

Study of Neighborhood Air near Petroleum Sources (SNAPS)

Community Selection Recommendation Process

Communities Selected for First Round of Air Monitoring

As part of the State's ongoing commitment to clean the air in communities most impacted by pollution, the California Air Resources Board has initiated the Study of Neighborhood Air near Petroleum Sources (SNAPS) to evaluate air quality in communities near oil and gas extraction and related facilities. The four communities selected to host air monitoring units in the first round include:

- Lost Hills, Lost Hills Oil Field, Kern County (first location to be monitored)
- McKittrick and Derby Acres, McKittrick Oil Field and Midway-Sunset Oil Field, Kern County
- Baldwin Hills, Inglewood Oil Field, Los Angeles County
- South Los Angeles, Las Cienegas Oil Field, Los Angeles County

Subsequent rounds will consider air monitoring in additional communities selected through a process similar to that described below, and the lessons learned in each round will inform those successive monitoring efforts.

[Maps](#) of these communities are available at the link. For more information on SNAPS, please visit the program [website](#).

Community Selection Process

Communities are selected for potential SNAPS air monitoring using a three-stage process: *identification*, *evaluation*, and *prioritization*. During *identification*, we developed a list of candidate communities based on a mapping analysis and suggestions from community members, air districts, and other stakeholders. *Evaluation* consisted of collecting and [screening](#) data on each candidate community that might indicate a good fit for SNAPS. Communities that met the screening criteria for more than half of the indicators were placed onto a short list for consideration under the *prioritization* stage. The short list communities were then evaluated in further detail to determine communities for the first round of monitoring, with separate comparisons for two regions of the State (Central Valley and South Coast). For example, on the metric of public suggestions, screening criteria for *evaluation* only required a single suggestion, while the detailed analysis for *prioritization* considered the number and content of community suggestions. As the study progresses, more communities will be added to the short list and prioritized for future selection. A detailed explanation of this process is available in the [community selection white paper](#).

Community Selection Rationale

We identified 56 candidate communities. Of these, four communities in the Central Valley and six in the South Coast were placed on the short list for prioritization.

- Central Valley: Derby Acres, Fuller Acres/Lamont, Lost Hills, and McKittrick.
- South Coast: Signal Hill, Harbor Area, Baldwin Hills, Wilmington, Huntington Beach, and South Los Angeles.

For our first set of recommendations, we sought communities that offer fewer logistical and technical barriers to allow us to start monitoring as quickly as possible and strengthen our monitoring strategy, while also capturing a variety of community types.

We have selected Lost Hills as the first overall community for SNAPS monitoring. This recommendation is based on very high well density and oil production volume in the adjacent oil field, the presence of multiple local community groups for potential partnerships, and the high level of engagement from its community members at SNAPS public meetings. McKittrick and Derby Acres were also selected from the Central Valley region. These communities are surrounded by a high density of wells and are also located near oil and gas produced water pond systems. McKittrick and Derby Acres will be treated as one community. All of the Central Valley short list communities are considered to be disadvantaged based on [CalEnviroScreen 3.0](#) results.

In the South Coast, we have selected communities in South Los Angeles and Baldwin Hills. South Los Angeles was selected based on the localized well pads that might make monitoring site selection more straightforward, high CalEnviroScreen scores, and the potential for partnerships with community groups representing the area. Baldwin Hills was selected based on the very high well density and production volume in the nearby field (Inglewood Oil Field); significant offers of support and coordination from local government, community groups, and a school district; and data from the [California Methane Survey](#) and other studies suggesting potential air pollution impacts.

We will be periodically adding additional communities to our short list and repeating the prioritization stage to make future community recommendations.