

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Twin Falls District
Burley Field Office
15 East 200 South
Burley, ID 83318

Finding of No Significant Impact

WILLIAMS BURIED IRRIGATION PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY

NEPA No. ID-220-2009-EA-3769

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

I have determined that the proposed action, as described in the EA will not have any significant impact, individually or cumulatively, on the quality of the human environment. Because there would not be any significant impact, an environmental impact statement is not required.

In making this determination, I considered the following factors:

1. The activities described in the proposed action do not include any significant beneficial or adverse impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(1)). The EA includes a description of the expected environmental consequences of constructing, operating and maintaining 2400 feet of buried 12 inch diameter buried water pipeline.
2. The activities included in the proposed action would not significantly affect public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(2)). The proposed activity would have minimal affects on soils, vegetation, wildlife and rangeland resources. BMP's described in the EA would guide the right-of-way (ROW) Holder in weed control, the use of pesticides and other hazardous materials on the ROW and the safe and clean maintenance of the ROW area.
3. The proposed activities would not significantly affect any unique characteristics (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3)) of the geographic area such as prime and unique farmlands, caves, wild and scenic rivers, designated wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, or areas of critical concern. The project area does not contain any unique characteristics.
4. The activities described in the proposed action do not involve effects on the human environment that are likely to be highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)). Public scoping conducted via the internet and mailings to interested publics did not reveal any issues connected with the proposed action.

5. The activities described in the proposed action do not involve effects that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)). This is a routine activity that the BLM has authorized and monitored numerous times. The effects are well known.

6. My decision to implement these activities does not establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)). The proposed action stands alone and is not connected to any other potential Federal actions. Use of the public lands is not crucial to the applicant's operations on private land.

7. The effects of the proposed pipeline would not be significant, individually or cumulatively, when considered with the effects of other actions (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)). The EA discloses that there are no other connected or cumulative actions that would cause significant cumulative impacts. Implementation of the proposed action as described in the EA and implementation of the BMP's described in the stipulations contained in Exhibit "B" (pages 12-13) to the EA, including seeding disturbed areas and monitoring to avoid disturbance or mortality to nesting migratory birds will serve to minimize the potential impacts to the environment identified in the EA. The Burley Field Office Realty Specialist will be responsible for seeing that compliance inspections are conducted as prescribed in the regulations at 43 CFR 2800 to ensure that the ROW grant stays in compliance with its terms, conditions and stipulations.

8. I have determined that the activities described in the proposed action will not adversely affect or cause loss or destruction of scientific, cultural, or historical resources, including those listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)). Cultural resource surveys were completed on 11-20-07 and a full clearance recommendation was signed by the Burley Field Manager on 12-6-07 (See Exhibit "C" to the EA, page 14).

9. The proposed activities are not likely to adversely affect any endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)). See Exhibits "D" and "E" to the EA, pages 15-18.

10. The proposed activities will not threaten any violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10)). See page 2-3 of the EA.

APPROVED:

/S/ Ken Knowles, acting for
Michael Courtney
Burley Field Manager

June 25, 2009
Date