## FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2011-0104-EA

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the EA and all other available information, I have determined that the proposal and the alternatives analyzed do not constitute a major Federal action that would adversely impact the quality of the human environment. This determination is based on the following factors:

- 1. Beneficial, adverse, direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts have been disclosed in the EA. Analysis indicated no significant impacts on society as a whole, the affected region, the affected interests or the locality. The physical and biological effects are limited to the Little Snake Resource Area and adjacent land.
- 2. Public health and safety would not be adversely impacted. There are no known or anticipated concerns with project waste or hazardous materials.
- 3. There would be no adverse impacts to regional or local air quality, prime or unique farmlands, known paleontological resources on public land within the area, wetlands, floodplain, areas with unique characteristics, ecologically critical areas or designated Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.
- 4. There are no highly controversial effects on the environment.
- 5. There are no effects that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risk. Sufficient information on risk is available based on information in the EA and other past actions of a similar nature.
- 6. This alternative does not set a precedent for other actions that may be implemented in the future to meet the goals and objectives of adopted Federal, State or local natural resource related plans, policies or programs.
- 7. No cumulative impacts related to other actions that would have a significant adverse impact were identified or are anticipated.
- 8. Based on previous and ongoing cultural surveys and through mitigation by avoidance, no adverse impacts to cultural resources were identified or anticipated. There are no known American Indian religious concerns or persons or groups who might be disproportionately and adversely affected as anticipated by the Environmental Justice Policy.
- 9. No adverse impacts to any threatened or endangered species or their habitat that was determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act were identified. If, at a future time, there could be the potential for adverse impacts, treatments would be modified or mitigated not to have an adverse effect or new analysis would be conducted.

## FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

DOI-BLM-CO-N010- 2011-0104-EA

- 10. This alternative is in compliance with relevant Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, and requirements for the protection of the environment.
- 11. To ensure new mitigation measures that may be developed during the Colorado Northwest District Greater Sage-grouse EIS are not precluded in priority habitats, all parcels that are within Preliminary Priority Habitat (per WO IM No. 2012-043) are being deferred at this time.

I have reviewed the direct, indirect and cumulative effects of the proposed activities documented in the February 2012 Oil & Gas Lease Sale EA No. DOI-BLM-N010-2011-0104-EA. I have also reviewed the project record for this analysis and the impacts of the proposed action and alternatives as disclosed in the Alternatives and Environmental Impacts sections of the EA. Based upon a review of the EA and the supporting documents, I have determined that the project is not a major federal action and will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. Because there would not be any significant impact, an environmental impact statement is not required.

The But Acting

SIGNATURE OF DEPUTY STATE DIRECTOR? Division of Energy, Land, & Minerals

DATE SIGNED: 2/9/2012

