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DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2009-0070-EA

The USDI Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Glenwood Springs Field Office (GSFO), and the USDA Forest Service, White River National Forest (WRNF), have reviewed the attached Environmental Assessment of the Spruce Creek to Mamm Creek natural gas pipeline project proposed by ETC Canyon Pipeline, LLC. The project design and approved mitigation measures result in a Finding of No Significant Impact on the human environment for the Proposed Action. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is not necessary to analyze the impacts further.

DECISION RECORD—AMENDED

DECISION: This amended decision makes corrections to the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Decision Record dated 11/24/09. Specifically, the original document indicated at item 3 of the Rationale paragraph of the Decision Record and at pages 3, 4, 47, and 62 of the EA that the WRNF would issue a Special Use Permit and Temporary Use Permit for portions of the project on National Forest System (NFS) lands. A contradictory statement at page 3 of the EA indicated that BLM would issue a single Right-of-Way grant for the entire project. The latter statement is correct: The WRNF is not issuing separate permits, and instead BLM will issue a Right-of-Way grant and Temporary Use Permit for the entire project, including portions on NFS lands.

RATIONALE:

1. This decision will provide for the orderly, economical, and environmentally sound gathering and conveyance of natural gas resources from valid Federal oil and gas leases.
2. Large portions of the project alignment will follow existing pipeline corridors. Segments where new corridors must be constructed have been located and designed to minimize adverse environmental consequences.
3. **This decision does not authorize the initiation of construction activities on BLM or National Forest System (NFS) lands. Those activities will be authorized upon issuance by BLM of a Right-of-Way Grant (COC73824) and a Temporary Use Permit (COC73824T). Pursuant to Section 28(c)(2) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, the Right-of-Way Grant and Temporary Use Permit issued by BLM will apply to lands administered by the WRNF as well as lands administered by the BLM. The WRNF Forest Supervisor has signed a letter of concurrence to the BLM Field Manager regarding issuance by BLM of a Right-of-Way Grant and Temporary Use Permit for portions of the project on NFS lands.**

Copies of the Spruce Creek to Mamm Creek Natural Gas Pipeline EA are available for review at the BLM Glenwood Springs Field Office located at 2300 River Frontage Road, Silt, Colorado 81652.

NAME OF PREPARER: Rebecca Beavers, Natural Resource Specialist, Project Lead

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:



Authorized Officer

1/10/2010

Date