

**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
GRAND JUNCTION FIELD OFFICE
2815 H Road, Grand Junction, CO 81506**

DECISION RECORD

**DeBeque Pipeline Project
CO-130-2013-0030-EA**

DECISION: It is my decision to authorize the Proposed Action as described Section 2.2 of the attached EA (construction, operation, maintenance, and abandonment of three collocated pipelines: the Red Rock gas gathering pipeline, Black Hills produced water pipeline, and Blue Hills fresh water pipeline).

This decision is contingent on meeting all mitigation measures and monitoring requirements presented in Appendix A (GJFO Standard Conditions of Approval for Oil and Gas Projects) and Appendix B (Project-Specific Conditions of Approval) attached to the EA. These Conditions of Approval (COAs) will be incorporated as stipulations to Right-of-Way Grants issued consistent with this decision.

The project was noticed to the public by posting on the GJFO NEPA website. No comments were received.

The EA resulted in a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Proposed Action. Consequently, an Environmental Assessment Statement is not required.

RATIONALE: This decision will facilitate the efficient, economical, and environmentally appropriate transport of three types of fluids—natural gas, produced water, and fresh water—associated with the development of 17 federal oil and gas leases held by Black Hills in the Homer Deep Unit (HDU). Although the proposed pipelines would be associated primarily with federal oil and gas leases in the Homer Deep Unit, approximately 75% of the fresh water, to be pumped from the Colorado River, would be delivered to the Town of De Beque for agricultural purposes. The project would allow natural gas to be delivered to markets for the use and benefit of the public and would also provide supplemental irrigation water to local agricultural users.

This decision does not constitute final approval for all actions, such as approval of individual ROW Grants associated with the Proposed Action. It does, however, provide the BLM's Authorized Officer (AO) with an analysis upon which to base final approval for individual ROW Grants.

MITIGATION MEASURES/MONITORING: If the ROW Grants sought by the proponents are issued as an outcome of this decision, the standard and project-specific Conditions of Approval (COAs) provided in Appendices A and B, respectively, of the attached EA would be attached as stipulations to the ROW Grants and enforced by the BLM. In addition, any Conservation Measures for federally listed threatened plants as specified in the Biological Opinion (BO) for the project would be incorporated as stipulations to the ROW Grants and enforced by the BLM.

PROTEST/APPEALS: The following website provides information on the right to protest this NEPA decision and to appeal any subsequent decision to issue one or more ROW Grants pursuant to this decision:

http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/planning/news/webguide/document_pages/8_6_program-specific.html

Appeals to subsequent issuance by the BLM of ROW Grants are to the Interior Board of Land Appeals in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR 4.411 and 4.413. If an appeal is taken, the notice of appeal must be filed with the BLM office issuing the ROW Grants within 30 days from issuance of the ROW Grants. The appellant must state the reasons for the appeal.

NAME OF PREPARER: Allen Crockett, Supervisory NRS, Colorado River Valley Field Office

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: *Christina Stark*

DATE: *7/28/14*

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:


Grand Junction Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: *7-28-14*