



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 9, 2014

Contact: Kyle Sullivan, Public Affairs Specialist, 719-269-8553

## **BLM Releases Draft EA on Proposed CO2 Well**

**CANON CITY, Colo.** – The Bureau of Land Management Royal Gorge Field Office is releasing a draft EA for public review on two proposed CO2 wells near Gardner, CO.

OXY USA, the operator of the existing Sheep Mountain CO2 production unit, has proposed to drill a new CO2 well (SMU 4-23-I) and deepen an existing CO2 well (SMU 6-15-I). The project would take place within the boundaries of their existing operation, on private surface land, over BLM minerals.

The wells would utilize existing roads, power lines, pipelines and maintenance facilities. No new infrastructure would be necessary. The project would take place on an existing pad with currently producing wells, which would have to be expanded to accommodate a drilling rig. Most of the expansion would be reclaimed and re-vegetated as soon as the rig leaves the pad. The project is estimated to take three months.

The Sheep Mountain Unit was developed in the early 1980s in order to produce CO2. The produced CO2 is piped through an existing pipeline to the Permian Basin in West Texas, where it is injected underground into producing petroleum reservoirs that are in decline, aiding in the removal of the fluid minerals.

Project maps can be found on the BLM Royal Gorge Field Office website at [http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/rgfo/planning/sheep\\_mountain\\_co2.html](http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/rgfo/planning/sheep_mountain_co2.html).

For additional information or to provide a comment, please contact Aaron Richter at 719-269-8512 or [arichter@blm.gov](mailto:arichter@blm.gov).

###