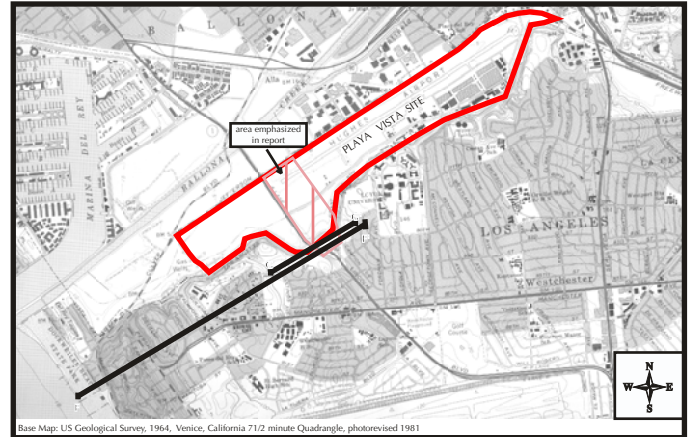




# GEOLOGIC STUDY TO EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL FOR ACTIVE FAULTING at the Playa Vista Development in the City of Los Angeles, California

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

*Earth Consultants International, Inc. (ECI)* conducted a geologic study for the west-central portion of the Playa Vista development, southeast of the intersection of Lincoln and Jefferson Boulevards in the City of Los Angeles. The purpose of the study was to evaluate whether or not the near-surface sediments in this area are offset by a northwest-trending fault. This study was prompted by Exploration Technologies, Inc.'s (ETI) subsurface investigation of methane gas at the site. Their report suggested that methane is migrating to the shallow subsurface along a previously unrecognized, potentially active fault east of and parallel to Lincoln Boulevard.



Site location map for the Playa Vista Property.

## SOLUTION

*ECI's* geologic study consisted of reviewing previously published geologic maps and reports covering the study area, and unpublished geologic and geotechnical reports prepared by other investigators for the Playa Vista development. We also conducted a subsurface investigation consisting of more than 50 borings and cone penetrometer tests (CPTs) across the area of the proposed fault. In addition, we compiled hundreds of borings and CPTs drilled previously by others at the site. With this information we built a three-dimensional GIS database of the shallow subsurface geology at the site, and modeled the topography and thickness of several of the subsurface layers. We used these images to look for variations in the thickness of these layers that could be best attributed to faulting. We also looked for a correlation between the methane concentrations and the grain size of the sediments and thickness of the layers.

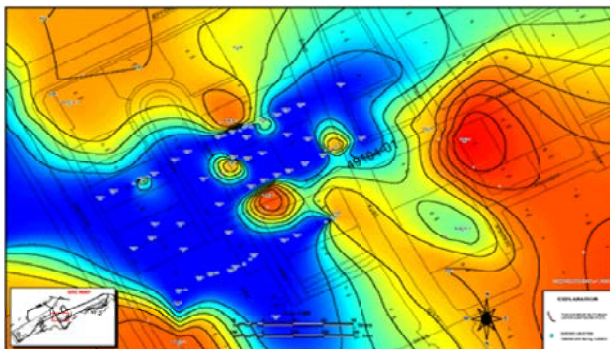


Figure showing the thickness of a silty sand layer about 30 feet beneath the ground surface in the portion of the Playa Vista development that was the subject of this study. The blue shows where the silty sand layer is thinnest and the red shows where it is thickest.

Based on the data reviewed and collected, we found no evidence to support the existence of the inferred "Lincoln Boulevard fault" across the property. Our study found no reason to interpret a fault through any of the alluvial units that were correlated from CPTs and borings in the Playa Vista site, nor in the older sediments forming the bluffs south of the site.

As a result, *ECI* was able to determine in accordance with the California definition of active faulting, that there are no faults that meet the criteria of sufficiently active and well-defined that would prevent development of this area. While a fault might lie deeper than our investigation was designed to explore, it has not had a displacement-producing earthquake in tens to hundreds of thousands of years.

