

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Royal Gorge Field Office
3028 E. Main Street
Canon City, CO 81212**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-200-2013-0034 CX

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: COC-0-31053

PROJECT NAME: Realty– Re-Authorization 8” natural gas pipeline

PLANNING UNIT: Eco Sub-region 10 (other lands)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Colorado, Las Animas County, Sixth Principal Meridian,
T. 30 S., R. 60 W., Sec. 26, N1/2, NW1/4.

APPLICANT: Colorado Interstate Gas Company, PO Box 1087, Colorado Springs, Colorado
80901

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

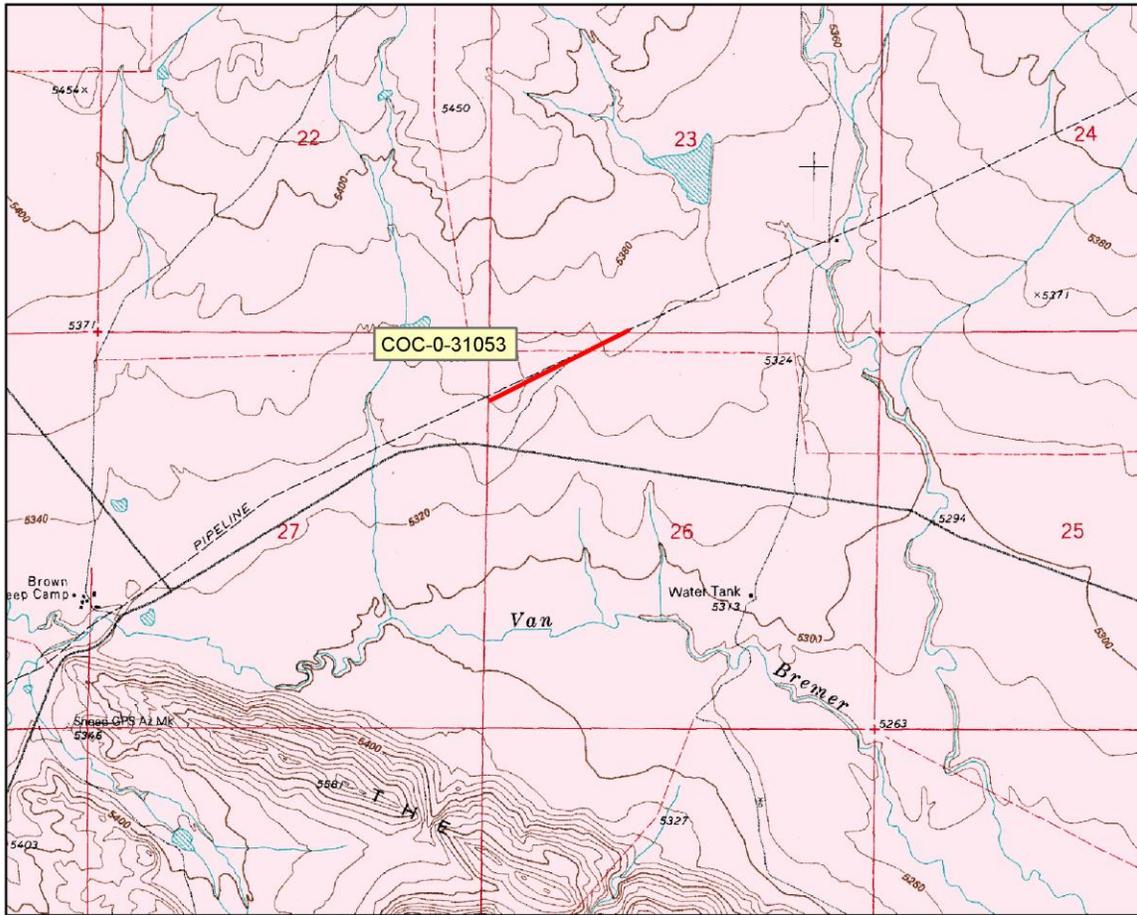
Colorado Interstate Gas Company is proposing the renewal of two eight inch natural gas pipelines serial number COC-0-31053. The length of the right of way is 2041.4 feet long and 50 feet wide equal to approximately 2.343 acres more or less. Processing fees have been paid and a new survey plat was submitted with the application.

The pipeline will be reauthorized pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act (MLA) and is subject to any and all regulations discussed in the 43 CFR 2880. The term will be 30 years.

No new ground disturbing activities are being authorized and any additional construction would be considered only through an amendment.

This pipeline lies within the Fort Carson Military Reservation for Pinon Canyon and coordination for the renewal was discussed with Bert G. Davis on October 25, 2015.

Interstate Gas Renewal



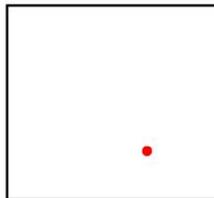
6thPM
T. 30 S., R. 60 W.
section 26,
N1/2, NW 1/4.

1:24000



Military Reservation
No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.

For Official Use Only.
Disclosure of site locations prohibited (43 CFR 7.18).
No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of this data. Original data was compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This project was developed through digital means and may be updated without notice.



Royal Gorge Field Office
User Name: j75brown
Date Saved: 10/28/2015

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW:

Name of Plan: Royal Gorge Resource Management Plan

Date Approved: May 13, 1996

Decision Number: C-116

Decision Language: Authorize minor ROWs on a case-by-case basis utilizing criteria for ROW objectives in each specific eco-subregion.

The proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with this plan (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3).

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: This proposed action is listed as a Categorical Exclusion in DOI Departmental Manual Part 516 Chapter 11 E (9). None of the following exceptions in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

| Exclusion | YES | NO |
|--|-----|----------|
| 1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands; floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or | | |

- minority populations. _____ X
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites. _____ X
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species. _____ X

| INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM REVIEW | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------|
| NAME | TITLE | AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY | Initials/date |
| Matt Rustand | Wildlife Biologist | Terrestrial Wildlife, T&E, Migratory Birds | MR 02/10/206 |
| John Lamman | Range Management Spec. | Range, Vegetation, Farmland, Weeds | JL, 12/03/15 |
| Dave Gilbert | Fisheries Biologist | Aquatic Wildlife, Riparian/Wetlands | DG, 11/16/15 |
| Stephanie Carter | Geologist | Minerals, Paleontology, Waste Hazardous or Solid | SSC, 12/23/15 |
| Melissa Smeins | Geologist | Minerals, Paleontology | NA |
| John Smeins | Hydrologist | Hydrology, Water Quality/Rights, Soils | JS, 11/4/15 |
| Ty Webb | Fire Management Officer | Air Quality, Fire | TW, 11/4/15 |
| Kalem Lenard | Outdoor Recreation Planner | Recreation, Wilderness, Visual, ACEC, W&S Rivers | KL, 11/6/2015 |
| Jeremiah Moore | Forester | Forestry | JM, 11/16/2015 |
| Monica Weimer | Archaeologist | Cultural, Native American | MMW, 11/5/15 |
| Jeff Brown | Realty Specialist | Realty | JGB 12/16/2015 |
| David Parker | Cadastral Surveyor | Cadastral Surveyor | DP 2/9/2016 |
| Steve Cunningham | Law Enforcement Ranger | Law Enforcement | NA |
| | | | |

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: The area of potential effect was inventoried in 1994, and no historic properties were identified within the area of potential effect (see report LA.DA.R32). Although the inventory information might be outdated, pursuant to the 2014 Protocol Agreement between

the BLM and SHPO, Attachment B, Item 3, the APE needs no further consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA. However, if any upgrades or ground disturbance will occur, the proponent must contact the BLM prior to the work, and the following stipulation will be attached to the grant:

“Prior to any maintenance or proposed construction that involves ground disturbance, the proponent must contact the BLM archaeologist. Depending on the nature of the proposed activities, BLM might require an archaeological monitor to be present during construction. If additional mitigation is required, a treatment plan must be prepared, the treatment conducted, and documentation prepared before BLM issues a notice to proceed. The proponent will be required to hire an archaeological contractor that holds a BLM permit in good standing to perform the monitoring, write the treatment plan, carry out the treatment, and prepare all required documentation.”

Native American Religious Concerns: No possible traditional cultural properties were located during the cultural resources inventory (see above). There is no other known evidence that suggests the project area holds special significance for Native Americans.

Wastes, Solid or Hazardous: It is assumed that conditions associated with the subject site are currently clean and that no contamination is evident. No hazardous material, as defined by 42 U.S.C. 9601 (which includes materials regulated under CERCLA, RCRA and the Atomic Energy Act, but does not include petroleum or natural gas), will be used, produced, transported or stored during project implementation.

Nothing in the analysis or approval of this action by BLM authorizes or in any way permits a release or threat of a release of hazardous materials (as defined under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq., and its regulations) into the environment that will require a response action or result in the incurrence of response costs.

All spill reporting needs to follow the reporting requirements outlined in NTL-3A.

Mitigation Measures:

- 1) Water control structures may be required at any time as determined necessary by the authorized officer of the BLM.
- 2) Seeding of native species may be required at any time as determined necessary by the authorized officer in areas disturbed by construction or maintenance.
- 3) There is no new construction being authorized with the re-authorization of these pipelines, any new construction will be applied for on a separate application as an amendment and may require archaeology survey.
- 4) Right of way will be kept free of all invasive weed species.

Threatened and Endangered Species: The proposed action is a renewal of pipeline right-of-way with no additional rights granted or ground disturbance authorized. No new impacts to special status species will occur as a result of the authorization.

COMPLIANCE PLAN (optional): Routine compliance will be conducted by the Royal Gorge Field Office Realty Staff.

NAME OF PREPARER: Jeff Brown, Realty Specialist

SUPERVISORY REVIEW:

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Martin Weimer

DATE:

DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have reviewed this Categorical Exclusion and have decided to implement the Proposed Action.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an exception and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/ Jay M. Raiford (Acting)
Keith E. Berger, Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 2/12/16