

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
220 E Market St
Meeker, CO 81641**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-110-2011-0015-CX

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: COC10863, 10930, 24125, 24125A, 27790, 27790A, 28170, 30009, 30109, 30109A, 30109B, 30109C, 30109D, 30109E, 30109F, 30109G, 30109H, 30109J, 30109K, 30109L, 31242, 31831, 34304, 34317, 34328, 34334, 37740, 37811, 60408

PROJECT NAME: Name Change Questar Gas Management to QEP Field Services

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: See Attachment 1

APPLICANT: Questar Gas Management

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

Questar Gas Management is the current holder of 29 rights-of-way for natural gas pipelines in the Rabbit Mountain, West Fourmile Draw, and East Douglas areas. Questar has reorganized and requests a name change (assignment) to the new entity QEP Field Services. Questar does not hold leases or operate wells, but serves as a provider of gathering lines. Corporate documentation has been provided and has been reviewed by the Colorado State BLM Office.

No construction or other surface disturbance will be authorized under this action. Any future surface disturbing activities will require appropriate application, analysis, and authorization.

A general area map is attached as Exhibit A. A summary of applicable stipulations is attached as Exhibit B.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The proposed action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with (43 CFR 1610.5-3, BLM 1601.08) the following plan:

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Number/Page: Page 2-49

Decision Language: “To make public lands available for the siting of public and private facilities through the issuance of applicable land use authorizations, in a manner that provides for reasonable protection of other resource values.”

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9, Number (E-9): “*Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations*”.

The proposed action has been reviewed with the list of extraordinary circumstances described in the table below. This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. None of the following exceptions in 43 CFR 46.215, apply.

Exception	YES	NO
a) Have significant adverse effects on public health and safety.		X
b) 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.		X
c) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.		X
d) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
e) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
f) Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
g) Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau of office.		X
h) Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		X
i) Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		X
j) Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations		X
k) Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites.		X
l) 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 REVIEW:

The proposed action was presented to, and reviewed by the White River Field Office interdisciplinary team on November 26, 2010. A list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the White River Field Office.

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: The proposed action does not involve any new ground disturbance therefore it has no potential to impact cultural resources. (MRS 10/27/2010)

Native American Religious Concerns: No Native American Religious Concerns are known in the area, and none have been noted by Northern Ute tribal authorities. Should recommended inventories or future consultations with Tribal authorities reveal the existence of such sensitive properties, appropriate mitigation and/or protection measures may be undertaken. (MRS 10/27/2010)

Paleontological Resources: There is no ground or rock disturbance associated with the name change therefore there are no potential impacts to paleontological resources under the proposed action. (MRS 10/27/2010)

Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species: No wildlife-related issues or concerns attributable to a corporate name change. (EH 11/15/2010)

Threatened and Endangered Plant Species: This administrative action has no potential to impact threatened and/or endangered plant species. (MT 12/7/2010)

MITIGATION: None.

COMPLIANCE PLAN: On-going compliance inspections and monitoring will be conducted by White River Field Office staff during construction, operation, maintenance, and reclamation of the project. The terms and conditions of the original associated grants will be followed.

NAME OF PREPARER: Linda Jones

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Heather Sauls

DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have reviewed this CX and have decided to approve 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:



Acting Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 4/7/2011

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 – Legal Description

Exhibit A – Map

Exhibit B – Applicable Stipulations

Attachment 1 – Legal Descriptions

- COC10863- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.96W.,
sec. 5, lot 26,
sec. 8, lot 4.
- COC 10930- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.4N., R.98W.,
sec. 17, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄,
sec. 18, S¹/₂NE¹/₄.
- COC 24125- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.103W.,
sec. 10, SE¹/₄SE¹/₄ ,
sec. 11, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄, NE¹/₄SW¹/₄, S¹/₂SW¹/₄, N¹/₂SE¹/₄,
sec. 15, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄.
- COC 24125A- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.103W.,
sec. 10, SE¹/₄SE¹/₄ ,
sec. 11, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄, NE¹/₄SW¹/₄, S¹/₂SW¹/₄, N¹/₂SE¹/₄,
sec. 15, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄.
- COC 27790- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.101W.,
sec. 22, lots 1, 3, 8, 9.
sec. 22, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄,
sec. 23, W¹/₂SW¹/₄,
sec. 26, lot 5,
sec. 26, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄,
sec. 27, lots 1, 16, 17, 21, 24,
sec. 34, W¹/₂NW¹/₄, SE¹/₄NW¹/₄, E¹/₂SW¹/₄,
sec. 35, lots 1, 4,
sec. 35, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄, W¹/₂SW¹/₄,
sec. 36, W¹/₂SW¹/₄.
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 2, lots 8, 9,
sec. 2, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄,
sec. 3, lots 5, 8,
sec. 3, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄,
sec. 4, lot 12,
sec. 4, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄.
- COC 27790A- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101 W.,
sec. 3, NW¹/₄SW¹/₄, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄,
sec. 4, NE¹/₄SE¹/₄.

COC 28170- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.103W.,
sec. 1, S¹/₂SW¹/₄,
sec. 8, N¹/₂NE¹/₄,
sec. 9, N¹/₂NW¹/₄, S¹/₂NE¹/₄,
sec. 10, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄, N¹/₂SW¹/₄, NW¹/₄SE¹/₄, S¹/₂SE¹/₄,
sec. 11, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄.

COC 30009- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.103W.,
sec. 10, SE¹/₄SE¹/₄,
sec. 15, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄.

COC 30109- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 2, SW¹/₄NW¹/₄, NW¹/₄SW¹/₄,
sec. 3, SE¹/₄SE¹/₄,
sec. 9, SE ¹/₄SE¹/₄,
sec. 10, NE¹/₄SW¹/₄,
sec. 16, NE¹/₄SW¹/₄,
sec. 17, SE¹/₄SE¹/₄,
sec. 21, NW¹/₄, S¹/₂,
sec. 28, W¹/₂, W¹/₂, NW ¹/₄,
sec. 29, NE¹/₄NE ¹/₄,
sec. 33, NE¹/₄,
sec. 34, NW¹/₄.

COC 30109A- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 21, NW¹/₄, NE¹/₄SW¹/₄, SE¹/₄,
sec. 27, S¹/₂S¹/₂,
sec. 28, W¹/₂NE¹/₄, W¹/₂SE¹/₄,
sec. 33, E¹/₂NE¹/₄, SE¹/₄NE¹/₄,
sec. 34, NE¹/₄NW¹/₄, W¹/₂NW¹/₄.

COC 30109B- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 28, SE¹/₄SW¹/₄.

COC 30109C- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 21, NE¹/₄SE¹/₄.

COC 30109D- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 28, E¹/₂NW¹/₄,
sec. 29, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄.

COC 30109E- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 20, SW¹/₄NE¹/₄, E¹/₂NW¹/₄, NW¹/₄NW¹/₄, W¹/₂SE¹/₄, SE¹/₄SE¹/₄.

COC 30109F- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 17, S¹/₂SE¹/₄,
sec. 20, E¹/₂NE¹/₄, SW¹/₄SE¹/₄.

COC 30109G- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 20, NE¹/₄NE¹/₄.

COC 30109H- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 16, SE¹/₄SW¹/₄.

COC 30109J- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 10, NW¹/₄SW¹/₄.

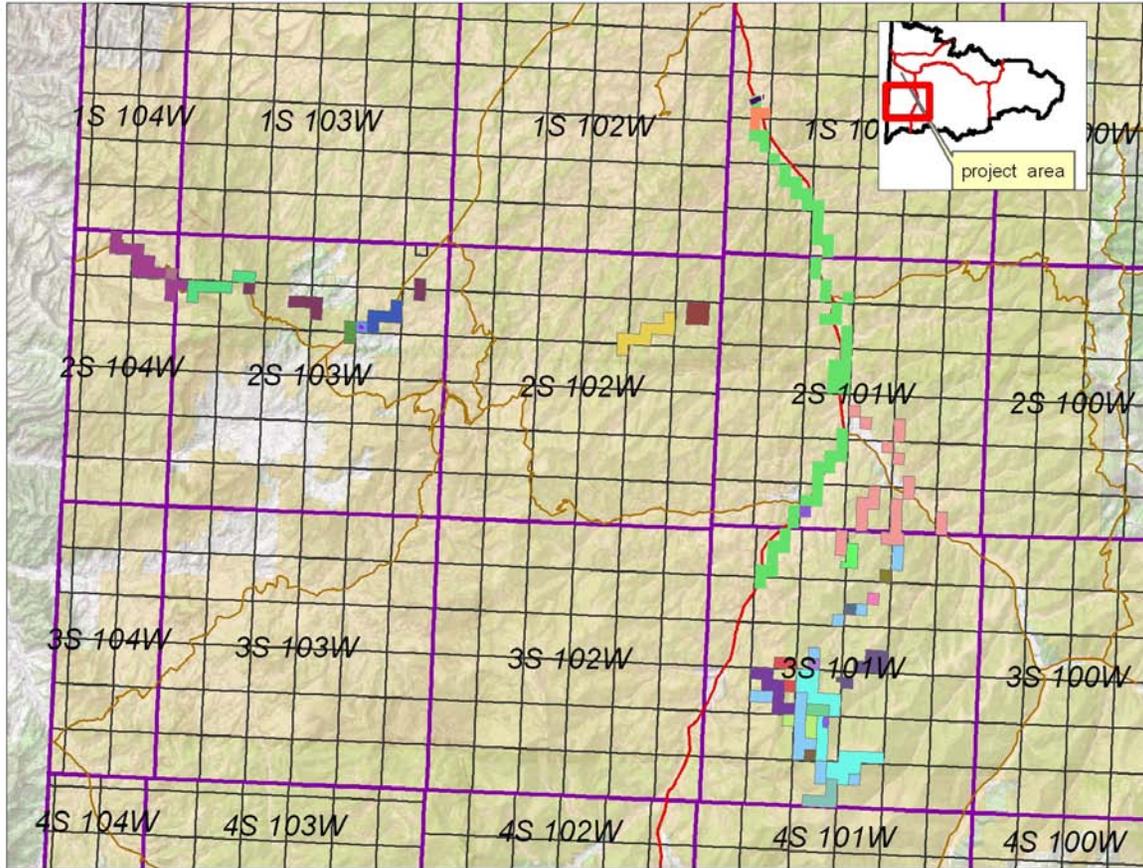
COC 30109K- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3 S., R.101W.,
sec. 10, SW¹/₄NE¹/₄.

COC 30109L- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 3, SE¹/₄SE¹/₄.

- COC 31242- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.102W.,
sec. 12, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.
- COC 31831- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 21, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.
- COC 34304- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 21, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,
sec. 28, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.
- COC 34317- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 15, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,
sec. 21, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$,
sec. 22, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.
- COC 34328- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.3S., R.101W.,
sec. 33, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.
- COC 34334- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.103W.,
sec. 5, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$,
sec. 7, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$,
sec. 8, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.
- COC 37740- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.103W.,
sec. 7, lots 1, 2,
sec. 7, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$,
T.2S., R. 104W.,
sec. 1, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$,
sec. 2, lot 2,
sec. 2, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$,
sec. 12, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$.
- COC 37811- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.104W.,
sec. 1, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.
- COC 60408- Sixth Principal Meridian,
T.2S., R.103W.,
sec. 11, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.



NAME CHANGE- QUESTAR GAS MANAGEMENT - QEP FIELD SERVICES
 DOI/CLMCO-110-2011-015-CX - COC01972



ROW_All

<all other values>

SERIALNUMB

- COC 010863
- COC 010930
- COC 024125
- COC 024125A
- COC 027790
- COC 027790A
- COC 028170
- COC 030009
- COC 030109
- COC 030109A
- COC 030109B
- COC 030109C
- COC 030109D
- COC 030109E
- COC 030109F
- COC 030109G
- COC 030109H
- COC 030109J
- COC 030109K
- COC 030109L
- COC 031242
- COC 031831
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- County
- State
- PLSS_Townships_GCDB2008
- PLSS_Sections_GCDB2008



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 UNIT: FEET
 SCALE: 1:25000
 STATUS: PRINTING
 SHEET: 1 OF 1

EXHIBIT A

Exhibit B –Applicable Stipulations

1. Any proposal involving surface disturbance, such as replacement, maintenance, or expansion, requires an application to the BLM for analysis, and authorization. New stipulations for construction would be applied to projects subject to the regulations and policies exist at the time of authorization.
2. The holder shall take such soil and resource conservation and protection measures, including weed control, on the land covered by the right-of-way as the United States representative in charge of such lands may request.
3. The holder shall monitor all disturbed and reclaimed areas through final abandonment for the presence of invasive, non-native, and/or noxious plant species resulting from the proposed action. The applicant will be responsible for eradication of noxious weeds that occur as a result of the proposed action.
4. All authorized users of public lands are expected to know and comply with regulations governing the storage, handling, application (including licensing of applicators), and disposal of hazardous substances. Application of herbicides must be under field supervision of an EPA-certified pesticide applicator. Herbicides must be registered by the EPA and application proposals must be approved by the BLM.
5. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing historic or archaeological sites, or for collecting artifacts. If historic or archaeological materials are uncovered during any project or construction activities, the operator is to immediately stop activities in the immediate area of the find that might further disturb such materials, and immediately contact the authorized officer (AO). Within five working days the AO will inform the operator as to:
 - whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
 - the mitigation measures the operator will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming in situ preservation is not necessary)
 - a timeframe for the AO to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800-11 to confirm, through the State Historic Preservation Officer, that the findings of the AO are correct and that mitigation is appropriate.If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, the operator will be responsible for mitigation cost. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.
6. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g) the holder of this authorization must notify the AO, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), you must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the authorized officer.
7. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for disturbing or collecting vertebrate fossils,

collecting large amounts of petrified wood, or collecting fossils for commercial purposes on public lands. If significant paleontological resources are discovered during surface disturbing actions or at any other time, the operator or any of his agents must stop work immediately at the site, immediately contact the appropriate BLM representative, typically the project inspector or Authorized Officer (AO), and make every effort to protect the site from further impacts, including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage.

The BLM or designated paleontologist will evaluate the discovery and take action to protect or remove the resource within 10 working days. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the official BLM representative.

If the operator wishes, at any time, to relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and/or the delays associated with this process, the AO will assume responsibility for whatever recordation and stabilization of the exposed materials may be required. Otherwise, significant delays may occur while the AO enacts mitigation procedures. The operator may elect to contract an approved paleontologist to execute site mitigations in order to expedite proceedings. The AO will provide technical and procedural guidelines for the conduct of mitigation. Upon verification from the AO that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will then be allowed to resume construction.

8. As a reasonable and prudent right-of-way holder, acting in good faith, the holder will report all emissions or releases that may pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment, regardless of a substance's status as exempt or nonexempt and regardless of fault, to the Bureau of Land Management's White River Field Office at (970) 878-3800.
9. As a reasonable and prudent right-of-way holder, acting in good faith, the holder will provide for the immediate clean-up and testing of air, water (surface and/or ground) and soils contaminated by the emission or release of any substance that may pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment, regardless of that substance's status as exempt or non-exempt. Where the holder fails, refuses or neglects to provide for the immediate clean-up and testing of air, water (surface and/or ground) and soils contaminated by the emission or release of any quantity of a substance that poses a risk of harm to human health or the environment, the Bureau of Land Management's White River Field Office may take measures to clean-up and test air, water (surface and/or ground) and soils at the holder's expense. Such action will not relieve the holder of any liability or responsibility.
10. Prior to the abandonment of the lands authorized by this grant, the holder shall contact the Authorized Officer to arrange a joint inspection of the right-of-way. The inspection will be held to agree on an acceptable abandonment and rehabilitation plan. The Authorized Officer must approve the plan in writing prior to the holder commencing any abandonment and/or rehabilitation activities. The plan may include removal of drainage structures or surface material, recontouring, replacement of topsoil, seeding, mulching, etc.