NEPA HOTSHEET
February 10, 2015
BLM Wyoming Land Use Plans and Proposed Projects

Resource Management Plans (RMP)
RMP planning areas include all lands, regardless of jurisdiction; however, the BLM will only make decisions on lands that fall under the BLM’s jurisdiction.

1. Bighorn Basin RMP Revision Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): The planning area includes lands within the BLM Cody and Worland field offices’ administrative boundaries in all of Big Horn, Park and Washakie counties, and most of Hot Springs County in north-central Wyoming. The decision area consists of BLM-administered surface, totaling 3.2 million acres, and the federal mineral estate, totaling 4.2 million acres. The revised RMP will replace the Washakie and Grass Creek RMPs in Worland and the Cody Field Office’s Cody RMP. Main issues include energy and mineral development, rangeland health, vegetation and habitat management, wild horse and burro management, cultural resources management, lands and realty management and management of recreational uses of the BLM administered surface.
   Notice of Availability (NOA) of Draft RMP/Draft EIS: April 22, 2011
   NOA of Supplemental Draft RMP/Draft EIS: July 12, 2013
   Estimated Publication of Proposed RMP/Final EIS: Spring 2015
   Estimated Publication of Record of Decision (ROD): Summer 2015
   Contact: Holly Elliott, IDT Leader, Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Office (307-347-5193)

2. Rock Springs RMP Revision EIS: The planning area includes lands within the BLM Rock Springs Field Office administrative boundary in Sweetwater, Lincoln, Uinta, Sublette, and Fremont counties in southwestern Wyoming. The decision area consists of BLM-administered surface, totaling 3.5 million acres, and the federal mineral estate, totaling 3.6 million acres. The revised RMP will replace the 1997 Green River RMP. Main issues include energy and mineral development, rangeland health, vegetation and habitat management, wild horse and burro management, cultural resources management, lands and realty management, and management of recreational uses of the BLM-administered surface. A Comprehensive Travel and Transportation Plan for the entire field office, as well as an additional socioeconomic modeling effort coordinated with cooperating agencies are being incorporated into the RMP Revision. In April 2013, the Department of the Interior, the BLM and the Rock Springs Grazing Association signed a consent decree requiring the BLM to initiate NEPA analysis to consider the environmental effects of modifying management levels of wild horses in specified herd management areas. An NOI was issued, initiating public scoping to amend the 2008 Rawlins RMP in conjunction with the Rock Springs RMP revision. Work on the RMP will resume in February 2015 following a twelve-month hold to allow the Wyoming Sage-Grouse RMP Amendments to get ahead of the revision effort.
   NOI Issued: Feb. 1, 2011
   NOI to re-open scoping period for Wild Horse Management: Aug. 16, 2013
   Estimated Publication of Proposed RMP/Final EIS: Fourth Quarter 2017
   Estimated Publication of ROD: Second Quarter 2018
   Contact: William West, IDT Leader, Rock Springs Field Office (307-352-0259)
3. Buffalo RMP Revision EIS: The planning area includes lands within the BLM Buffalo Field Office administrative boundary in Campbell, Johnson, and Sheridan counties in northeastern Wyoming. The decision area consists of BLM-administered surface, totaling 780,000 acres, and the federal mineral estate, totaling 4.8 million acres. The revised RMP will replace the 1985 Buffalo RMP. Main issues include energy and mineral development, rangeland health, vegetation and habitat management, cultural resources management, lands and realty management and management of recreational uses of the BLM administered surface.

   **NOI Issued:** Nov. 14, 2008  
   **NOA of Draft RMP/Draft EIS:** June 29, 2013  
   **Estimated Publication of Proposed RMP/Final EIS:** Spring 2015  
   **Estimated Publication of ROD:** Fall 2015  
   **Contact:** Thomas Bills, IDT Leader, Buffalo Field Office (307-684-1133)  

4. Lander RMP Revision EIS: The 2014 ROD and Approved RMP, published on June 26, 2014, replace the 1987 Lander RMP. The RMP covers approximately 2.4 million acres of BLM-administered surface land and 2.8 million acres of federal mineral estate in Fremont, Natrona, Sweetwater, Carbon, and Hot Springs counties in west-central Wyoming. Main issues requiring revision include energy and mineral development, rangeland health, vegetation and habitat management, wild horse and burro management, cultural resources management, management of congressionally-designated trails, Greater Sage-Grouse conservation (70 percent of the planning area has been designated as priority habitat), and management of recreational uses on BLM-administered lands. Implementation of the RMP and development of an adaptive management strategy for sage-grouse has begun. Cooperating agency and public meetings were held in September 2014. Implementation meetings will start in March 2015.

   **Contact:** Kristin Yannone, IDT Leader, Lander Field Office (307-332-8448)  

5. Sage-Grouse RMP Amendments EIS: This BLM-proposed project will amend six RMPs across the state (Newcastle, Casper, Rawlins, Rock Springs, Kemmerer and Pinedale), as well as three U.S. Forest Service (USFS) plans (Medicine Bow, Bridger-Teton and Thunder Basin National Grasslands) to incorporate new management and conservation measures on priority sage-grouse habitat in an attempt to prevent the bird from being listed as a Threatened and Endangered species. The planning area contains approximately 16 million acres of public surface land administered by the BLM and USFS and 16 million acres of federal oil and gas mineral (subsurface) estate. The BLM proposed action would impose policy contained in WY-IMs 2010-012 and -013. This is the first BLM EIS to allow the public to observe cooperating agency meetings.

   **NOI Issued:** May 28, 2010  
   **Publication of Draft RMP/Draft EIS:** Dec. 27, 2013  
   **Estimated Publication of Proposed RMP/Final EIS:** Third Quarter 2015  
   **Estimated Publication of ROD:** Fourth Quarter 2015  
   **Contact:** William West, Project Manager, Rock Springs Field Office (307-352-0259)  

6. Rawlins Visual Resource Management (VRM) Targeted RMP Amendment EA: The VRM Class decisions in the Rawlins RMP were remanded following protest resolution on the 2008 Rawlins Proposed RMP/Final EIS. BLM is amending the Rawlins RMP to incorporate new VRM class decisions based on a new visual resource quality inventory completed in 2010. The Rawlins planning area includes approximately 3.5 million acres of public land surface and 4.5 million acres of federal mineral estate in Laramie, Albany, Carbon and eastern Sweetwater counties. The decision area for the Chokecherry/Sierra Madre Wind Energy Development Project VRM planning review (742,000 acres) is excluded from the Rawlins RMP planning review as it was previously analyzed.
7. Pinedale RMP Amendment EA: The Pinedale Field Office has issued an NOI for an amendment to the Pinedale RMP. The EA amendment would remove an estimated 5,120 acres from future oil and gas leasing. These acres were part of the Trust for Public Land lease-buyout connected with PXP mineral leases. An ID team meeting including cooperating agencies was held in December 2014. The first chapters of the EA are being drafted.

**NOI Issued:** May 9, 2014

**Contact:** Lauren McKeever, IDT Leader, Pinedale Field Office (307-367-5300)


8. Rawlins RMP Amendment EA: The Rawlins Field Office has issued an NOI for an amendment to the Rawlins RMP. The EA amendment would remove an estimated 12,425 acres from future oil and gas leasing. These acres are located on federal mineral estate adjacent to the water sources for the municipalities of Rawlins, Saratoga, and Laramie, Wyoming.

**NOI Issued:** July 21, 2014

**Contact:** Jennifer Fleuret-McConchie, IDT Leader, Rawlins Field Office (307-328-4314)


---

**Oil and Gas Development Projects**

1. Blacks Fork EIS (Formerly Moxa Arch Area Infill): The Blacks Fork project area is located within the Moxa Arch gas field in southwestern Wyoming and is comprised of 633,532 acres of mixed federal, state, and private lands in Sweetwater, Uinta, and Lincoln counties. The Kemmerer Field Office received a proposal submitted by the operators in the Moxa Arch gas field to infill drill additional natural gas wells that would facilitate gas extraction, maximize the economic recovery of the resource, and extend the production life of the field. The operators estimate that approximately 7,500 hydrocarbon wells on 1,000 well pads would be drilled over 20 years.

**NEPA Status:** An NOI to initiate scoping was published on Oct. 7, 2005. The DEIS was released for public review on Oct. 12, 2007; however, questions were raised as to the accuracy and date range of the Emissions Inventory used in the air quality dispersion modeling and concerns with the range of alternatives. It was determined that a Supplemental DEIS (SDEIS) would be required to address these concerns. The operator halted work on the SDEIS in July 2012, and on Dec. 1, 2013, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation took over the project. In June 2014, Anadarko provided some preliminary information for changes to the Moxa Arch Area Infill Project, including changing the project name to the Blacks Fork Hydrocarbon Development Project, increasing the total acreage, and revising the number of proposed wells. A new plan of development was submitted to BLM on Oct. 10, 2014, and is currently under review.

**Contact:** Travis Chewning, IDT Leader, Kemmerer Field Office (307-828-4518)


2. LaBarge Platform Exploration and Development Project EIS: The Pinedale and Rock Springs field offices received a proposal in December 2009 for the LaBarge Platform Project from four energy development companies; EOG Resources, Exxon Mobil, Chevron and Wexpro. The companies propose to drill natural gas and oil wells from new well pads over the course of 15 years in the Upper Green River Basin in Sublette and Lincoln counties in western Wyoming. This EIS addresses the proposal to drill, complete, produce, and eventually reclaim up to 838 oil and gas (primarily natural gas) wells on an estimated 463 new well pads (vertical and horizontal) over a 40-year project life span. The project area consists of 218,000 acres of federal, state, and private lands. The area is one of the oldest oil and gas fields in the region, dating back roughly 100 years.

---

3
3. Continental Divide-Creston (CD-C) Natural Gas Project EIS: The CD-C project is a combination of two proposals for EIS analysis, the Creston/Blue Gap and Continental Divide/Wamsutter II natural gas development projects. The proposed project area is located approximately 25 miles west of Rawlins, within Carbon and Sweetwater counties in southern Wyoming. The combined proposal includes 8,950 natural gas wells, including 100 to 500 coal bed natural gas wells. Proponents for this action are BP and nearly 20 other lease holders. The project area encompasses about 1.1 million acres of mixed federal, state, and private lands within the boundaries of the Rawlins Field Office. Wells would be developed using both vertical and horizontal drilling techniques. A 15-year construction period with a 30-50 year operational period is proposed.

NEPA Status: The DEIS was released for public comment on Dec. 7, 2012, and ended on March 6, 2013. Approximately 8,700 DEIS comments were received. The FEIS and ROD are expected in early 2015.

Contact: Jennifer Fleuret-McConchie, IDT Leader, Rawlins Field Office (307-328-4314)

4. Hiawatha Field Project EIS: QEP, along with Wexpro Company, propose to drill up to 2,200 exploratory and development wells in southern Sweetwater County, Wyoming, and northern Moffat County, Colorado. The proponents plan to drill new vertical, directional and horizontal natural gas wells mainly within the boundaries of the existing Hiawatha, Canyon Creek, and Trail units of southwest Wyoming and northwest Colorado. The project area of approximately 157,335 acres is located about 55 miles south of Rock Springs, Wyoming. About 66 percent of the proposed wells would be located in Wyoming, with the remainder in Colorado.

NEPA Status: An NOI was published on Sept. 6, 2006. The DEIS is currently being revised and a new project schedule is being prepared.

Contact: Douglas Linn, IDT Leader, Rock Springs Field Office (307-352-0237)

5. Normally-Pressured Lance (NPL) Natural Gas Development Project EIS: The NPL project is located immediately south and west of the existing Jonah Gas Field within the BLM Pinedale and Rock Springs field offices in Sublette County, Wyoming, about 68 miles northwest of Rock Springs. The project encompasses 141,080 acres, 93 percent of which is BLM-administered land. Jonah Energy LLC is proposing up to 3,500 directionally-drilled wells over a period of 10 years. Most wells would be co-located on a single pad, with no more than four well pads being constructed per 640 acres. On average, each well pad would be 18 acres in size. Associated access roads, pipelines, compressor stations and other facilities would be co-located where possible to further minimize surface disturbance. Jonah Energy would use no more than 10 natural gas drilling rigs on average to develop its interest.

NEPA Status: The NOI published on April 12, 2011. Alternative development has been completed. The BLM continues to work with the proponent to update the proposed action to meet both air quality general conformity requirements as well as the provisions of the Sage-Grouse RMP Amendments. The DEIS is tentatively scheduled to be released in early 2015, with the FEIS anticipated for the spring of 2016.

Contact: Phillip Blundell, Project Manager, Rock Springs Field Office (307-352-0243)
6. Moneta Divide Natural Gas and Oil Development Project EIS (formerly GMI): Encana Oil and Gas (USA) Inc. and Burlington Resources Oil and Gas Company LP have proposed to develop up to 4,250 natural gas and oil wells and associated infrastructure within the proposed Moneta Divide Project area. The project area is located in Fremont and Natrona counties and encompasses approximately 265,000 acres of land. The life of the proposed project is estimated to be 40 years. Additional development will include pipelines to transport natural gas from the gas field to downstream pipelines near Wamsutter, Wyoming, in the Rawlins Field Office. Also proposed are pipelines to transport treated produced water to Boysen Reservoir and untreated and/or by-product brine from treated produced water to deep water disposal wells located approximately 10 to 20 miles south of the gas field. The Lander Field Office is the lead for this project. The Casper Field Office may need to amend the Casper RMP as part of this project.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI to prepare an EIS published on Jan. 17, 2013. Public scoping meetings were held in mid-February 2013 in Riverton, Lander and Casper. The scoping period closed at the end of March 2013. The DEIS is scheduled to be released for public review in January 2016.

**Contact:** Chris Krassin, IDT Leader, Lander Field Office (307-332-8452)

7. Bird Canyon Field Infill Project EIS: Koch Exploration and Memorial Resource Development propose to drill additional oil and gas wells in the Bird Canyon Field to facilitate product extraction and to maximize the economic recovery of the resource. The Bird Canyon Field encompasses 17,612 acres of BLM-administered surface lands in Sublette and Lincoln counties in southwestern Wyoming. The operators have proposed to drill 348 new gas wells in the project area over 10-20 years. The proposal is entirely within the marginal non-attainment area for ozone.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI to prepare an EIS was published on May 9, 2014. Public scoping meetings were held in Rock Springs and Marbleton, Wyoming, on May 29-30, 2014, and the scoping period ended on June 16, 2014. Eleven individuals and organizations commented on the project. Coordination with cooperating agencies is ongoing to finalize alternatives and prepare a reclamation plan for the project.

**Contact:** Spencer Allred, IDT Leader, Rock Springs Field Office (307-352-0325)

8. Horseshoe Basin Unit Project EA: The Rock Springs Field Office received a proposal submitted by Devon Energy Production Company, LP to develop up to 20 new oil or gas wells within the Horseshoe Basin Unit. The Horseshoe Basin Unit is located in southwestern Wyoming, approximately 55 miles southeast of Rock Springs. The project area encompasses 24,972 acres of primarily federal land, with a small amount of state and privately owned land. Devon Energy would develop two wells per year during the next 10 years, with the life of the project anticipated to be 20 to 30 years. The Horseshoe Basin Unit was developed in 2005 and presently has two gas wells and associated roads, pipelines, and a centralized production facility.

**NEPA Status:** The BLM received the project description in February 2013. Public scoping ended June 5, 2013, and produced supportive comments from seven different entities. The project is on hold due to a change in operator. Linn Energy, the current proponent, will decide whether to continue as planned, make changes or cancel the project.

**Contact:** Brandon Teppo, Natural Resource Specialist, Rock Springs Field Office (307-352-0318)

9. Converse County Oil and Gas Project EIS: The Casper Field Office received a proposal from a group of six companies to develop up to 5,000 new oil or gas wells in northern Converse County, Wyoming. The project area encompasses roughly 1.5 million acres of split estate mixed surface ownership lands. The operators propose to develop the wells over 10 years, with the life of the project anticipated to be 20 to 30 years. The project includes all or parts of three different Sage-Grouse Core Areas.
**NEPA Status:** An NOI to prepare an EIS published on May 16, 2014. Public scoping concluded on June 30, 2014, with 90 comments received. The BLM is currently working with cooperators to develop a range of alternatives. A DEIS is anticipated in mid-2016, with the FEIS slated for late 2017.

**Contact:** Mike Robinson, Project Manager, Casper Field Office (307-261-7520)

10. Riley Ridge to Natrona (RRNP) EIS: The Rock Springs Field Office received a proposal from Denbury Green Pipeline–Riley Ridge, LLC to construct the RRNP, which consists of two separate right-of-way (ROW) applications that will be analyzed in one EIS. The first segment will carry carbon dioxide (CO2) and hydrogen sulfide (H2S) from the Riley Ridge Unit in western Wyoming 31 miles to a proposed sweetening plant. The H2S gas will then be removed and liquid CO2 will be transported 120 miles to the Bairoil Interconnect Facility. The proposed sweetening plant is within the marginal non-attainment area for ozone. The second application is for an 83-mile-long, 24-inch-diameter CO2 pipeline from the Bairoil Interconnect Facility to the Natrona Hub Interconnect Facility in Natrona County, Wyoming. This segment will transport liquid CO2 collected from the Riley Ridge Unit and the existing Shute Creek Gas Plan to the existing Greencore Pipeline. The CO2 will be used for enhanced oil recovery in the Bell Creek Unit oil field in southeast Montana. Construction is anticipated in 2015.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI to prepare an EIS was published on June 9, 2014. Public scoping meetings were held July 14-17, 2014, in Rock Springs, Big Piney, Lander and Casper, Wyoming.

**Contact:** James Stobaugh, National Project Manager, Nevada State Office (775-861-6478)

11. Greater Crossbow Oil and Gas Project EIS: The Buffalo Field Office received a proposal from EOG Resources to develop up to 1,500 new oil and gas wells in Campbell and Converse counties in eastern Wyoming. The project area encompasses roughly 120,000 acres of split estate mixed surface ownership lands within the BLM Buffalo and Casper field offices and the USFS Douglas Ranger District. There are no BLM-administered lands within the project area; however, approximately 64 percent of the mineral estate is managed by the BLM. Surface lands managed by the Forest Service and the State of Wyoming make up roughly 13,000 acres of the area. EOG proposes developing the wells over 10 years, with the life of the project anticipated to be 20 to 30 years. The project is not within sage-grouse core area.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI has been delayed, but is anticipated to publish in the first quarter of 2015. An initial cooperating agency meeting and public scoping meetings will be held approximately 15-30 days following the NOI publication.

**Contact:** Tom Bills, Project Manager, Buffalo Field Office (307-684-1133)

12. Desolation Road EA: Samson Resources proposes to drill up to 17 wells on up to five well pads in the Desolation Road Unit in southwestern Wyoming. The proposed well pads are located within two miles of the Adobe Town Wilderness Study Area (WSA), with the closest well pad located about 1,000 feet from the WSA boundary. Total project disturbance is anticipated to be approximately 117 acres. The project is within a Class II visual resource management area and contains designated pronghorn antelope crucial winter range as well as potential habitat for raptors and mountain plover.

**NEPA Status:** Scoping was reinitiated on Oct. 10, 2014, due to a significant change in the proposed project. The public scoping period ended Nov. 14, 2014. Nineteen individuals/organizations provided comments on the proposed project. The BLM is preparing the EA.

**Contact:** Spencer Allred, IDT Leader, Rock Springs Field Office (307-352-0325)

13. North Dutch John Unit #1 EA: Azalea Oil Company proposes to drill a single exploratory well in the North Dutch John Unit in southwestern Wyoming. The proposed well pad is located on Iron Mountain, approximately 17 miles north of the town of Dutch John, Utah and six miles east of the Flaming Gorge Reservoir. Total project disturbance is anticipated to be approximately 10.4 acres. The project is within a Class III visual resource management area and contains designated elk and mule deer crucial winter range.

**NEPA Status:** Scoping was initiated on Nov. 22, 2013, and ended on Feb. 4, 2014. A total of 368 sets of comments were received. The EA is expected to be released for public review on May 1, 2015.

**Contact:** Ted Inman, IDT Leader, Rock Springs Field Office (307-352-0388)
Upcoming Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sales

- High Plains and Wind River/Bighorn Basin districts – February 3, 2015
  - HPD
    - 197 nominated parcels
    - 236,478 acres
  - WRBB
    - 52 nominated parcels
    - 67,437 acres

- High Desert District – May 5, 2015
  - 75 nominated parcels
  - 121,325 acres

Wind Energy Projects

Chokecherry/Sierra Madre Wind Farm Project EIS and EAs: Power Company of Wyoming submitted an application requesting a ROW across public lands to site approximately 1,000 wind turbines, access roads, transmission lines and associated infrastructure. The project area is located south of Rawlins, Wyoming, within the checkerboard land pattern. The project encompasses approximately 220,000 acres, 102,000 acres of which are public lands.

NEPA Status: The ROD was signed by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar on Oct. 9, 2012. However, additional site-specific, tiered EAs are required prior to issuance of any ROWs. An Avian Protection Plan and Eagle Conservation Plan are being developed by the proponent in coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Cooperator and scoping meetings were held in September 2013 for NEPA analysis for the haul road, rail facility and quarries. Public meetings on phase I turbine development were held in Rawlins and Saratoga on Dec. 16-17, 2013. FWS is concurrently working on a separate EIS for an Eagle Take Permit for the project. A DR for EA 1 for infrastructure components of the project was signed by the Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals on Dec. 23, 2014. A DR for EA 2 for the construction of up to 500 turbines is anticipated for March 2015.

Contact: Heather Schultz, IDT Leader, Rawlins Field Office (307-328-4215)

Coal Projects

Rawhide Lease Modification EA: Peabody Caballo Mining, LLC submitted an application requesting a lease modification for the Rawhide Mine. The requested modification consists of adding a 291 acre tract to the Rawhide lease.

NEPA Status: Public scoping is planned for February 2015.
Contact: Sarah Bucklin, Project Manager, High Plains District Office (307-261-7541)
**Bentonite Projects**

**Wyo-Ben Ten Claims EA:** The Ten Claims Bentonite Mine Plan of Operations proposes an open pit bentonite mine of up to 522.1 acres of disturbance that would consist of pits, out-of-pit stockpiles, and haul roads. The mine would be excavated in multiple phases using standard castback mining techniques and procedures with concurrent reclamation on backfilled pit areas. A pit sequence may take up to ten years to complete, with the overall project taking up to 17 years to conclude. Proposed mining activity consists of five pit sequences to begin as soon as this mine application is approved.  

**NEPA Status:** The Worland Field Office has initiated an EA and the operator has committed to measures that would reduce or eliminate effects to most resources impacted. Issues concerning disturbance to VRM Class II resources were identified. It was determined that simulations of the disturbance and proposed reclamation were needed to determine the significance of impacts. The completion of the visual analysis is pending the hiring of additional staff.  

**Contact:** Holly Elliott, IDT Leader, Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Office (307-347-5193)

---

**Uranium Projects**

1. **Nichols Ranch/Hank Unit Uranium In-Situ Recovery (ISR) Project EA:** Uranerz Energy Corporation filed a Plan of Operations to construct, operate and decommission an ISR uranium facility. The proposal also includes a plan for aquifer restoration in the area. The size of the project area is 3,371 acres, located 46 miles southwest of Gillette, Wyoming, in Campbell and Johnson counties. Approximately 280 acres of BLM-administered lands are included in the project area.  

**NEPA Status:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) released their Final Supplemental EIS (SEIS) for this project in January 2011. The BLM determined that the NRC SEIS was insufficient for cultural and wildlife issues. A revised Plan of Operations was received March 2012. The Buffalo Field Office determined that the Plan of Operations was complete on June 8, 2012, and began a 30-day public notification and scoping period. An EA was released for a 30-day public comment period on June 24, 2013. BLM revised the EA based on the public comment received. BLM consulted with the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Uranerz, and several tribes on cultural issues. A final decision is anticipated in early 2015.  

**Contact:** Thomas Bills, IDT Leader, Buffalo Field Office (307-684-1133)

2. **Sheep Mountain Uranium Project EIS:** The project from Titan Uranium USA Inc. consists of an open pit and underground uranium mine with on-site heap leach processing within a 3,625 acre project area, of which 2,313 acres are BLM surface and 2,836 acres are federal minerals.  

**NEPA Status:** The NOI was published on Aug. 23, 2011. The project was put on hold during merger negotiations between the proponent and Energy Fuels, a Colorado uranium company. The merger was completed in February 2012. A revised Plan of Operations was received in August 2013. The DEIS was published on Jan. 16, 2015. A public meeting for the DEIS was held on January 28 in Lander, Wyoming. The 45-day public comment period closes on March 2, 2015.  

**Contact:** Tom Sunderland, IDT Leader, Lander Field Office (307-332-8412) or Chris Krassin, Project Coordinator, Lander Field Office (307-332-8400)

---


Transmission Projects

1. Gateway South Transmission Line Project EIS: PacifiCorp, doing business as Rocky Mountain Power, submitted an application to the BLM requesting a ROW across public lands to site a single-circuit 500 kV transmission line from the Aeolus Substation near Medicine Bow, Wyoming, to the Clover Substation near Mona, Utah, a total distance of approximately 400-425 miles. This line would carry renewable wind and thermal energy from Wyoming to Rocky Mountain Power customers in Utah to serve load and growth needs for transmission, and provide reliability and redundancy to their system. The requested ROW width is 250 feet. The route would cross the Rawlins Field Office, as well as other BLM offices in Colorado and Utah, and three USFS offices in Utah. The USFS is a key cooperating agency in assisting the BLM (lead) to prepare the EIS.

NEPA Status: The NOI was published on April 1, 2011. Public scoping was completed June 3, 2011. The DEIS was published Feb. 21, 2014. The FEIS is anticipated to be published in September 2015.


2. TransWest Express Transmission Line Project EIS: TransWest Express, LLC submitted a revised ROW application in January 2010 (initially filed in 2008) to construct a 600 kV high-voltage direct current transmission line designed to carry up to 3,000 MW from south-central Wyoming, through Colorado and Utah, and ending southeast of Las Vegas. The total distance is roughly 725 miles. BLM Wyoming was designated as the lead state for the project. The Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) accepting joint lead for the NEPA process in 2010, with BLM retaining the lead for the NHPA Section 106 consultation and Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 consultation. The project is proposed to carry renewable energy generated in Wyoming to the Southwest. The proposed route crosses 490 miles of federal lands. The route also spans three National Forests and 235 miles of private and state lands. The ROW requested width is typically 250 feet. An additional 1,478 miles of alternatives are analyzed in the EIS.

NEPA Status: The NOI published in January 2011. The DEIS was published July 3, 2013. Roughly 1,000 comments were received. The FEIS is anticipated to be published in the spring of 2015.
