

To: Anita Bilbao[abilbao@blm.gov]
Cc: Brian Quigley[bquigley@blm.gov]; Donald Hoffheins[dhoffhei@blm.gov]; Edwin Roberson[eroberso@blm.gov]; Kent Hoffman[khoffman@blm.gov]; Michael Richardson[mjrichardson@blm.gov]; Ryan Sutherland[rsutherland@blm.gov]; Ted McDougall[tmcDougall@blm.gov]
From: Bryant, Lisa
Sent: 2017-11-20T17:16:29-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: Daneros Uranium Mine Plan question (DTS 12145)
Received: 2017-11-20T17:17:37-05:00
Daneros Uranium Mine Decision Document FINAL RTC BLMUtahResponses.doc

I pulled the document from DTS. Rich had a number of corrections/comments and had two primary questions (below):

Q1) clarification of the haul routes locations and whether they are part of the modified mine plan of operations or the existing mine plan of operations?

A - "Forty miles of haul routes are located on existing county roads and a State Highway within the boundary of Bears Ears National Monument." - The haul routes that are within the Bears Ears National Monument are part of the existing mine plan of operations, no additional modifications to these haul routes were deemed necessary under the proposed mine plan modification.

Q2) - Clarification of what exactly is meant by the statement "Approving the modification would employ approximately 40 miners and support personnel."

A- The mine, when fully operating under the new modified mine plan of operations, could support approximately 40 jobs. The mine is currently not in operation due to market conditions, so this is not a situation in which jobs will continue. Prior to shut down in 2012 the mine employed 14 workers, it operated 4 days a week (2-10 hr shifts/day, with light maintenance on the occasional Friday). So the expanded operations could support an additional 26 workers from those previously employed at the site.

I also noted based on his suggested edits that there will need to be a statement regarding the life of the mine in the last paragraph.

"Expanding the operations as proposed, would extend the mine life approximately 20 years and employ up to 40 miners and support personnel, with the majority of the employees coming from the local area."

There was another edit that CCYD provided following the previous briefing in order to strengthen the historic mining and updated reclamation, which didn't seem to make it in this version of the memo. I added that as well.

Attached is a copy of the updated memo with replies to Rich's questions and suggested edits (in track changes) to address his concerns. Brian gave me approval for these edits.

I can't seem to reach Stephanie by phone, what is the best way to get this updated version to her and Rich? I left a message for Jill Moran who seems to currently have version control for this, (I don't have permissions to upload to this project). **Should I just send this back to Stephanie Miller for upload to DTS or should Anita do that?**

On Mon, Nov 20, 2017 at 12:05 PM, Anita Bilbao <abilbao@blm.gov> wrote:

Brian/Lisa, can you facilitate answers this afternoon to the questions posed by ASLM?

Anita

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Edwin Roberson <eroberso@blm.gov>
Date: November 20, 2017 at 11:43:55 AM MST
To: "Miller, Stephanie" <smiller@blm.gov>
Cc: Anita Bilbao <abilbao@blm.gov>
Subject: Re: Daneros Uranium Mine Plan question (DTS 12145)

Will do, Stephanie. Thanks. Ed

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 20, 2017, at 11:25 AM, Miller, Stephanie <smiller@blm.gov> wrote:

Ed and Anita,

Rich Cardinale has a couple questions on this project. Would you please forward the attached document to the office that can answer his questions? As soon as the responses are uploaded to DTS I can move this forward to ASLM.

Thanks,
Stephanie

Stephanie A. Miller
Advisor to the Director's Office
Bureau of Land Management
[1849 C St NW, Rm. 5648](#)
[Washington DC 20240](#)
[Office: 202 208 4019](#)
[Mobile: 202 317 0086](#)
smiller@blm.gov

<Daneros Uranium Mine Decision Document FINAL RTC.doc>

--

Lisa Bryant
Public Affairs Specialist
BLM Canyon Country District
435 259 2187 (office)
435 260 7003 (cell)
lmbryant@blm.gov

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/blmutah

FLICKR: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/blmutah>

TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/blmutah>

DATA CALL ON PROPOSED RECORDS OF DECISION AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT DECISION DOCUMENTS

Date: November 17, 2017

To: James E. Cason, Associate Deputy Secretary of the Interior

Through: Katharine S. MacGregor, Deputy Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management
Exercising the Authority of the Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management

From: Brian Steed, Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management
Exercising the Authority of the Director Bureau of Land Management

Bureau/Office: Bureau of Land Management Utah

Title of Document: Daneros Uranium Mine Plan Modification

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED DECISION

The Monticello Field Office plans to sign a decision approving a mine plan modification at the Daneros Mine, an underground uranium mine located 67 miles west of Blanding in western San Juan County, Utah. The decision would authorize expanded operations in phases, resulting in an increase in surface disturbance from 4.6 to 46 acres. The decision would also allow for expansion into three existing waste rock dump sites, which would be reclaimed ultimately. The modification would result in projected ore production of up to 500,000 tons over 20 years. Ore would be transported about 60 miles to the White Mesa Mill. Approximately 40 miles of this haul route are located on existing county roads and a State Highway within the Bears Ears National Monument. The haul route is currently part of the existing mine plan, but the modified mine plan includes an updated transportation plan. The Environmental Assessment (EA) was completed in June 2017, and the resulting Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision Record have been prepared and are ready for signature.

NEED AND DEADLINE FOR ISSUANCE

In 2013, Energy Fuels submitted an application to modify its existing mining plan of operations. Considering the longstanding application, the BLM seeks to be responsive to Energy Fuels' request for a mine plan modification and authorize it to pursue expansion activities. A delay would prevent potential employment opportunities to the local community. The project aligns with the President's America First Energy Plan.

POSITIONS OF AFFECTED STAKEHOLDERS

Formatted: Line spacing: single

Deleted: Acting

Formatted: Line spacing: single

Deleted: ,

Deleted: Acting

Deleted: of the

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Formatted: Line spacing: single

Formatted: Line spacing: single

Deleted: Forty miles of haul route occur are located on existing county roads and a State Highway within the Bears Ears National Monument.

Deleted: also

Deleted: s

Deleted: eventually

Deleted: P

Deleted: would be

Deleted:

Deleted: ;

Deleted: its associate

Deleted: ONSI

Deleted: are

Formatted: Line spacing: single

Deleted: them

BLM is partnering with the Department of Energy and the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining to inventory the area's mines and assess reclamation opportunities. The Daneros Mine plan modification and its proposed reclamation plan support this partnership.

Deleted: o

Deleted: ,

Formatted: Line spacing: single

Deleted: s

The Utah Governor's Office and San Juan County Commission provided written support for the project, citing the positive economic benefits to the local economy.

The Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Uranium Watch organizations are generally opposed to the project.

The National Park Service expressed concerns regarding fugitive dust and gaseous pollutants, noise pollution and impact to night skies. The EA assessed these issues and the modified mining plan of operation includes measures to minimize impacts.

Deleted: for

Deleted: s

Deleted: environmental assessment

The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe expressed concerns about potential impacts of mill operations to the White Mesa community. The EA concludes that the production quantities outlined in the proposed mining plan of operations at the Daneros Mine would have negligible indirect and cumulative impacts to the White Mesa community.

Deleted: environmental assessment

The Navajo Nation claims ancestral and cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups that occupied the area. They expressed concern about sacred sites located in the Valley of the Gods, which is about 60 miles from the Daneros Mine. After the EA was revised to clarify their affiliation, they had no further concerns and asked to be kept informed should Native America Graves Protection and Repatriation Act issues arise.

Deleted: environmental assessment

The Hopi Tribe also claims ancestral and cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in the area and expressed opposition to uranium mining. The tribe did not provide comments on the EA.

Deleted: y

Deleted: environmental assessment

OTHER RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

[Include: public lands affected, revenue, and jobs]

Expanding operations as proposed, would extend the life of the Daneros Mine approximately 20 years and employ up to 40 miners and support personnel, with the majority of the employees coming from the local area."

Deleted: The proposed mining plan of operations modification would expand the life of the Daneros Mine by 41 acres. Approving the modification would employ approximately 40 miners and support personnel.

ASSOCIATE DEPUTY SECRETARY'S DECISION:

Deleted: ¶

_____ APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE

COMMENT:

Date _____

James E. Cason _____

Formatted: Line spacing: single