



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Colorado River Valley Field Office  
2300 River Frontage Road  
Silt, Colorado 81652  
Phone 970-876-9000, Fax 970-876-9090



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
2880/2800 (CON040)  
COC75020, COC75224

April 2, 2012

Dear Interested Party,

In a letter of December 7, 2011, the Bureau of Land Management, Colorado River Valley Field Office notified interested parties that it was initiating an Environmental Assessment (EA) of a pipeline project called Kokopelli Phase II Pipeline. Bargath LLC ("Bargath") proposes to construct 22.3 miles of a buried 16-inch-diameter steel gas pipeline from the Dry Hollow Compressor south of Silt, Colorado to the Rulison Compressor near Anvil Points. At the time of the initial project scoping, Williams Production RMT Company LLC ("Williams") had proposed to install two 6-inch water lines along a 4.1-mile section of the proposed Kokopelli II trench between Spruce Creek Road (CR 329) and Beaver Creek Road (CR 317) southwest of Rifle, Colorado. The Williams water lines were to be installed concurrently in the same trench with the Kokopelli II gas pipeline.

Williams, since January 1, 2012, has undergone corporate changes and been formed as a separate company identified as WPX Energy Rocky Mountain, LLC ("WPX").

Bargath's proposed Kokopelli II pipeline would gather natural gas developed from WPX's Kokopelli Field in Divide Creek and move it to processing facilities in Parachute, Colorado. The proposed WPX Spruce Creek to Beaver Creek water lines would provide water delivery and collection capabilities to WPX's gas fields and reduce water truck traffic in the Spruce Creek, Beaver Creek, and Flatiron Mesa areas.

Since December, 2011, market conditions and demand forecasts for natural gas commodities have declined significantly. As a result, Bargath has requested that the Kokopelli II gas pipeline project continue with the Federal permitting process and, should it be granted BLM and USFS approvals during 2012, allow the project construction to be delayed until 2013 at the earliest. In light of Bargath's desire to delay construction of the proposed gas pipeline until at least 2013, WPX has requested that BLM analyze and allow WPX to continue with its installation of the Spruce Creek to Beaver Creek water pipelines in its own trench, during a 2012 construction period. The initial Proposed Action for the Kokopelli Phase II pipeline project (which includes WPX's Spruce Creek to Beaver Creek water lines) has been revised to reflect these changes – changes that amount to different construction periods within the same disturbance corridor for the two pipeline projects. The EA being prepared for these pipelines would focus on the associated impacts related to the construction of the two projects, which would occur in different years.

The pipelines would cross public lands administered by the BLM in Sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, and 24, Township 7 South (T7S), Range 93 West (R93W) and Sections 1, 3, 4, 10, 11, and 12, T7S, R94W, Sixth Principal Meridian. The Kokopelli II gas pipeline would also cross lands administered by the White River National Forest in Section 21, T7S, R93W, Sixth P.M. Of the total 22.3 miles of proposed Kokopelli II gas pipeline, 7.6 miles would be installed on BLM-managed lands, 0.9 mile on USFS-managed lands and 13.8 miles across private property. The water pipeline connections outside the shared Kokopelli II pipeline trench would cross another 0.6 mile of private land for a total water pipeline length of 4.7 miles.

The BLM will prepare an EA to disclose the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of the proposed pipelines. As a starting point in the EA process, the BLM is seeking public comment on any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed development and its recent revisions in the Proposed Action. Before including any personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your

comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

To facilitate BLM's review and use of comments during the EA process, comments on the revised Proposed Action must be received by May 2, 2012. Copies of Chapter 1 of the EA including the revised Proposed Action, Alternate USFS Route, and No Action Alternative are available for review at the Colorado River Valley Field Office. Digital copies of the proposal and map are available at [http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/crvfo/GSFO\\_MasterPlansOfDevelopment.html](http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/crvfo/GSFO_MasterPlansOfDevelopment.html). Written comments and questions should be directed to Colorado River Valley Field Office at 2300 River Frontage Road, Silt, CO 81652. Electronic comments may be submitted to [BLM\\_CO\\_SI\\_CRVFO\\_Webmail@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_CO_SI_CRVFO_Webmail@blm.gov).

Sincerely,



Allen B. Crockett, PhD., J.D.  
Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist

Enclosure: Figure 2 - Project Map

