



GAIL FARBER, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE  
REFER TO FILE: **WR-2**

August 13, 2012

Mr. Gregory Green  
Senior Production Foreman  
Plain Exploration & Production Company  
1400 North Montebello Boulevard  
Montebello, CA 90640

Dear Mr. Green:

### **MONTEBELLO FIRE – BURNED AREA REPORT**

We routinely investigate brushfires within Los Angeles County to evaluate the effects of burns and subsequent winter rains on our facilities and to apprise other entities of potential mudflow impacts insofar as their involvement is concerned. Mudflows emanating from burned canyon and hillside areas can be extremely unpredictable. As part of the emergency response provided by Public Works, an engineering team visited your property with you on July 18, 2012, and reviewed the potential flood threat caused by the recent fire.

We believe your property may benefit from a review by a private practice civil engineer with experience in drainage matters to identify what additional postfire measures you can take. Any measures taken should not adversely affect neighboring properties.

While the hillsides recover over the next four to five years, the scorched ground is expected to produce greater than usual sediment erosion during moderate to severe rainstorms. Please keep in mind that it will take approximately four to five years for the burned watershed to significantly recover. Therefore, any protective measures utilized should remain in place for a minimum of five years.

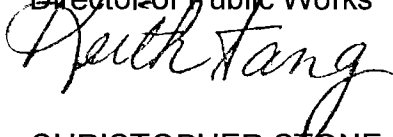
We are enclosing the Montebello Fire Burned Area Report for your consideration. This fire occurred within the Montebello Hills Oil Field on July 9, 2012.

Mr. Gregory Green  
August 13, 2012  
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If you have any questions regarding this report, or would like to schedule an appointment for engineering advice, please contact Mr. Kenneth Rickard at (626) 458-6154 between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, or at [krickard@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:krickard@dpw.lacounty.gov).

Very truly yours,

GAIL FARBER  
Director of Public Works



CHRISTOPHER STONE  
Assistant Deputy Director  
Water Resources Division



SC:vt

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Enc.

cc: City of Montebello (Tom Melendrez)

August 7, 2012

Approved

  
for Christopher Stone

TO: Christopher Stone  
FROM: Patricia Wood *P.W.*  
Facilities Section  
Water Resources Division

## **MONTEBELLO FIRE BURNED AREA REPORT**

### Recommendation

Authorize us to send copies of this report to the City of Montebello and the property owner apprising them of the potential impacts of the burned area.

### Background

Fire Name: Montebello Fire  
Date of Fire: July 9, 2012  
Burned Area: 5 acres  
Location: The fire occurred on several hillsides of the Montebello Hills Oil Field in the City of Montebello. Refer to Thomas Guide Page 636-F6

### Attachment

Burned Area Map

### Fire History

Our records indicate that the Montebello Fire area was not previously burned.

### Vegetation Types Before Burn

Coastal sage scrub and scattered trees

### Summary of Potential Sediment Impact

On July 18, 2012, Water Resources Division staff conducted a field reconnaissance of the burned area to determine if residential properties and/or Public Works maintained facilities could potentially be impacted by the flooding/debris flows during storm events. The burned area is within the Montebello Hills Oil Field, which is privately owned and

Christopher Stone  
August 7, 2012  
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### Subarea 3

Subarea 3 consists of a total of 6 acres and was 23 percent burned creating an adjusted debris potential of 280 cy. During moderate to severe storm events, mud and debris material from the burned hillside may potentially flow onto an access road and spread over a wide, flat open area at the toe of the burned hillside. Mudflow from the burned hillside may potentially overwhelm the oil well pad and pipeline at the toe of the burned hillside.

It is recommended that the property owner consult a professional to identify and implement measures to protect the oil well from potential debris flows.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Kenneth Rickard at Extension 6154, or Hans Riedel at Extension 6300.

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Attach.

DEBRIS PRODUCTION TABLE				
SUBAREA	DPA zone	AREA (ACRES)	% BURNED	ADJUSTED DEBRIS PRODUCTION (CY)
1	6	22	4	840
2	6	32	8	1290
3	6	6	23	280

Montebello Blvd

Oil Well



1





3


2

Drainage Inlet

Drainage Inlet

**ATTACHMENT A**

Legend	
	Burned Area Boundary
	Subarea Boundary
	50 ft Contours
	Subarea Outlet Point

PREPARED BY S.CHUNG	 LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
DATE 7/19/12	
SCALE AS SHOWN	<b>MONTEBELLO FIRE                  BURNED AREA MAP</b>  <b>BURNED AREA:                  5 ACRES</b> <b>DATE OF FIRE: 07/09/2012</b>

