

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Arctic Field Office
1150 University Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3844
<http://www.blm.gov/ak>

In reply refer to:
FF086926
2850.02 (AK012)

PLAN CONFORMANCE / NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD

DOI-BLM-LLAKF010-2010-0020-CX

Arctic Field Office, Bureau of Land Management

Applicant: Barrow Utilities & Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Attn: Ben L. Frantz, General Manager
P.O. Box 449
Barrow, Alaska 99723

Proposed Action: Right of Way Renewal (2850.02)

Description of Proposed Action: The applicant Barrow Utilities & Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BUECI) has requested to renew a Right of Way (ROW) grant for lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at Barrow, Alaska. The original ROW was granted by the BLM to BUECI in 1990 with an expiration date of May 30, 2010. The proposed renewal would renew the ROW to May 30, 2030.

BUECI is a local member owned, non-profit utility company providing electric, gas, water and sewage service to entities within the community of Barrow, Alaska. Although the ROW was granted in 1990, the site has been used for this purpose since 1964 via the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The following structures are currently in place: 2 story office building, three 14feet by 70 feet mobile homes for employee housing, water production plant, water distribution plant, generation plant, and storage building. Operations are monitored by the Occupational Safety and Health Association (OSHA), the State of Alaska Department of Transportation Pipeline Safety, and the Alaska Public Utilities Corporation (APUC). Currently BUECI employs sixty local residents.

Location: Track B & C, Section 6, Township 22 North, Range 18 West, Umiat Meridian

Part I: Plan Conformance Review

The proposed action is subject to the following planning documents: Northwest National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (IAP/EIS) 2004, Final Environmental Impact Statement on Oil and Gas Leasing in The National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska and Record of Decision approved 5/1983. The proposed action is not inconsistent with the purposes of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976. The applicant will be provided with stipulations entitled “

Date May 28, 2010

/s/Donna L. Wixon
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office

Part II: NEPA Review

Categorical Exclusion Review.

This proposed action meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9, BLM H-1790-1 national Environmental Policy Act Handbook Appendix 4- H. BLM Categorical Exclusions.

“Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations”.

The proposed action has been reviewed to determine if any extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.210 and 46.215, apply.

Extraordinary Circumstances	Yes	No
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
2.2 Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E)].		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.		X
2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		X
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).		X
2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).		X
2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).		X

Date May 28, 2010

/s/Donna L. Wixon
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