

March 16, 2009

Dear Interested Public,

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Grand Junction Field Office is initiating an Environmental Assessment (EA) of the Proposed Western Properties Master Development Plan (WPMDP) for oil and gas development. The WPMDP, prepared by Black Hills Plateau Production, LLC and submitted to the BLM, proposes a 2 to 5 year program of oil and gas exploration and development on federal leases located west and southwest of DeBeque, Colorado, in Mesa and Garfield counties.

The plan proposes the development of up to 107 wells from up to 67 proposed and 12 existing pads beginning in 2009 or 2010. Included is construction of up to 14 miles of new roads, upgrading of up to 7 miles of existing two-track roads, and maintenance of about 73.5 miles of existing roads. About 37 miles of pipelines would be installed along the roads. The proposal also includes construction of up to 5 compressor sites. Directional drilling technology would be used to drill the majority of the wells, minimizing surface disturbance from new roads and pads. The enclosed map shows the location of the proposed and existing well pads and the planned access roads and pipelines.

The WPMDP area encompasses roughly 26,000 acres of federal and private surface and mineral ownership. About 25,000 acres are federal minerals; 1,000 acres are private. The area generally includes the Homer Deep Federal O&G Unit, located within all or portions of Sections 7-10 and 13-24, Township 8 South, Range 98 West (T8S, R98W), and Sections 11-14, 15, and 24, T8S, R99W. The area also includes the Winter Flats Unit, located within all or portions of Sections 7-11 and 14-18, T9S, R99W and Sections 1-3 and 10-14, T9S, R100W, Sixth Principal Meridian. The plan also includes an area just west of Interstate-70, located in Sections 11 and 24, T9S, R98; Section 19, T9S, R97W, and Section 6, T10S, R97W. A portion of Section 6, T8S, R98W located just north of the Homer Deep Unit is also included. Primary access for the development activities in the Homer Deep Unit would be Interstate-70, County Road 45 (Roan Creek Road) and County Road 222 (Dry Creek Road). Primary access to the Winter Flats Unit would be Interstate-70 and County Road V.2 (Winter Flats Road).

The BLM will prepare an EA to disclose the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of the development plan and a No Action Alternative. As a starting point in the assessment, the BLM is soliciting input on the issues that will be considered in the preparation of the EA. At this time, you are encouraged to provide any comments, concerns, or issues that you may have with regard to the proposed development plan.

To best facilitate BLM's review and use of comments during the EA process, comments must be received by April 17, 2009. Written comments and questions should be directed

to the Grand Junction Field Office at 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, CO 81506.
Electronic comments may be submitted to gjfo_webmail@blm.gov.

Copies of the WPMDP are available for review at the BLM Grand Junction Field Office, 2815 H Road, in Grand Junction. Digital copies of the WPMDP proposal and project map are available at <http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/gjfo.html>. For more information, contact Julia Christiansen at 970-244-3093.

Sincerely,

Enclosure- Map