

OIL WELL ABANDONMENT PROCEDURES

Attention Developers:

If an abandoned oil well exists on your property, it is your responsibility to contact the State Department of Conservation, Division of Oil and Gas and Geothermal Resources at (714) 816-6847 or their website at www.conservation.ca.gov/dog/ages/index.aspx and comply with their requirements. You must also contact the City of Signal Hill Oil Services Coordinator, John Hartley, at (562) 989-7348 or jhartley@cityofsignalhill.org.

It is a requirement of the City of Signal Hill that any abandoned oil well on the property of a development must be properly vented.

The venting procedures must meet the minimum standard and must be inspected. The inspection shall include, but not be limited to, excavation, gravel fill, impervious membrane, and vent piping.

OIL CODE STANDARDS

APPROVALS REQUIRED PRIOR COUNCIL/PLANNING COMMISSION

- **SITE PLAN**

- Well location / Identification.
- Area of Development - Vacant Parcel / Parcel with Existing Structures or Additions.
- Proposed and Existing Structures – No structures shall be constructed atop of any oil wells.
- Proposed roads and streets.
- Plot all existing and proposed oil field facilities that will operate after completion of development.
- Comply with Exhibit “C” below – Vehicle and / or rig access to the well, provide actual dimensions.

Any well outside the site but that reasonably may be within “close proximity” to any property line of the Site shall also be plotted on the site plan. “Close proximity” shall be as defined on Exhibit “A”.

- **WELL SURVEY**

- Licensed Surveyor – stamped and signed.
- All active, idle and abandoned wells shown.
- Comply with Exhibit “A” below – Vehicle and/or rig access to the well, provide actual dimensions.
- NAD 83 well location or equivalent.

- **LEAK TEST**

The owner or responsible party is required to apply for an inspection permit for the City to witness the testing. Since well testing and inspection time varies, a \$10 permit will be initially issued. The owner will be responsible for the full inspection fees after the inspection has been completed.

- Leak test – test and visual.
- GT-43 gas detection meter.
- State licensed geotechnical or civil engineer or state registered environmental assessor, class II.

- Lower explosive limit of 500 parts per million.
- Leak test report is valid for 24 months from City acceptance.

- **OILFIELD DOGGR**

- OG 159 Certificate or a letter of equivalent signed by the City's consulting petroleum engineer.

After City Council / Planning Commission approval, applicant will be required to submit a Methane Assessment Report along with formal plan check submittal. The Methane Assessment Report shall comply with the attached Los Angeles City Standards.

The property owner shall be required to record a Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions, in a form subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney regarding the existence of abandoned or re-abandoned oil wells on the property as required by Interim Urgency Ordinance 2012-08-1449 Section 6d.

EXHIBIT "A"

CLOSE PROXIMITY

Close proximity to a well may be generally described as being within ten feet from the property line and/or any structure to the well. The distance may be measured from the center of the well extending out to the side of the property line and/or structure. To be considered not in close proximity to a well, two adjacent sides should be free of structures or property lines for no less than ten feet, with the third side free for no less than 50 feet to allow room for equipment required for re-abandonment operations. The fourth side should remain open to the well for vehicle and/or rig access to the well (see figure below).

