



Bureau of Land Management 3028 East Main Street • Cañon City, Colorado 81212

BLM ROYAL GORGE NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Jan. 7, 2015

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

BLM opens scoping period on oil and gas wells

CANON CITY, Colo. – The Bureau of Land Management Royal Gorge Field Office is seeking public comments on a proposal to develop oil and gas resources in the Denver Julesburg Basin.

Noble Energy Inc. is proposing to drill up to 89 oil wells from 14 new and one existing multi-well pads, in an area known as East Pony in the Denver Julesburg Oil and Gas Basin in northern Weld County. The project area is comprised of 7,986 acres, of which approximately 80 percent is private surface and 20 percent is Pawnee National Grasslands surface, administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

Less than one percent of the 190,000-acre PNG is located within the project area. The project area falls within a region of the DJ Basin that contains oil and gas development spanning several decades.

No surface disturbance activities are proposed on the PNG. Surface disturbance activities are proposed entirely on private surface. The project area includes 7,986 acres of mineral estate, of which 2,082 acres are federal minerals administered by the BLM and 5,904 acres are private fee minerals.

Noble is proposing to construct well pads and associated infrastructure, including roads, pipelines and centralized production facilities (called EcoNodes) needed to horizontally drill their leases within the project area. Of these wells, 63 new wells would target a combination of private and/or federal mineral estate and 26 new wells would target only private mineral estate.

A scoping period gives the public a chance to tell the BLM what issues and concerns they think should be addressed in the environmental assessment and alternatives before the BLM begins drafting the document. You can mail your comments to: BLM Royal Gorge Field Office, Attn: Aaron Richter, 3028 East Main Street, Canon City, CO 81212; or email to: rgfo_comments@blm.gov. Your comments will be most helpful if received by Feb. 6, 2015.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other 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. Thank you for your interest in the management of your public lands within the Royal Gorge Field Office.

###