

OPTIONAL PLAN CONFORMANCE/NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD

CX-NM-510-2007-0161

Pecos River Operating Inc

Serial No.: NM-13703

BLM Office: Roswell Field Office

Proposed Action Title/Type: Assignment from Stevens Operating Corporation to Pecos River Operating Inc.

On March 31, 1977 pursuant to Section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 185), BLM issued right-of-way NMNM-13703, authorizing Stevens Operating Corporation to construct operate, maintain and terminate a 4 inch buried natural gas pipeline across public lands. The purpose of which is to connect to an existing pipeline.

On July 10, 2007 the BLM received a request for assignment from Stevens Operating Corporation to assign the right-of-way to Pecos River Operating Inc., the assignment has been appropriately endorsed and the right-of-way is in good standing BLM recommends approval of the conveyance.

Pecos River Operating Inc. has agreed to be bound by the terms and conditions of the original grant.

Location of Proposed Action: T. 08 S., R. 30 E., Chaves County, New Mexico
Section 28: SW¹/₄NW¹/₄, and NW¹/₄SW¹/₄;
Section 29: E¹/₂SE¹/₄;
Section 31: SE¹/₄SW¹/₄, W¹/₂SE¹/₄, and NE¹/₄SE¹/₄;
Section 32: SE¹/₄NW¹/₄, and NW¹/₄SW¹/₄.

Description of Proposed Action: Pecos River Operating Inc. is requesting to assign one (1) Rights-of-Way addressed above. Because the right-of-way is an assignment, no blading or disturbance of the surface will be done. The pipeline right-of-way is for a 4 inch natural gas pipeline, 30 feet in width and 9,641.28 feet(6.64 acres).

PART I: PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW.

The proposed action is consistent with the approved Roswell Resource Area Management Plan and is consistent with Bureau policy and guidance.

The proposed action is consistent with State and local government programs, plans, zoning, and applicable regulations. The land is suitable for the proposed use and would not result in any undue or unnecessary environmental degradation.

PART II: NEPA REVIEW

This proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4, E-9 “Renewals and assignments of leases, permits or right-of-ways where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations,” and does not meet any of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2.

Prepared by:

/s/Tate Salas	7/23/07
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Tate Salas	Date

III. DECISION.

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved Roswell Management Plan and is consistent with Bureau policy and guidance and that no further environmental analysis is required. It is my decision to approve the right-of-way assignment as described, subject to the terms and conditions of the original right-of-way grant, with an option to renew, pursuant to Section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 185) subject to the terms and conditions in 43 CFR 2880; rental payments as determined by 43 CFR 2803.1-2; and the attached Current Standard Stipulations for Buried Pipelines in the Roswell Field Office, BLM.

Compliance and Monitoring: The construction phase of this proposed action and subsequent operational phases will be monitored as per regulation.

/s/Angel Mayes

7/23/07

Angel Mayes
Assistant Field Manager
Lands and Minerals

Date