

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 Project Location and Background

This section is included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and is not being amended in this supplement.

1.2 Summary of Proposed Action

This section is included in the Draft EIS and is not being amended in this supplement.

1.3 Purpose and Need

This section is included in the Draft EIS and is not being amended in this supplement.

1.4 Environmental Analysis Process

This section is included in the Draft EIS and is not being amended in this supplement.

1.4.1 Decisions to be Made After the EIS Process

This section is included in the Draft EIS and is not being amended in this supplement.

1.4.2 Supplement to the Draft EIS

In response to comments on the Draft EIS for the Greater Natural Buttes Area Gas Development Project, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) developed this Supplement to the Draft EIS (SDEIS) to address comments specific to air quality. The comments that provided the basis for the BLM's development of the SDEIS raised issues regarding new information and additional analyses to be included in the document and can be summarized as follows:

- *Since completion of the air quality impact analysis for this project, United States (U.S.) Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) established new 1-hour standards for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and sulfur dioxide (SO₂). These standards are addressed through additional near-field modeling analyses in this document.*
- *Monitoring of ozone levels in the Uinta Basin during 2010 and 2011 have revealed concentrations at levels above the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), prompting the BLM to consider additional mitigation measures in the impact analysis.*
- *The new information and analyses prompted the BLM to re-evaluate potential environmental justice impacts on nearby communities.*

This SDEIS presents additional analysis of near-field impacts to address newly promulgated standards for NO₂ and SO₂ as well as to address comments related to mitigation and environmental justice impacts due to potential air quality impacts. This document is formatted to follow the same outline as the Draft EIS; however, only those sections that are revised or newly added to the document are presented in the SDEIS. For those sections that are referenced in the SDEIS but text has not been included, the reader is referred to the same section number of the Draft EIS.

The SDEIS is being released for public review as a separate document to obtain comment on the revised and newly added sections of the document. The BLM will review public comments, respond to the comments, and make appropriate revisions to the text in the SDEIS. The revised SDEIS will then be incorporated into the Final EIS.

1.5 Legal and Policy Considerations

This section is included in the Draft EIS and is not being amended in this supplement.

1.6 Scoping

This section is included in the Draft EIS and is not being amended in this supplement.