

# Public Notice

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Glenwood Springs Energy Office is initiating an environmental assessment (EA) for the Pete and Bill Geographic Area Plan (GAP) submitted by Noble Energy Inc. for proposed oil and gas exploration and development south of Parachute, Colorado. The GAP proposal, prepared by Noble Energy and submitted to the BLM, describes the operator's plan for development of federal leases within the area and provides details regarding proposed well pads, roads, and pipelines.

The proposal identifies the drilling of 42 wells in a 2-3 year period beginning in spring/summer 2007. The wells will be drilled from two existing well pads and four proposed well pads including the construction of three miles of new roads and pipelines. Directional drilling technology will be used to drill the majority of the wells.

The area proposed for development includes 1,790 acres of BLM surface and mineral estate. The planning area is located approximately six air-miles south of Parachute, Colorado within and directly south of the Pete and Bill Creek watershed. The GAP generally includes portions of seven sections of BLM land accessed along Garfield County Road 306. No public motorized access is available to the GAP area since the existing development roads cross private land. The following portions of sections of federal surface and mineral estate define the extent of the planning area: Section 32, Township 7 South, Range 95 West, and Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 17 and 18, Township 8 South, Range 95 West, Sixth P.M.

The BLM will commence with the preparation of an EA to identify impacts of the GAP proposal, assess cumulative environmental effects, and design appropriate mitigation measures. The GAP package available for public review includes two key components of the planned EA: the Proposed Action and No Action Alternative. The remaining EA components will be prepared by third party NEPA contractor while the final EA review and decision will be the responsibility of the BLM.

The BLM would like to know of any concerns, issues, or comments on the development proposal prior to preparing the environmental assessment. To best facilitate BLM's review and use of comments during the NEPA process, comments must be received by April 25, 2007. Comments and questions should be directed to Jim Byers in the Glenwood Springs Energy Office at [jim\\_byers@blm.gov](mailto:jim_byers@blm.gov) (970-947-5222) or sent to the Associate Field Manager at BLM, Glenwood Springs Energy Office, 2425 S. Grand Ave., Suite 101, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601. Copies of the Geographic Area Plan and map further detailing the proposed oil and gas development are available for review at the BLM Glenwood Springs Energy Office, 2425 S. Grand Ave., Suite 101, Glenwood Springs, Colorado. Digital copies of the GAP proposal and Project Map are available at <http://www.co.blm.gov/gsr/PeteBill.htm>.