



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Tres Rios Field Office
29211 Highway 184
Dolores, Colorado 81323



In Reply Refer to: Sand Canyon 5 Pipeline and Lateral, Big Point Overlook Developments
1794 (S01000)
December 19, 2014

OPTIONAL REPLY DUE: January 23, 2015

Dear Interested Parties:

The Bureau of Land Management's Tres Rios Field Office is accepting scoping comments on a proposal to allow Kinder Morgan CO₂ Company, LLC, to develop the federally-owned minerals held by lease in Montezuma County. You are receiving this letter because you have been identified as a property owner within the project area or you may have an interest in the associated activities.

The BLM is preparing an Environmental Assessment to analyze the proposed action and alternatives to that action. A project description is below, and an explanatory YouTube video is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fx0F4N9lumo>

In addition, maps and Google Earth files are available for review on BLM's NEPA website (http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Information/nepa/TRFO_NEPA.html), under project #S010-2015-0004-EA.

Kinder Morgan Proposal: Kinder Morgan submitted a Sundry to the BLM to drill a lateral on the existing Sand Canyon 5 CO₂ well, and to construct a pipeline from that well to the Goodman Point Compressor Station. This would allow Kinder Morgan to develop their federal lease #COC 8476. This well is located on Canyons of the Ancients National Monument (CANM), about 550 feet north of the Big Point Scenic Overlook (see Figures 1 and 2).

Kinder Morgan proposes to upgrade the existing access road by graveling and constructing drainage features, to prepare it for rig and construction traffic. They propose to level and remove vegetation from approximately 2 acres for a well pad, and to re-route the road around the well pad. They propose two re-route alternatives: one across a partially-reclaimed two-track to the west of the well pad, or one across undisturbed land to the east of the well pad.

Currently, there is no pipeline connecting the Sand Canyon 5 well to a processing facility. Kinder Morgan proposes to construct an approximately 2 mile long pipeline from the well to the Goodman Point Compressor Station. About 1100 feet would cross Canyons of the Ancients National Monument on a two-track road, and 9300 feet would cross private agricultural land.

Where: The project is located on Canyons of the Ancients National Monument and nearby private land in Sections 1, 2, 11, 12 and 14, Township 36N, Range 18W. Access to the site would be from the town of Cortez, Colorado on Hwy 491 for approximately 7 miles, then travel west on County Road S for approximately 5 miles, then travel south on County Road 17 for approximately 2 miles. Travel west on County Road P for approximately 1 mile, then travel south on County Road 16 for approximately 0.9 miles, then travel west on County Road N for approximately 2.4 miles, and finally, travel south on an unmarked BLM road for approximately 1 mile.

Disturbance: A total of approximately 15.9 acres would be disturbed for this project. Of this, approximately 5.1 acres are on CANM, and 10.8 on nearby private land. Approximately 13 acres would be reclaimed after construction, while 2.9 acres on CANM would remain for the life of the well (about 30 years).

a) Well location would be approximately 2 acres on CANM during drilling, of which approximately 1 acre has been previously disturbed, and one acre would be new disturbance. One acre would be reclaimed during production.

b) Access would mostly follow existing roads. There may be 1.5 acres of new disturbance on CANM to widen the road for appropriate drainage structures, or for temporary vehicle turnouts. The road will be re-routed around the well pad: the re-route alternative to the west of the pad would re-disturb about 0.4 acres, while the re-route alternative to the east of the pad would create about 0.35 acres of new disturbance. These disturbances would remain for the life of the well.

c) Approximately 12 acres of new disturbance would be created for the pipeline construction. Approximately 1.2 acres would be on CANM (re-disturbance of 0.5 acres, new disturbance of 0.7 acres), and 10.8 acres of mostly new disturbance on nearby private land. All pipeline disturbance would be reclaimed after construction.

Surface Disturbance Summary for Proposed Action

Project Component	Estimated New Disturbance (acres)	Estimated Re-disturbance (acres)
Well pad (CANM)	1	1
Widening of Existing Access Road (CANM)	1.5	0
West Road Re-route (CANM)	0	0.4
East Road Re-route (CANM)	0.35	0
Pipeline construction on CANM, widening a two-track	0.7	0.5
Pipeline construction on private surface	10.8	0
TOTAL	15.85 to 15.9 acres*	

* Range in total acreage is due to acreage difference between the western and eastern road re-route alternatives.

When: Construction and drilling would begin following permit approvals, and would last approximately 3 months.

BLM Alternative: Through internal scoping, it was identified and assumed that Kinder Morgan's proposed road upgrades could increase visitation at the Big Point Scenic Overlook. Therefore, BLM is considering an alternative which, in addition to the proposal described above, would construct recreation developments at Big Point Scenic Overlook to help accommodate the potential increase in use. Possible recreation developments include graveling the road to the Overlook, constructing interpretive signs, benches, or vehicle pull-outs.

The purpose of and need for this action is to respond to Kinder Morgan's Sundry request to develop their leased federal minerals.

Comment regarding the project should be submitted via email or hard copy by January 23, 2015 to:

BLM Tres Rios Field Office
 Attn: Tracy Perfors
 29211 Highway 184,
 Dolores, CO 81323
 or tperfors@blm.gov.

This letter also requests your comments, if any, on the potential effects to historic properties. This request is made to satisfy consultation requirements with local governments pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this proposal, please contact Tracy Perfors, BLM Natural Resource Specialist, at (970) 882-6856.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment –including your personally identifiable information –may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personally identifiable information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sincerely,



Marietta Eaton
Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Manager

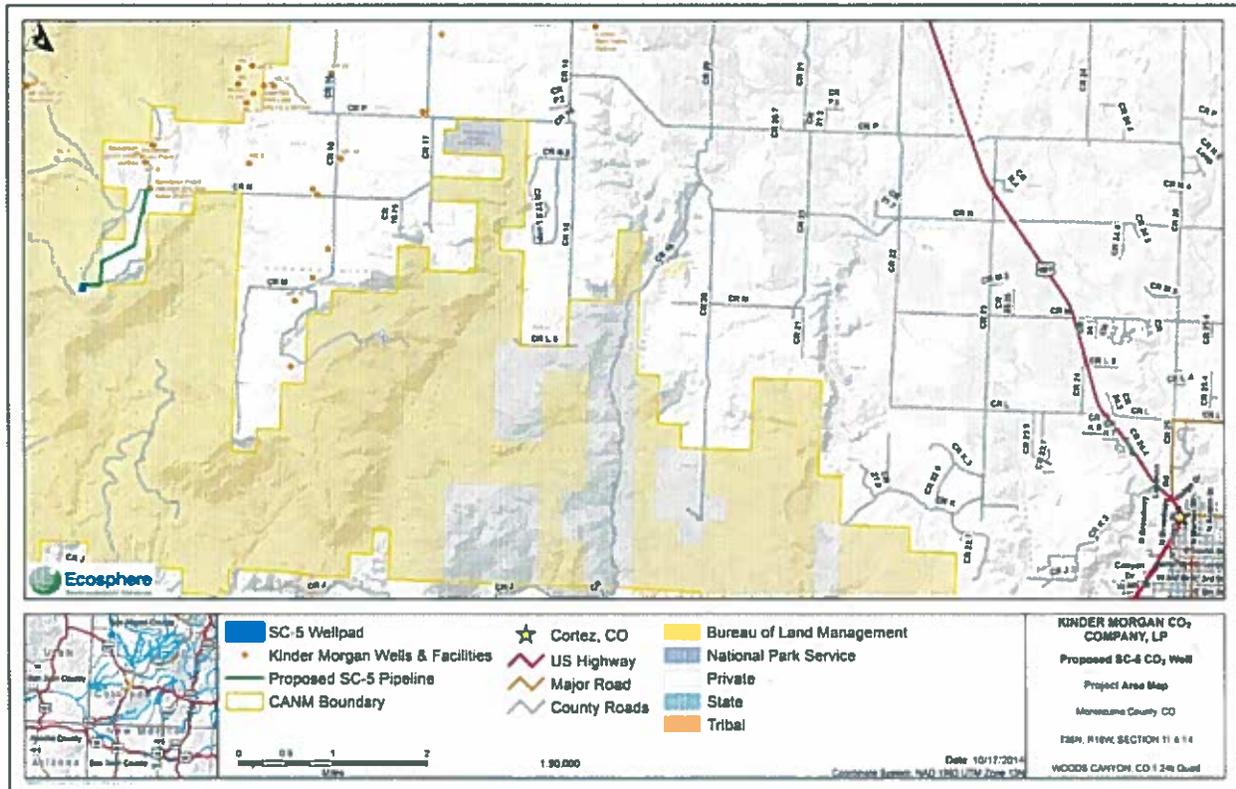


Figure 1. Project Area Map



Figure 2. Project Detail Map