



## United States Department of the Interior

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**Uncompahgre Field Office**

**2465 South Townsend Avenue**

**Montrose, Colorado 81401**

**[www.co.blm.gov](http://www.co.blm.gov)**



In Reply Refer to:  
3100 (CO-SO50)

23 March 2012

Dear Interested Parties:

The Bureau of Land Management Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO) has completed the preliminary environmental assessment (EA) for the SG Interests Bull Mountain Unit Master Development Plan for natural gas exploration. The BLM has scheduled a 30-day public comment period to provide the public an opportunity to review the preliminary EA document number DOI-BLM-CO-S050-2009-0005 EA, as well as the preliminary Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The plan area encompasses approximately 19,645 surface acres and is located north of Paonia Reservoir State Park. In the plan, SG Interests is proposing to drill up to 146 natural gas wells and 4 water disposal wells on 36 new and 5 existing well pads on private surface overlying federal mineral estate within the Bull Mountain Unit. Approximately 50% (73) of the proposed natural gas wells would be coal bed natural gas, and 50% (73) would be shale gas. Although actual operations are subject to change as conditions warrant, SG Interests plans to drill 27 wells per year until the resource is fully developed, estimated at approximately six years. Once completed, the productive life of coalbed methane natural gas, shale gas and water disposal wells is estimated to be 40 years.

The preliminary EA analyzes the environmental impacts from development of federal minerals within the unit boundary. Every federal action proposed within the Bull Mountain Unit would require additional site specific analysis to assure compliance with National Environmental Policy Act and additional Federal and state regulatory permitting requirements before exploration and development can occur.

Final BLM review after consideration of public comments will occur prior to signing the FONSI and making a decision on approval of the proposed action or the alternative.

The preliminary EA and FONSI will be available for review at the Montrose Public Lands Center, 2465 S. Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO. They are also available on-line at the link listed below.

[http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM\\_Information/nepa/ufo.html#9-5](http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Information/nepa/ufo.html#9-5)

Comments regarding the EA can be submitted via email or hard copy to the address below by close of business April 24, 2012.

BLM Uncompahgre Field Office  
Attn: 3160 BMMDP  
2465 S. Townsend Ave.  
Montrose, CO 81401  
Fax: 970-240-5368  
Email: [coufo-oil-gas@blm.gov](mailto:coufo-oil-gas@blm.gov)

Please note that comments and information submitted regarding this project, including email addresses and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review and disclosure. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name, e-mail address, or street address from public view or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by the law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Sincerely,



Barbara L. Sharrow  
Manager, Uncompahgre Field Office