2007 – November 2008: State Senator, 26th District, State of California
December 2008 – Present: Supervisor, Second District, County of Los Angeles

June 2006 – Board of Supervisors adopts Original Interim Ordinance (Moratorium) for an initial period of 45 days.

March 3, 2007 - Senator Ridley-Thomas meets with the 26th Senate District Empowerment Congress Leadership Council to inform them of the Inglewood/Baldwin Hills oil expansion and residents' related concerns.

March 5, 2007 – Plains Exploration and Production (PXP) applies to establish Community Standards District for the Inglewood Oil Field in the Baldwin Hills/Culver City region.

March 7, 2007 – Senator Ridley-Thomas speaks with Culver City News reporter Gary Walker in an interview about the growing concerns of Culver Crest Homeowner Association residents surrounding gas emissions and ground subsidence related to the current PXP oil drilling, and planned expansion.

March 10, 2007 – Senator Ridley-Thomas meets with the Executive Committee of the 26th Senate District Empowerment Congress to inform them of the Culver Crest residents' concerns, and to enlist Empowerment Congress assistance in the organizing of a community empowerment summit on the issue.

May 22, 2007 – Senator Ridley-Thomas' staff meets with David McNeil, Executive Officer of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, to discuss plans for creating a coalition to educate the community on the PXP expansion issue, and to ensure that the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan would remain in the forefront of any future plans for the region.

May 29, 2007 – County Board of Supervisors adds language placing all new wells and the deepening of existing wells on a one year moratorium.

June 5, 2007 – Senator Ridley-Thomas' office hosts the first *Environment, Health, and Community Study Kick-off Meeting* to plan for a community education and empowerment summit on the subject of the PXP oil wells expansion in the Baldwin Hills/Culver City region.

June 12, 2007 – Community Health Councils hosts the second planning meeting for the summit and assumes the role of coordinating agency for the summit. Coordinating partners include the Baldwin Hills

Conservancy, The City Project, the 26th Senate District Empowerment Congress, and the Friends of the Baldwin Hills.

June 19 – July 19, 2007 – Committee continues to plan for the Community Empowerment Summit, adding the 47th Assembly District People’s Council Environmental Commission, Mujeres De La Tierra, the Crenshaw High Eco Club, and the Sierra Club as partners.

July 6, 2007 – Senator Ridley-Thomas sends letters to personally invite subject experts and key state and local government agency representatives to give presentations to the community on the various issues related to the PXP expansion. Invitees include: State of California Department of Conservation – Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR); State Department of Toxic Substances Control; California Regional Water Quality Control Board; South Coast Air Quality Management District; Los Angeles County Department of Planning; City of Los Angeles Planning Department; Los Angeles County Public Works; and Assembly Member Karen Bass (D-Culver City).

July 21, 2007 – Senator Ridley-Thomas, Assembly Member Karen Bass, and the newly formed coalition of community partners for environmental health convene the *Baldwin Hills Environment, Health, and Planning Empowerment Summit* at West Los Angeles College. Approximately 90 community members attend the event.

August 2007 – County Planning Department indicates to Board of Supervisors that additional time will be required for preparation of the Draft EIR. The original plan called for release of DEIR in September 2007, with public hearings to follow in October and November 2007.

August 19, 2007 – Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff and planning partners from the July 21 Empowerment Summit begin discussing plans for a “Baldwin Hills Working Group”, which would draft community-driven comments for inclusion in the impending EIR and CSD.

September 2007 – March 2008 – The “Baldwin Hills Working Group” continues to meet while convening public education forums, setting goals and benchmarks for the ultimate writing of the group’s own CSD.

February 7, 2008 – Senator Sheila Kuehl (D-West Los Angeles) introduces SB 1165, legislation that would make available to the public early drafts of environmental impact reports typically available to developers only. The bill would require additional review and public comment for any environmental impact report over 5 years old.

February 15, 2008 – PXP submits draft CSD.

March 12, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas recaps his active involvement in the PXP oil field expansion issue dating back to March 2007, as he addressed the Ladera Civic Association during a Candidate Debate at Knox Presbyterian Church.

May 2008 – The Baldwin Hills Working Group is officially renamed “*The Greater Baldwin Hills Alliance*”, bringing Senator Ridley-Thomas’ Empowerment Summit objectives for widespread community participation to greater fruition. New members continue to join each month, including representatives from the UCLA School of Public Policy, United Homeowners of Windsor Hills/View Park, Mujeres Del La Tierra, and representatives from the City of Los Angeles.

May 29, 2008* – Senator Ridley-Thomas casts vote in favor of SB 1165 on the floor of the California State Senate.

June 19, 2008* – Draft EIR is released triggering the 60 day public comment period. Greater Baldwin Hills Alliance (GBHA) holds press conference at Kenneth Hahn State Park announcing the Alliance’s own version of a Community Standards District (CSD). Senator Ridley-Thomas publicly congratulates the Alliance for their efforts, citing the GBHA version of the CSD as “quintessential community empowerment in action.”

June 2008 thru July 2008 – LA County Regional Planning Department hosts a number of EIR Workshops to help educate the community. Senator Ridley-Thomas and/or representatives attended every single workshop.

June 26, 2008 – Original Interim Ordinance/Moratorium expires.

July 1, 2008 – PXP agrees to abide by Interim Ordinance regulations after they expire until October 21, 2008.

July 10, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas attends a discussion session with Draft EIR author, John Pierson, at a residence in the Culver Crest community, and addresses attendees directly on the issues.

July 14, 2008* – Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff attends Culver City, City Council Meeting, at which official city response to EIR are discussed.

July 17, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas attends the Los Angeles County Planning Department’s Draft EIR Community Workshop held at the Veteran’s Memorial Auditorium. He makes pledge to address state agencies directly to affect stronger participation in DEIR and CSD development on their parts.

July 18, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff attends the Baldwin Hills Conservancy meeting regarding Baldwin Hills Oil Field.

July 19, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff attends a community roundtable discussion on oil field expansion, hosted by syndicated columnist Earl Ofari Hutchinson at the Lucy Florence Coffeehouse in Leimert Park. Staff reports on the Senator’s ongoing efforts to increase involvement of relevant state agencies in the Draft EIR review and comment process, as well as the development of the CSD.

July 25, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas holds meeting with Windsor Hills residents to review the legislative history of the Baldwin Hills State Recreation General Plan and to explore possible state legislative recourse.

July 28, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas sends official recommendation to Supervisor Burke’s office to extend the public comment period on the EIR for an additional 30 days.

July 29, 2008* – Senator Ridley-Thomas receives response from Supervisor Burke, in which she concludes that further extension of the public comment period is unnecessary and restates her stance that the 60 day review period is satisfactory.

July 30, 2008* – Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff attends Greater Baldwin Hills Alliance meeting, at which they announce a July 31 tour of PXP oil field, and invite members to a roundtable following the tour.

July 31, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas takes tour of Inglewood Oil Field with Empowerment Congress, community stakeholders from surrounding neighborhoods, and a representative from South Coast Air Quality Management District, one of the state agencies responsible for monitoring the Inglewood Oil Field. Following the tour, Senator Ridley-Thomas hosts a roundtable with community stakeholders and a representative from Regional Water Quality Control Board, the state agency responsible for monitoring soil contaminants and the oil field’s impact on the region’s water supply.

August 2, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas testifies at the LA County Planning Commission Hearing held at West Los Angeles Community College, in which he encourages the Planning Commission to join him in urging Supervisor Burke to extend the public comment period.

August 4-15, 2008 – A number of government agencies and elected officials follow Senator Ridley-Thomas’ lead in calling for an extension of the EIR public comment period. Among those submitting formal written request are, the California Department of Conservation and the Los Angeles Unified School District Office of Environmental Health and Safety. The Culver City Council publicly expresses its concurrence with the Senator’s call for an EIR public comment extension.

August 13, 2008* – Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff attends Culver City, City Council hearing on Inglewood Oil Field.

August 14, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas attends the second LA County Planning Commission Hearing regarding the Inglewood Oil Field held at the Consolidated Board of Realists.

August 18, 2008 – From his Capitol office, Senator Ridley-Thomas hosts phone conference between The Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources—the state agency responsible for approving well operations—involving members of the Greater Baldwin Hills Alliance, and David McNeil, Executive Officer of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

August 27, 2008* – Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff attended LA County Planning Commission Hearing regarding Inglewood/Baldwin Hills Oil Field. Hearing was held at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. The Senator was in the State Capitol representing the region in state budget talks.

September 10, 2008 – Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission took testimony on County Planning Commission’s Draft CSD. Senator Ridley-Thomas was joined by members of Greater Baldwin Hills Alliance and a number of other community stakeholders at a gathering at Community Health Councils prior to the hearing.

October 1, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas attended Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission hearing at the County Hall of Records in support of community stakeholders as they addressed the commission regarding the County’s Draft CSD. The hearing was continued until October 8, 2008.

October 8, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff attended the continued session of the Regional Planning Commission hearing. After considering testimony, the Commission closed the public hearing

and recommended approval of the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD) and certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) to the Board of Supervisors.

October 10, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff attended press conference held by Supervisor Burke on beautification plan for the Inglewood/Baldwin Hills Oil Field. Staff also attended Baldwin Hills Conservancy meeting that followed the press conference.

October 14, 2008 – Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff attended Greater Baldwin Hills Alliance meeting in which community outreach strategy for community stakeholder turnout at the October 21, 2008 Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors public hearing was discussed.

October 20, 2008 – The office of Senator Ridley-Thomas will participate in a phone conference with the office of Assembly Speaker Karen Bass and the California Department of Conservation’s Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) to discuss remaining concerns about the CSD prior to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors public hearing scheduled for October 21, 2008.

October 21, 2008 – The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors held a public hearing to consider the CSD and Final EIR at 9:30 AM in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. Senator Ridley-Thomas’ staff spoke before Board of Supervisors; submitted written statement requesting re-circulation of the final EIR and further Board and community review of the final CSD document.

November 26, 2009 – Four lawsuits are filed that challenge the approval of the CSD and its related environmental impact report. Petitioners include Community Health Council/National Resource Defense Council, the Citizens Coalition for a Safe Community, The City Project, and the City of Culver City.

November 27, 2008 – The CSD takes effect, setting in motion implementation milestones that PXP must meet to comply with the requirements of the CSD and begin drilling.

December 1, 2008 – Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas is sworn in as Supervisor of the Second District of the County of Los Angeles.

December 9, 2008 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas’ staff attend the Greater Baldwin Hills Alliance Meeting to discuss the CSD adoption, review litigation, and establish monitoring protocols.

December 11, 2008 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas’ staff are briefed by County Counsel, the Department of Regional Planning and the EIR/CSD Consultant, John Peirson, on the development and implementation of the CSD.

January 22, 2009 and February 2, 2009 - Supervisor Ridley-Thomas’ staff are briefed by County Counsel and John Peirson on the development and implementation of the CSD.

February 3, 2009 – The Annual Drilling Plan, required to begin drilling, was submitted to the Department of Regional Planning by PXP within the required timeframe. Two sets of revisions to the plan have since been requested by DRP. Approval of the plan is pending.

February 4, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas’ staff meets with representatives from Community Health Councils, NRDC and residents regarding their litigation and settlement objectives.

February 5, 2009 - Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' staff meets with representatives from the City of Culver City regarding their litigation and settlement objectives.

February 10 and 11, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' staff attend court ordered settlement conferences.

February 13, 2009 - Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' staff meet with representatives from the City Project regarding their litigation.

February 25, 2009 – The Drilling Quiet Mode Plan, the Air Monitoring Plan, and the Environmental Quality Assurance Plan, all required to begin drilling, were submitted to the Department of Regional Planning by PXP within the required timeframe. Approval of these plans is pending.

March 16, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' staff meet with PXP at their offices and tour the site.

March 16, 2009 - The Multiple Agency Coordination Committee (MACC) holds its inaugural meeting. Members include the Culver City Fire Department, the County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning, Fire Department, Department of Public Works, Department of Public Health, the State of California Division of Oil Gas and Geothermal Resources and Office of the Attorney General. Absent from the meeting are representatives from the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

March 26, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' staff attend the Community Advisory Panel's inaugural meeting at Ladera Park. Staff attends. The meeting consists of an orientation to the CSD and a description of the purpose of the CAP, including roles of participants.

April 2, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' staff meet with Mayor of Culver City, Scott Malsin, to discuss settlement opportunities.

April 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' staff develop a “Community Benefits Package/Implementation Plan” that endeavors to bring together information requested by all of the petitioners, that includes an Executive Summary, Summary of CSD Standards, Chart Comparing Baldwin Hills Oilfield to other Urban Oilfields, Timeline of Key Events/Compliance Matrix, Implementation Guidelines, Enforcement Protocol, and Health Assessment Proposal, to share with petitioners.

April 20, 2009 – The MACC holds its second meeting.

April 23, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas and staff are briefed by County Counsel regarding the CSD development and implementation.

April 23, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' staff attend the CAP's second meeting at Kenneth Hahn Park. CAP participants request that bylaws be drafted for the CAP. John Peirson, lead consultant reviewing compliance with the CSD, provides an overview of the Annual Drilling Plan and the Environmental Quality Assurance Plan. PXP's original plans are being evaluated by DRP and will require revisions.

May 4, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' staff meet with staff and attorneys from the City of Culver City regarding “Community Benefits Package/Implementation Plan” proposal. Feedback is requested.

May 21, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas’ staff meet with Lark Galloway-Gilliam regarding the “Community Benefits Package/Implementation Plan” to solicit feedback.

May 21, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas’ staff attend the CAP’s third meeting at Kenneth Hahn Park. The Department of Public Health presents an overview of their planned Health Assessment which is planned for the Summer 2010. DPH requests community assistance with the health subcommittee and CAP volunteers are identified. A representative from AQMD describes their role in monitoring the oilfield.

May 26, 2009 – PXP hosts its required Community Meeting at the Junior Blind. 35 people attended.

May 26, 2009 – The Landscaping Plan is submitted to the Department of Regional Planning by PXP within the required timeframe. Approval of the plan is pending.

June 25, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas’ staff attend the CAP’s fourth meeting at Kenneth Hahn Park. The CAP subcommittee shares a draft of the bylaws with the rest of the CAP. The Bylaws are amended and approved. AQMD representative reports on the agency’s plan to monitor the site. PXP’s complaint log is reviewed.

July 28, 2009 – Supervisor Ridley-Thomas introduces a motion directing the Department of Regional Planning to initiate a study to consider amendments and modifications to the CSD.

Upcoming Events

July 30, 2009 – The CAP plans to hold its fifth meeting at the Community Room at Kenneth Hahn Park at 7PM.

August 5, 2009 – PXP’s motion to dismiss the four lawsuits is scheduled for hearing.