

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Glenwood Springs Energy Office
2425 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 101 Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

Statutory Categorical Exclusion, CO140-2006-122

Project: Proposal to Change Road and Pipeline Alignment serving I27W well pad previously approved in Gant Gulch GAP

Location: T7S, R93W Section 27, NW¼SE¼, 6th PM

Proposal: EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. proposes to change the originally approved access road and gathering line alignment in the Gant Gulch GAP to a shorter, more direct route as requested by surface owners (Nancy and Barbara Pitman).

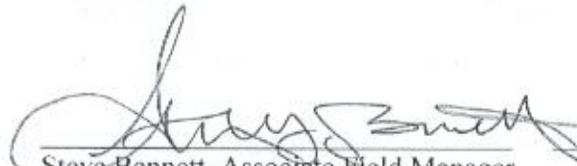
BLM Conditions of Approval: Conditions and stipulations which would be included on the Applications for Permit to Drill are attached.

NEPA Compliance: Category #3 of Section 390 Categorical Exclusions for Oil and Gas Development: "Drilling an oil and gas well within a developed field for which an approved land use plan or any environmental document prepared pursuant to NEPA analyzed drilling as a reasonably foreseeable activity, so long as such plan or document was approved within five (5) years prior to the date of spudding the well." Gant Gulch GAP, approved on 10/17/05, addressed the drilling, transportation and gathering plan for the I27W pad. Minor realignment of the access road and pipeline was requested by adjacent surface owner, Nancy and Barbara Pitman, to minimize proposed surface disturbance.

Cultural Resources/Native American Concerns: A Class III inventory (GSFO#1106-14) was conducted of the road and pipeline reroute. No historic properties or areas of Native American Concern were identified. As such a determination of "**No Historic Properties Affected**" was made in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470f), BLM/SHPO National Programmatic Agreement (1997), and the Colorado Protocol (1998). Mitigation measures remain the same as in the approved Gant GAP, Appendix B.

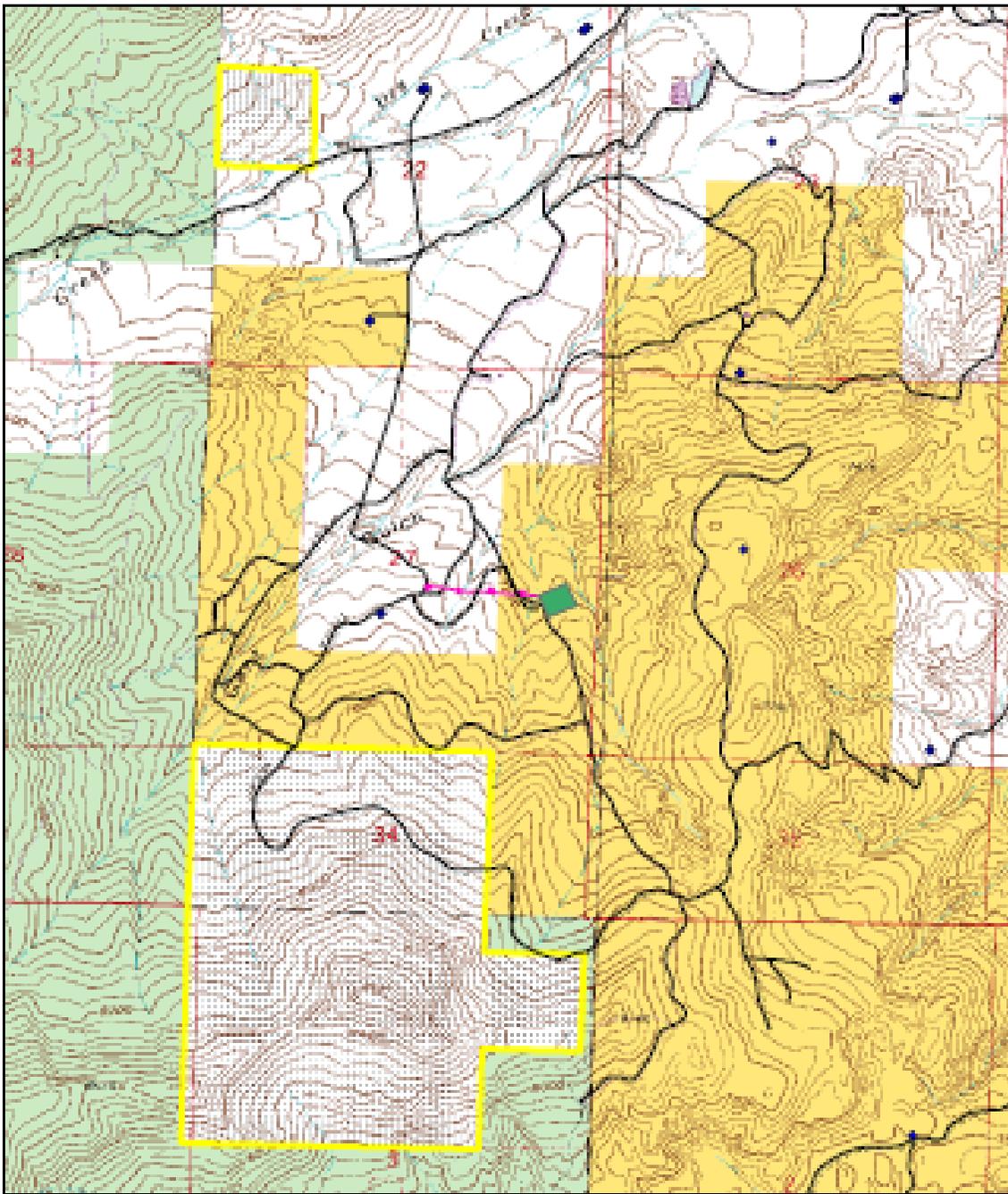
Prepared by: Jim Byers, Natural Resource Specialist 7/17/06

Approval: It is my decision to approve the proposed action with the above referenced terms and conditions:


Steve Bennett, Associate Field Manager

AUG 03 2006

Date



EnCana's I27W Pad in Gant Gulch GAP

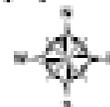
T7S R93W Sec 27, NESE 6th P.M.

- revised access/pipeline

Garfield County, CO

Surface Owner: BLA (pad)
Nancy & Barbara Pitman (road/pipeline)

Pad - GPS'd in Green
Pipeline - GPS'd in Purple
Road - NOT GPS'd in Black dash



Scale 1: 24,000
7/18/06

Well: Federal 26-5
I27W Pad
Operator: EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc..

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL
APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO DRILL

Company/Operator: EnCana Oil & Gas(USA), Inc.

Surface Location: NESE Sec. 27, T7S, R93W (I27W Pad)

<u>Name</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>BH Location</u>	<u>Lease</u>
Federal	26-5 (I27W)	SWNW Sec. 27, T7S, R93W	COC - 54738

Those Conditions of Approval identified in the EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. Gant Gulch GAP (Approved October 17, 2005) will apply.

Please contact Steve Ficklin (970-947-5213) or Jennifer Gallegos (970-947-5220) at the Glenwood Springs Energy Office at least 24 hours prior to running the surface and production casing and conducting the BOP test.

SURFACE USE CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. Standard Conditions of Approval outlined in Appendix B of the Gant Gulch GAP will apply and remain in full force and effect.
2. The stipulation for lease # COC-55605 is Controlled Surface Use to protect fragile soils.
3. Although there is no specific Timing Limitation for Big Game Winter Habitats listed in the Lease, the 60 day Condition of Approval for Big Game Habitat identified in Appendix D-1 in the GSRA Oil & Gas Final SEIS (approved March 24, 1999) will be invoked. This COA states: “To protect crucial big game winter range on leases without timing restrictions, construction and drilling activities are prohibited from January 15 through March 15.” The rationale for invoking this COA is based on field review and the updated Colorado Division of Wildlife Big Game Winter Habitat mapping which clearly identifies the well location and access road within these crucial winter ranges.
4. Additional cultural inventory would be required if the pipeline/access roads to the C2SW, N26W, I27W, P27W, and K2SW are constructed to a width that exceeds 75 feet. These routes were inventoried to cover corridors 100 feet wide, so that the current level of inventory will probably only accommodate an access road or pipeline right-of-way, but not both, along these segments of the proposed APE.
5. Sheet 7 shows storage tanks placed at edge of fill. Move tank settings so they are further south toward road access onto pad and away from fill slope – within 100 feet of wellhead and between Corner 11 and access road. This will allow for optimal interim reclamation opportunities and mitigate visual concerns.

Avoid sidecasting of fill material into dry gulch east of pad – between Corners 2 and 7.

6. The operator will consult with the State of Colorado Water Quality Control Division regarding Stormwater Discharge Permits prior to commencing construction activities. All construction activities that disturb one acre or greater require a Stormwater Discharge Permit. Written documentation to the BLM Authorized Officer is required within 30 days of the APD approval date to indicate that appropriate permits have been obtained. Written documentation may be a copy of the Stormwater Discharge Permit or an official verification letter from the State Water Quality Control Division to the operator that includes the Permit Certification Number. For further information contact Jeff O’Connell, Hydrologist of the Glenwood Springs Energy Office at 970-947-5215 or Jeffrey_O’Connell@blm.gov. Appropriate documents may be sent via electronic mail, faxed (970-947-5267), or mailed to Jeff O’Connell at the Glenwood Springs Energy Office.
7. The operator will consult with the US Army Corps of Engineers to obtain approval prior to discharging fill material into waters of the US in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Waters of the US are defined in 33 CFR Section 328.3. Written documentation to the BLM Authorized Officer is required within 45 days of the APD approval date to indicate that the US Army Corps of Engineers has been notified prior to construction or that 404 Permits have been obtained or are not required by the permitting agency. Written documentation may be a copy of the Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) Form or an official verification letter from the US Army Corps of Engineers to the operator stating that a permit has been issued or is not required for the activities in question. For further information contact Jeff O’Connell, Hydrologist of the

Glenwood Springs Energy Office at 970-947-5215 or Jeffrey_O’Connell@blm.gov. Appropriate documents may be sent via electronic mail, faxed (970-947-5267), or mailed to Jeff O’Connell at the Glenwood Springs Energy Office.

8. Culverts will be installed during no flow or low flow conditions at drainage crossings and will be required to pass a 25-year or greater storm event. The 25-year storm event for the proposed action area is approximately 1.7 inches of precipitation in 6 hours.

9. Reclamation Plan. Because of recent review of all seed mixes recommended by BLM, Glenwood Springs Energy Office and reassessment of pertinent pounds-per-acre calculations, the seed mix listed below will be used for this well pad and future APDs issued in Gant Gulch GAP. **Refer to Standard COAs outlined in Gant Gulch GAP (Appendix B) for specific additional language related to applicable Reclamation COAs.**

Seed Mix Application Practices

A specified seed mix designed to meet interim reclamation standards while providing forage and browse for wintering elk and deer using a mixture of native shrubs and grasses and native or desirable non-native forbs shall be applied. The following seed mix and rates will be used on all disturbed surfaces:

Species of Seed	Variety	Drilled Application Rate* (PLS lbs/acre)
Mountain big sagebrush		0.2
True Mountain mahogany		3.0
Western wheatgrass	Arriba	2.6
Bottlebrush squirreltail		1.6
Indian ricegrass	Paloma	1.3
Prarie junegrass		0.1
Arrowleaf balsamroot		3.2
American vetch		6.6
TOTAL		18.6 PLS lbs/acre

* In areas that cannot be drilled, broadcast seed at 2 times the application rate and cover ¼ to ½ deep with a harrow or drag bar.

The above rate of application is listed in pounds of pure live seed (PLS)/acre. The seed will be certified free of noxious weeds. All seed to be applied to public land must have a valid seed test, within one year of the acceptance date, from a seed analysis lab by a registered seed analyst (Association of Official Seed Analysts). The seed lab shall show no more than 0.5 percent by weight of “other weed” seeds; and the seed lot shall contain no “noxious, prohibited, or restricted weed” seeds according to the All States Noxious Test. Seed may contain up to 2.0 percent of “other crop” seed by weight which includes the seed of other agronomic crops and native plants; however, a lower percent of other crop seed is recommended. Seed tags or other official documentation shall be supplied to the Glenwood Springs BLM Energy Office Ecologist at least 14 days prior to the date of proposed seeding for acceptance. **Seed which does not meet the above criteria shall not be applied to public lands.**