

**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-110-2013-0086-CX

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: COC31726, COC13159, COC50052, COC52846, COC0119902B, COC76545

PROJECT NAME: Renewal of Public Service Company Rights-of-Way

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Sixth Principal Meridian, Colorado
See Table 1 and Exhibit C for complete legal descriptions.

APPLICANT: Public Service Company of Colorado

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCo) has requested the renewal of six rights-of-way. Review of the files show that there have been no environmental concerns, the grants are in good standing, and are being used for the authorized purpose.

TABLE 1.

COC	LEGAL	WIDTH (FT)	LENGTH (FT)	AREA (Acres)
31726	T.2S., R96W., Sec. 5, Lots 23-25, N2SE, SWSE.	50	5,500	6.31
13159	Long Legal, See Exhibit C	20 35	36,270 15,972	36.48
50052	Long Legal, See Exhibit C	35	22,869	18.38
52846	T.2N., R96W., Sec. 32, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$.	35	2,500	1.72
0119902B	T.1S., R102W., Sec. 12, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$. Sec. 13, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.	50	9,273	10.64
76545	Long Legal, See Exhibit C	50	12,278	14.094

COC31726: A 10 inch natural gas pipeline 5,500 feet in length starting at the Northwest Compressor going to W-E (COC23293) then south to CIG Corral Gulch Compressor Station. The original grant was issued on June 18, 1981 consisting of 3,400 feet long, 50 feet wide and contained 3.90 acres. On August 4, 1993 the ROW was amended to add 2,100 feet long, 50 feet

wide and contained 2.41 acres for total acreage disturbance of 6.31 acres. This right-of-way will be renewed for 30 years.

COC13159: White River Dome Gathering Line. This grant includes a seven acre compressor station, 36,270 feet of pipeline with a 20 ft width, and 15,972 ft of pipeline with a 35 ft width. This grant was originally signed on October 13, 1976 with an effective date of October 8, 1972. Numerous amendments occurred to this right-of-way with a liquids collection and blow-down facility added August 14, 1985. On September 11, 1990 the ROW was amended to add an Amine Reprocessing Facility. Cathodic Protection Stations were added on November 26, 1990 and again on April 22, 1991. This right-of-way expired on December 31, 2012. Public Service is requesting a renewal through December 31, 2017 which gives adequate time to prepare an abandonment and reclamation plan to remove all equipment from the right-of-way.

COC50052: A 4 inch natural gas pipeline 22,869 feet in length with a width of 35 ft. This pipeline connects the following wells: A-31-2-96, Potter 1, M-30-2-96, and B-25-2-97 (all operated by Koch Exploration). The original grant was issued on August 27, 1990 with 17,069 feet of pipeline. On November 13, 1990 the ROW was amended to add 1,700 feet of pipeline. A second amendment was completed on November 26, 1990 with 4,100 feet added for a total length of 22,869 feet for a total disturbance of 18.38 acres. This right-of-way expired December 31, 2012. Public Service is requesting a renewal through December 31, 2017 which gives adequate time to prepare an abandonment and reclamation plan to remove all equipment from the right-of-way.

COC52846: Access road to White River Dome Compressor Station from Rio Blanco County Road 142. This road crosses private land adjacent to RBC Co. Rd. 142. The original grant was issued July 3, 1991. This right-of-way expired on December 31, 2012. Public Service is requesting a renewal through December 31, 2017 which gives adequate time to prepare an abandonment and reclamation plan to remove all equipment from the right-of-way.

COC119902B: A 4 inch natural gas pipeline, 9,273 feet in length with a width of 50 ft serving Locin wells 7-12, 11-12 and 15-12. The original grant was issued July 31, 1980 with a total disturbance of 4.26 acres. This right-of-way will be renewed for 30 years.

COC76545: This pipeline was originally granted in November 7, 1957. A portion of the line known as the North Douglas to Rangely was abandoned in 2012 and was serialized as COC019253. The remaining portion consisting of 2.326 miles that runs south from the Philadelphia Creek Valve Set to the connection with COC05006, located in T.3S., R. 101W., Section 8 has been re-serialized as COC76545. The total disturbance of the remainder of this line is 14.094 acres. This right-of-way will be renewed for 30 years.

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 resources values.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 11.9, E9: “*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 (43 CFR 46.215) described in the table below.

Extraordinary Circumstance	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 the bureau.		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

Extraordinary Circumstance	YES	NO
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 6/3/2014. A complete list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the White River Field Office. The table below lists resource specialists who provided additional remarks concerning cultural resources and special status species.

Name	Title	Resource	Date
Michael Selle	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns	7/10/2014
Lisa Belmonte	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Wildlife Species	7/10/2014
Justina Thorsen	Seasonal Ecologist	Special Status Plant Species	6/3/2014

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources:

COC31726: A portion of this ROW has been inventoried at the Class III (100 percent) pedestrian level (Pennefather-O'Brien *et al* 1992, compliance dated 12/17/1992) with no cultural resources identified in that portion of the ROW. Unless it becomes necessary to excavate the pipeline renewing the ROW should not have any new impacts to cultural resources in the vicinity.

COC13159: Portions, but not all segments, of this right-of-way have been inventoried at the Class III (100 percent) pedestrian level (Alexander 1989, compliance dated 5/22/1989; Barclay 2001, compliance dated 8/14/2001; Conner 1992, compliance dated 3/11/1992; Harrison 1990, compliance dated 10/9/1990; Hatcher 2012, compliance dated 10/1/2012; Lischka 1976, compliance dated 5/1/1976; Winters 1993, compliance dated 11/26/1993). Renewal of the ROW should not result in any new impacts to known archaeological resources. However, should it become necessary to remove any of the buried pipeline there is a potential for impacts to cultural resources in those areas that do not have inventory data.

COC50052: The ROW is covered by portions of a number of Class III (100 percent) pedestrian inventories (Barclay 2001, compliance dated 8/14/2001; Conner 2007, compliance dated

5/18/2007; Conner and Hutchins 1990a, compliance dated 5/17/1990, 1990b compliance dated 5/17/1990; O'Brien 2002, compliance dated 12/9/2001; Pennefather-O'Brien 2003, compliance dated 5/21/2003) which have not identified any cultural resources that are impacted by the pipelines. The ROW renewal should not result in any new impacts to known cultural resources.

COC52846: The ROW route has been inventoried at the Class III (100 percent) pedestrian level (Conner 2007, compliance dated 5/18/2007) with no cultural resources identified in the inventoried area. The ROW renewal will have no new impacts on known cultural resources.

COC119902B: The original pipeline route(s) was inventoried at the Class III (100 percent) pedestrian level (Hartley 1982, compliance dated 3/2/1982; Jennings 1980, compliance dated 7/29/1980) and no cultural resources were identified during the inventories. Renewing the ROW will not impact any known cultural resources.

COC76545: This pipeline was constructed before the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) was enacted in 1966. However, since then a number of inventories appear to have covered all or portions of the pipeline corridor (c. Davis 1990, compliance dated 7/2/1990; Fetterman 1996, compliance dated 12/30/1996; Jennings and Spitzer 1979, compliance dated 7/22/1976). These inventories have not identified any cultural resources within 1,000 feet (305 meters) of the ROW. There should be no impacts to known cultural resources from ROW renewal.

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.

Special Status Wildlife Species: There are no wildlife-related issues or concerns associated with the renewal of these rights-of-ways.

Special Status Plant Species: The Proposed Action will not result in any new surface disturbance; therefore there are no issues or concerns for special status plants associated with the Proposed Action.

REFERENCES CITED;

Alexander, Robert K.

- 1989 Archaeological Survey of Petrotech, Inc. Proposed Well Locations 35-1 and 35-2 Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Grand River Consultants, Inc., Grand Junction, Colorado. (89-20-02: OAHP # RB.LM.NR440)

Barclay, Dulaney

- 2001 Tom Brown, Inc. White River Dome Gathering System Class III Cultural Resource Inventory, Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Eagle, Colorado. (01-54-17: OAHP # RB.LM.R449)

Conner, Carl E.

- 1990 Cultural Resource Inventory Report for Proposed Well locations #B-25 and #P-25 and Reroute of the Pipeline to Well Location #A-29 in Rio Blanco County, Colorado for Fuel Resources Development Company. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado. (90-11-10: OAHP # RB.LM.NR485)
- 2002 Cultural Resource Inventory Report on a Proposed Compressor Site and Related Access Road in Rio Blanco County, Colorado for Western Gas Supply Company. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado. (92-11-03: OAHP RB.LM.NR598)
- 2001 Class III Cultural Resources Inventory for the Dalbo Evaporation Facility Access Road in Rio Blanco County, Colorado for Dalbo, Inc. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado. (07-11-12: OAHP # RB.LM.NR1887)

Conner, Carle E., and Rebecca L. Hutchins

- 1990a Cultural Resource Inventory of Seven proposed Well Locations and Related Access Roads and pipelines in Rio Blanco County, Colorado for Fuel Resources Development Company. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado. (90-11-06: OAHP # RB.LM.R77)
- 1990b Cultural Resources Inventory Report for Proposed Well Location #A-29 with Associated Pipeline and Pipeline to Existing Well location #M-6 in Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado. (90-11-07: OAHP # RB.LM.NR478)

Davis, William E.

- 1990 Cultural Resource Inventory of Northwest Pipeline Corporation's proposed 26" O.D. Ignacio to Sumas Pipeline Flex Cable Installation Project, Mile Post 258 to M.P. 261.74, Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Abajo Archaeology, Bluff, Utah. (90-09-02: OAHP # RB.LM.NR517)

Fetterman, Jerry

- 1996 Class III Cultural Resource Survey of Northwest Pipeline Corporation's West Douglas Pipeline Replacement, Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Woods Canyon Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Yellow Jacket, Colorado. (96-71-04: OAHP RB.LM.R317)

Harrison, Cheryl A.

- 1990 U.S. West Communications Meeker Exchange (CO-0722), Cultural Resources Inventory Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Powers Elevation Company, Aurora, Colorado. 90-14-01: RB.LM.R96)

Hartley, John D.

- 1982 Archaeological Survey of Coseka Resources USA, Ltd.'s reroute of Access to 8-1-1-102, Rio Blanco County, Colorado.. Grand River Consultants, Inc., Grand Junction, Colorado. (82-20-06: OAH # RB.LM.NR37)

Hatcher, Julie

- 2012 Class III Intensive Survey for the Ant Hill #6-11D Pipeline Located in Sections 29, 30, & 31, T2N, R96W, Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Pronghorn Archaeology, Inc., Mills, Wyoming. 12-21-02: OAH # RB.LM.R1311)

Jennings, Calvin H., and Michel G. Spitzer

- 1976 An Inventory of the Cultural Resources of the South Douglas Field Gathering System. Cultural Resource Management Report 3. Laboratory of Public Archaeology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado. (76-03-06

Lischka, Joseph J.

- 1979 Archaeological Reconnaissance of Proposed pipeline routes in Two Areas of Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Bureau of Anthropological research, Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado (76-01-01; OAH #

O'Brien, Patrick K.

- 2002 Tom Brown, Inc., proposed B-25 Pipeline; fed 13-42, Well, Access, and Tie-in; and Ant Hill Unit Dow #17-43 Well pad, Access and Tie-in; Class III Cultural Resource Survey, Rio Blanco County. Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Eagle, Colorado. (02-54-29: OAH # RB.LM.R504)

Pennefather-O'Brien, Elizabeth, Patrick Lubinski, and Michael D. Metcalf

- 1992 Colorado Interstate Gas Company Uinta Basin Lateral 20" Pipeline: Class III Cultural Resource Final Report, Utah, Colorado and Wyoming. Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Eagle, Colorado. (92-54-26: OAH # MC.LM.R71)

Pennefather-O'Brien, Elizabeth

- 2003 Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Report for Four Proposed Tom Brown, Inc., XL Line Replacements in Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Eagle, Colorado. (03-54-17: OAH # RB.LM.NR1339)

Winters, Ron

- 1993 A Cultural Resource Inventory of the Proposed Rio Blanco County Land Fill and Access Road Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Bureau of Land management, White River Resource Area, Meeker, Colorado. (93-10-46: OAH # RB.LM.R223)

MITIGATION:

1. All applicable terms, conditions, and stipulations contained in the original ROW grants and any amendments shall be carried forward and remain in full force and effect. No new construction is authorized.
2. At least 90 days prior to termination of the right-of-way, the holder shall contact the Authorized Officer to arrange a joint inspection of the right-of-way. The inspection will result in the development of an acceptable termination and rehabilitation plan submitted by the holder. This plan shall include, but is not limited to, removal of facilities, drainage structures, and surface material; recontouring; topsoiling; or seeding. The Authorized Officer must approve the plan in writing prior to the holder's commencement of any termination activities.
3. The holder shall conduct all activities associated with the operation and termination of the right-of-way within the authorized limits of the right-of-way.
4. Any proposal involving additional surface disturbance outside of the existing right-of-way disturbance 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 existing at the time of authorization.
5. The holder shall monitor all disturbed and reclaimed areas through final abandonment for the presence of invasive, non-native, and/or noxious plant species. The applicant will be responsible for eradication of noxious weeds that occur on site using materials and methods approved in advance by the Authorized Officer.
6. The holder is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts.
7. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The holder will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. The holder, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.
8. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the holder must notify the AO, by telephone and 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), the holder must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to

proceed by the AO.

9. The holder 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 or other scientifically-important fossils, collecting large amounts of petrified wood (over 25lbs./day, up to 250lbs./year), or collecting fossils for commercial purposes on public lands.

10. If any paleontological resources are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, the holder or any of his agents must stop work immediately at that site, immediately contact the BLM Paleontology Coordinator, and make every effort to protect the site from further impacts, including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The BLM or designated paleontologist will evaluate the discovery and take action to protect or remove the resource within 10 working days. Within 10 days, the operator will be allowed to continue construction through the site, or will be given the choice of either (a) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for stabilizing the fossil resource in place and avoiding further disturbance to the fossil resource, or (b) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for mitigating impacts to the fossil resource prior to continuing construction through the project area.

11. The holder shall notify the authorized officer at least 60 days prior to non-emergency activities that would cause surface disturbance in the right-of-way. A "Notice to Proceed" shall be required prior to any non-emergency activities that would cause surface disturbance on the right-of-way. Any request for a "Notice to Proceed" must be made to the authorized officer, who will review the Proposed Action for consistency with resource management concerns such as wildlife, big game winter range, paleontology, special status species, and cultural resource protection. The authorized officer may require the completion of special status species surveys or other resource surveys. Additional measures may be required to protect special status species or other resources.

COMPLIANCE PLAN: On-going compliance inspections and monitoring will be conducted by the BLM White River Field Office staff during and after construction. Specific mitigation developed in this document will be followed. The operator will be notified of compliance related issues in writing, and depending on the nature of the issue(s), will be provided 30 days to resolve such issues.

NAME OF PREPARER: Janet Doll

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Heather Sauls

COMPLIANCE WITH NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E9. This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances

potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The Proposed Action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 apply.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:



Field Manager

DATE SIGNED:

07/30/14

ATTACHMENTS: MAPS, EXHIBITS A & B
EXHIBIT C, Legal Descriptions

COC013159 Renewal White River Dome

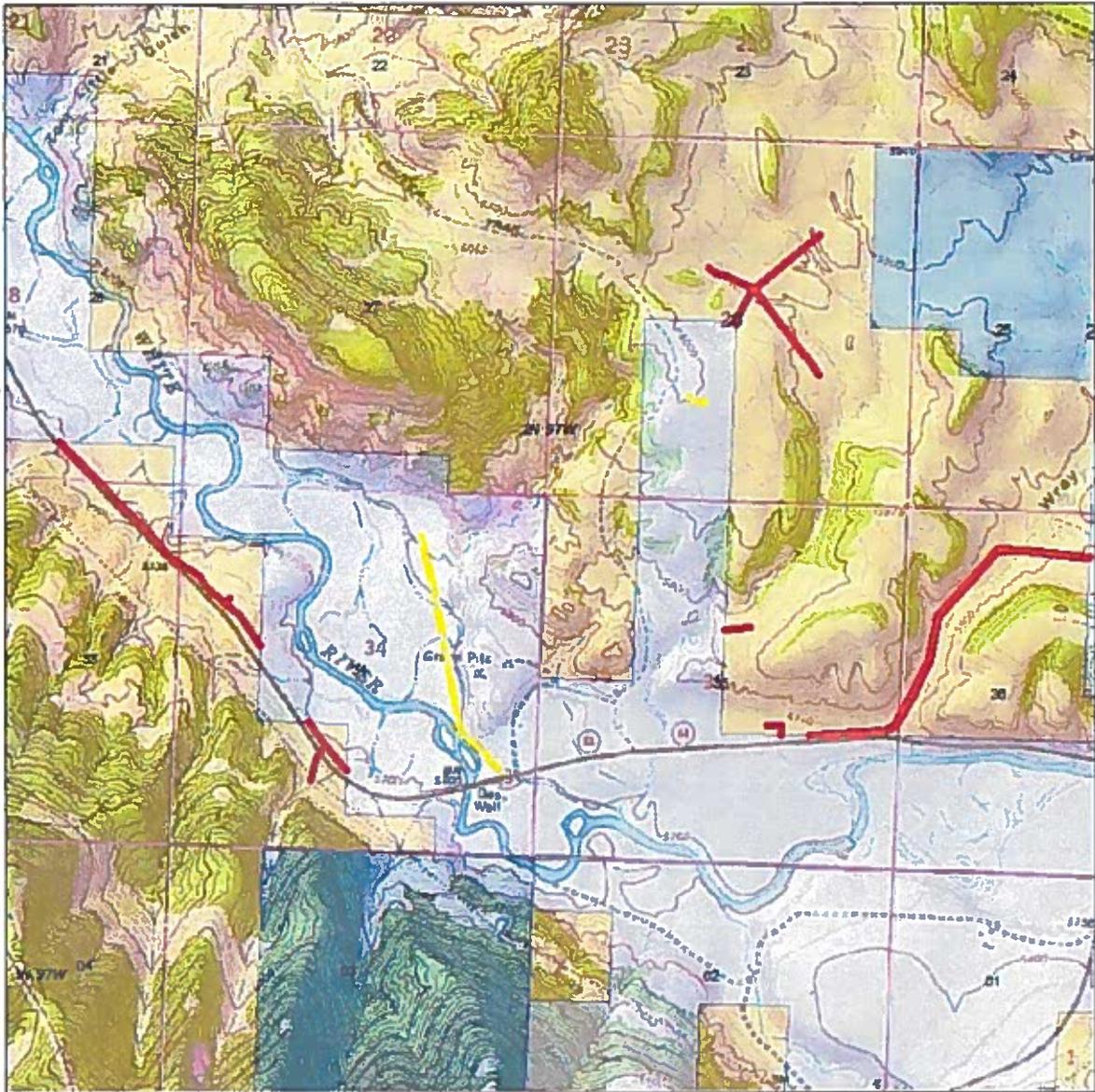


Exhibit A

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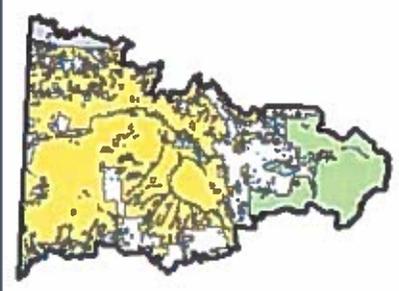




0 0.15 0.3 0.6 Miles

Sources:
BLM, USGS, CDOH, etc.

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COC013159 Renewal White River Dome

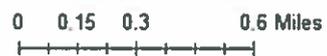
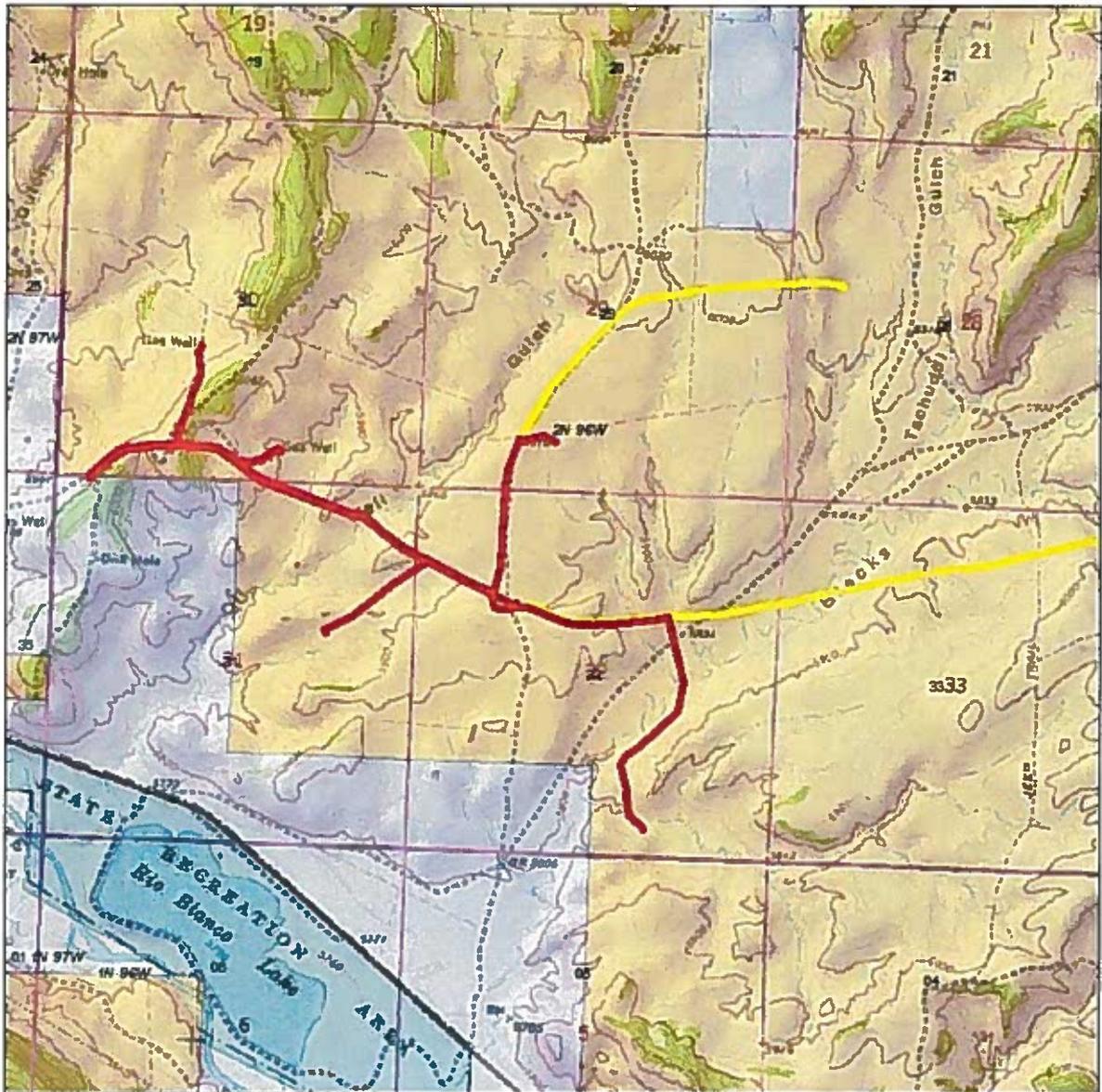
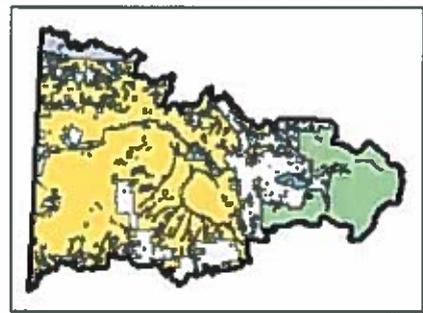


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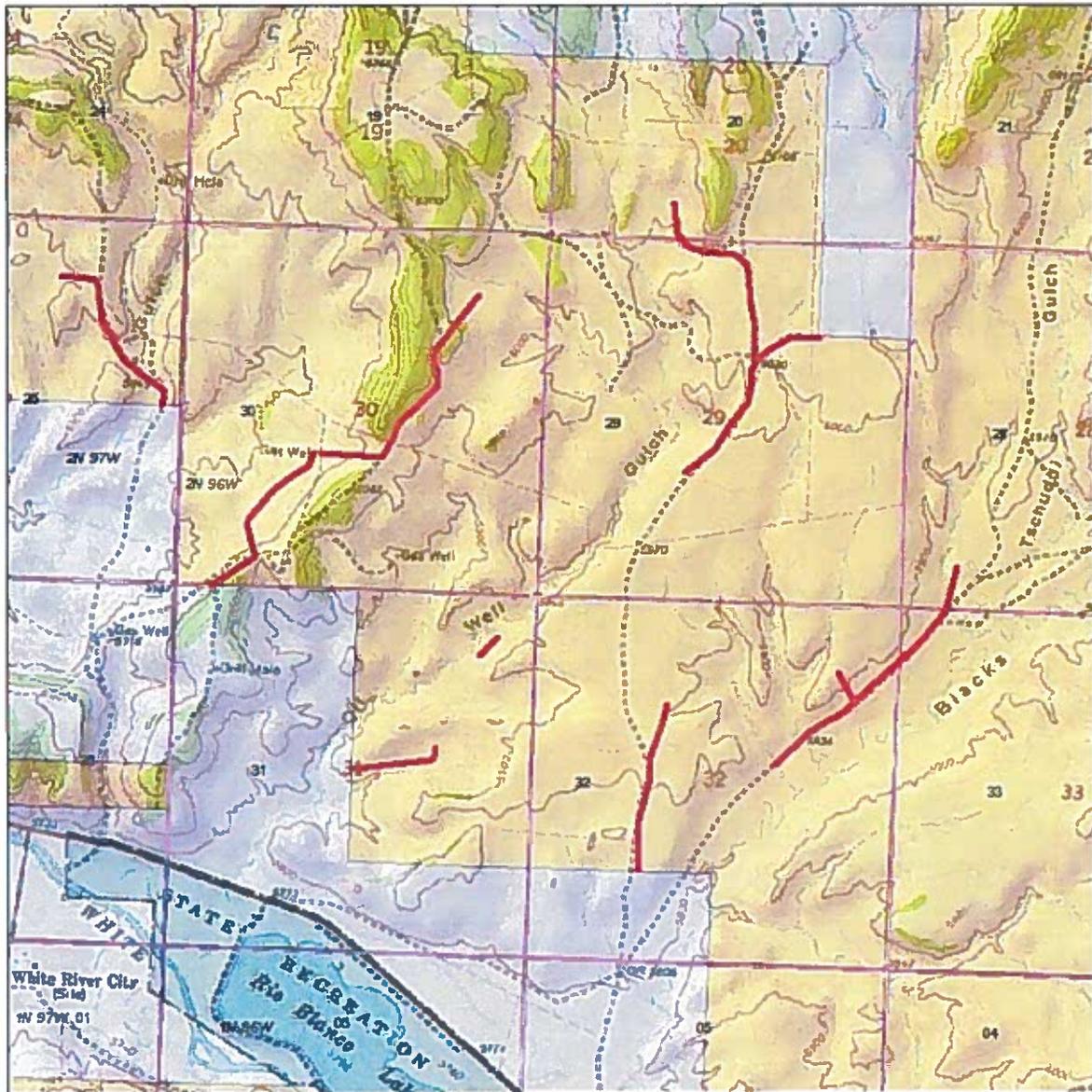
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Source:
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PSCo Renewal of Natural Gas Pipeline COC50052



0 0.15 0.3 0.6 Miles

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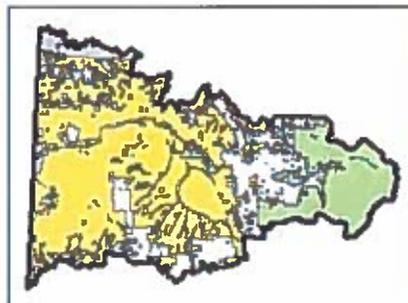
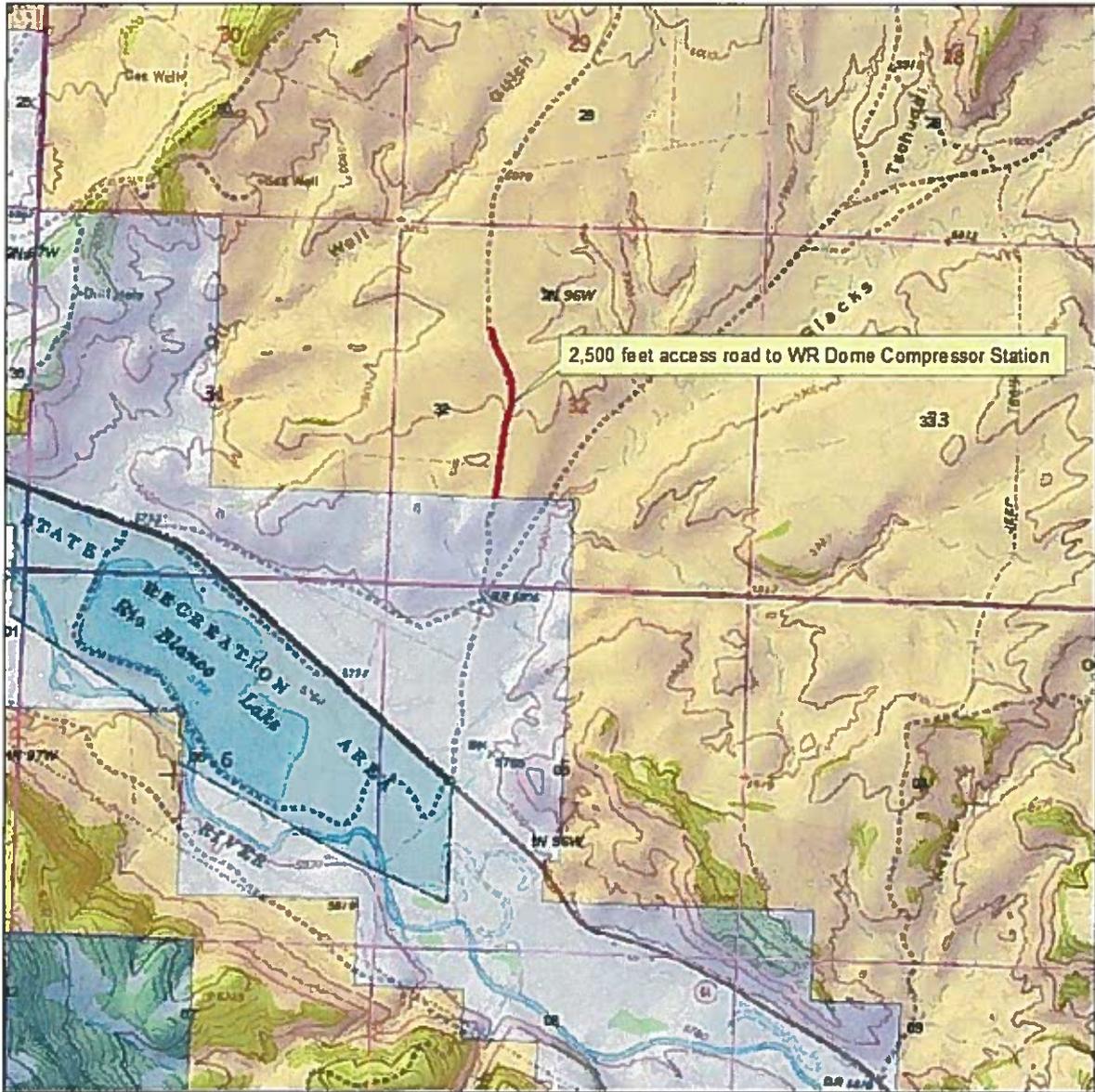


Exhibit A

Renewal of COC52846 Road to WR Dome Comp. Station



0 0.15 0.3 0.6 Miles

Source: BLM, USGS, CDOW, etc.

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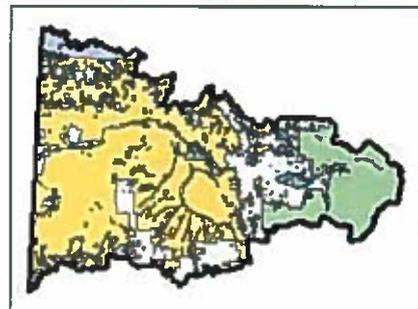


Exhibit A

Renewal of COC0119902B Pipeline to Locin wells.

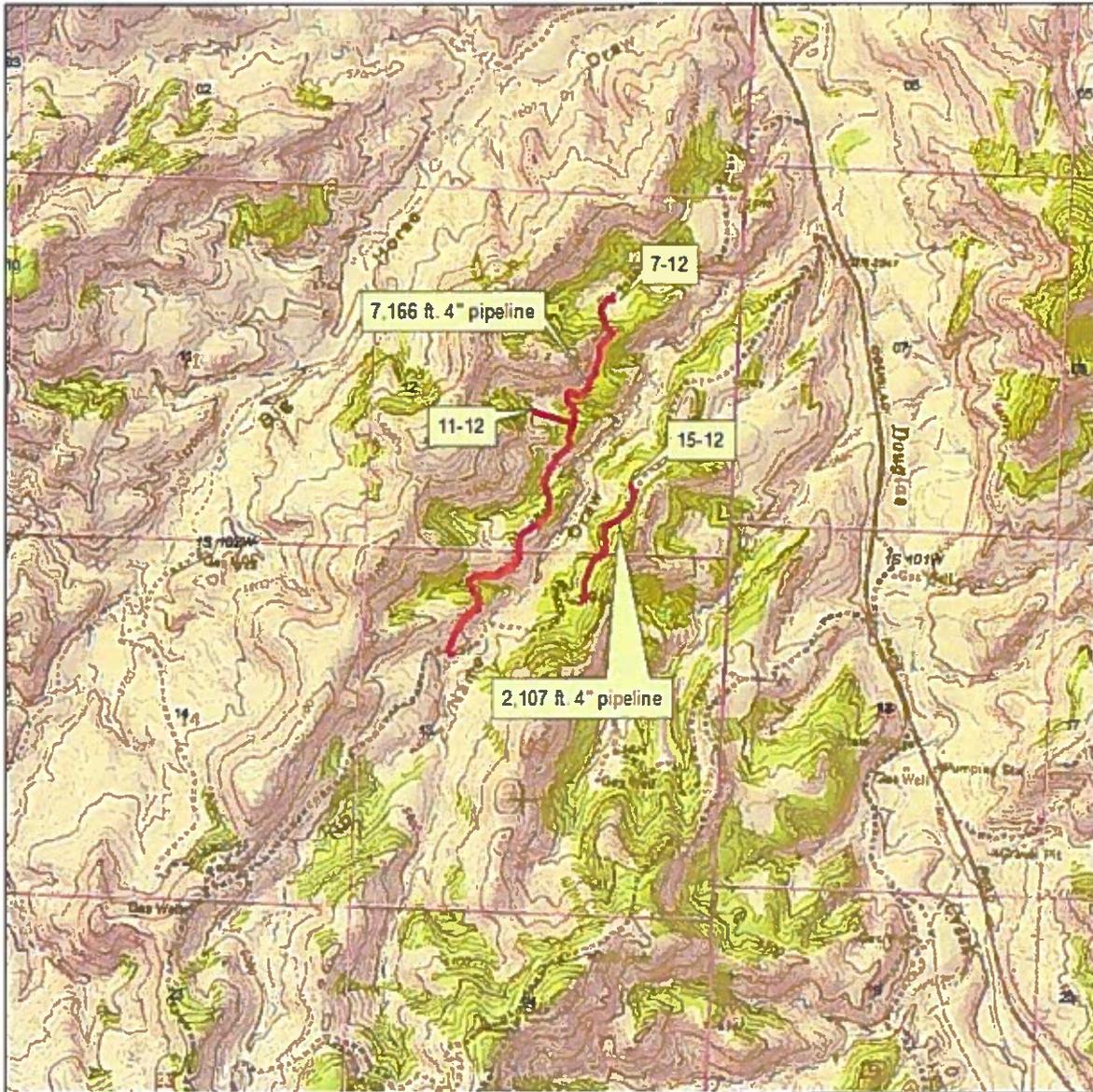
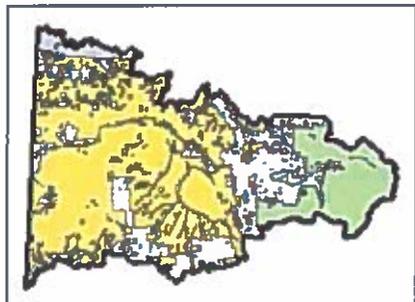


Exhibit A



Sources:
BLM, USGS, CODM, etc.

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COC76545, PSCo Natural Gas Pipeline

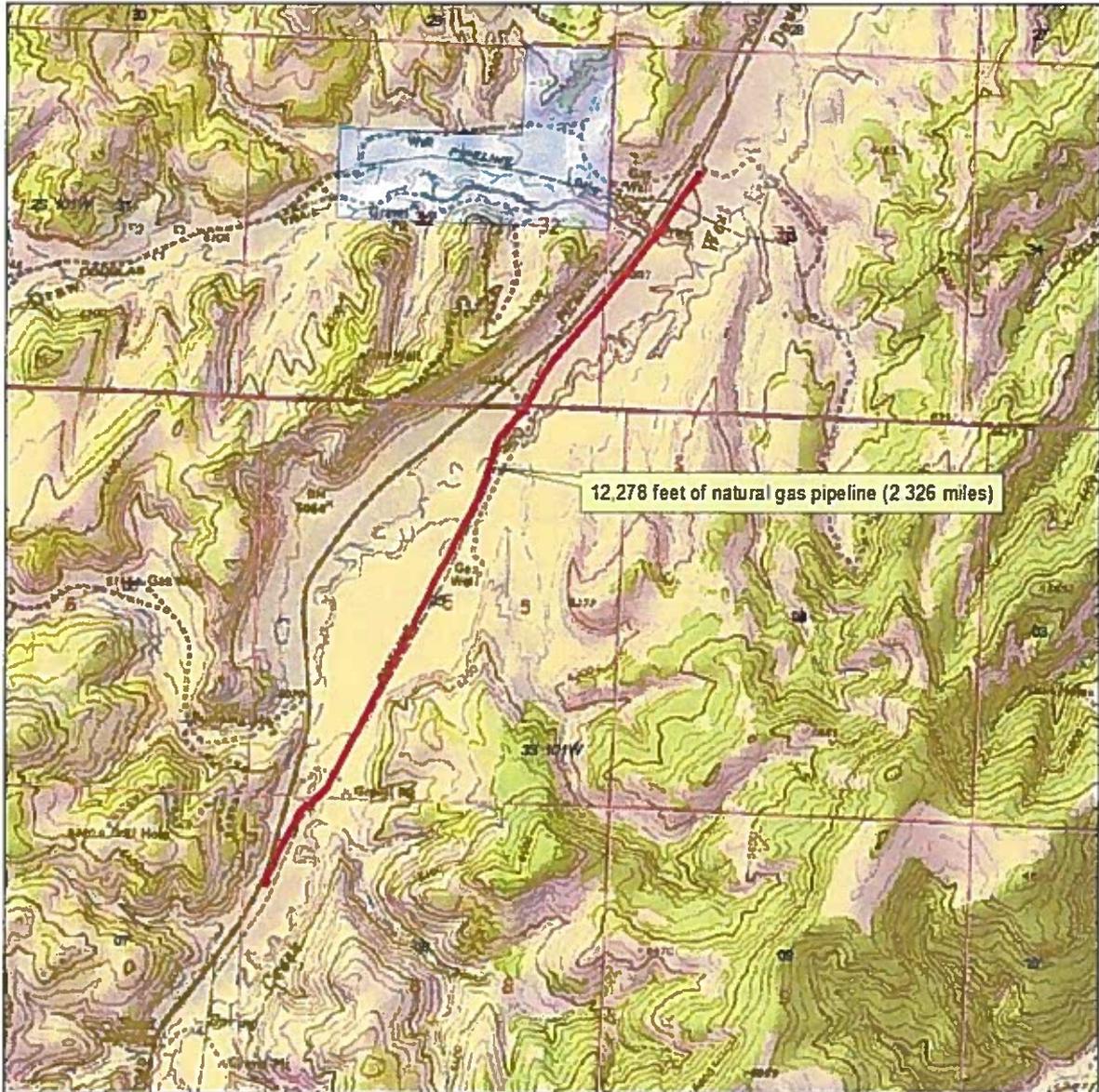
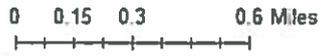


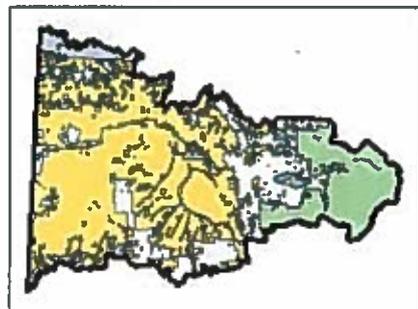
Exhibit A

- GJ-WD 2013 selection
- NDouglas



Sources:
BLM, USGS, CROW, etc.

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LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS, EXHIBIT C

COC013159:

Sixth Principle Meridian, Colorado

- T. 1 N., R. 95 W.,
 - Section 34, Lot 6;
- T. 2 N., R. 96 W.,
 - Section 29, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 30, Lot 8, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 31, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 32,
 - Section 33, N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 34, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$;
- T. 2 N., R. 97 W.,
 - Section 28, Lots 24, 26;
 - Section 33, Lot 2;
 - Section 34, Lots 7, 8, 21, 24;
 - Section 35, Lots 1, 4, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 36, Lot 8, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.

COC50052:

Sixth Principle Meridian, Colorado

- T. 2 N., R. 96 W.,
 - Section 20, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 25, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 28, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 29, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 30, Lot 8, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 31, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 32, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 33, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.

COC76545:

Sixth Principle Meridian, Colorado

- T. 2 S., R. 101 W.,
 - Section 32, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 33, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
- T. 3 S., R. 101 W.,
 - Section 5, Lot 6, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;
 - Section 8, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$.

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

DECISION RECORD

PROJECT NAME: Renewal of Public Service Company Rights-of-Way

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-110-2013-0086-CX

DECISION

It is my decision to implement the Proposed Action, as mitigated in DOI-BLM-CO-110-2013-0086-CX, authorizing the renewal of rights-of-way COC31726, COC13159, COC50052, COC52846, COC0119902B, and COC76545.

Mitigation Measures

1. All applicable terms, conditions, and stipulations contained in the original ROW grants and any amendments shall be carried forward and remain in full force and effect. No new construction is authorized.
2. At least 90 days prior to termination of the right-of-way, the holder shall contact the Authorized Officer to arrange a joint inspection of the right-of-way. The inspection will result in the development of an acceptable termination and rehabilitation plan submitted by the holder. This plan shall include, but is not limited to, removal of facilities, drainage structures, and surface material; recontouring; topsoiling; or seeding. The Authorized Officer must approve the plan in writing prior to the holder's commencement of any termination activities.
3. The holder shall conduct all activities associated with the operation and termination of the right-of-way within the authorized limits of the right-of-way.
4. Any proposal involving additional surface disturbance outside of the existing right-of-way disturbance 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 existing at the time of authorization.
5. The holder shall monitor all disturbed and reclaimed areas through final abandonment for the presence of invasive, non-native, and/or noxious plant species. The applicant will be responsible for eradication of noxious weeds that occur on site using materials and methods approved in advance by the Authorized Officer.
6. The holder is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts.

7. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The holder will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. The holder, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.

8. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the holder must notify the AO, by telephone and 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), the holder must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.

9. The holder 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 or other scientifically-important fossils, collecting large amounts of petrified wood (over 25lbs./day, up to 250lbs./year), or collecting fossils for commercial purposes on public lands.

10. If any paleontological resources are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, the holder or any of his agents must stop work immediately at that site, immediately contact the BLM Paleontology Coordinator, and make every effort to protect the site from further impacts, including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The BLM or designated paleontologist will evaluate the discovery and take action to protect or remove the resource within 10 working days. Within 10 days, the operator will be allowed to continue construction through the site, or will be given the choice of either (a) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for stabilizing the fossil resource in place and avoiding further disturbance to the fossil resource, or (b) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for mitigating impacts to the fossil resource prior to continuing construction through the project area.

11. The holder shall notify the authorized officer at least 60 days prior to non-emergency activities that would cause surface disturbance in the right-of-way. A "Notice to Proceed" shall be required prior to any non-emergency activities that would cause surface disturbance on the right-of-way. Any request for a "Notice to Proceed" must be made to the authorized officer, who will review the Proposed Action for consistency with resource management concerns such as wildlife, big game winter range, paleontology, special status species, and cultural resource protection. The authorized officer may require the completion of special status species surveys or other resource surveys. Additional measures may be required to protect special status species or other resources.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS & CONFORMANCE WITH THE LAND USE PLAN

This decision is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. It is also in conformance with the 1997 White River Record of Decision/Approved Resource Management Plan.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The BLM informed the public about this project by listing it on the online WRFO NEPA Register on 6/12/2014 and a copy of the completed Categorical Exclusion will be posted on the WRFO website.

RATIONALE

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E9. This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The Proposed Action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 apply.

ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES

This decision shall take effect immediately upon the date it is signed by the Authorized Officer and shall remain in effect while any appeal is pending unless the Interior Board of Land Appeals issues a stay (43 CFR 2801.10(b)). Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR Part 4. Within 30 days of the decision, a Notice of Appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at White River Field Office, 220 East Market St., Meeker, CO 81641 with copies sent to the Regional Solicitor, Rocky Mountain Region, 755 Parfet St., Suite 151, Lakewood, CO 80215, and to the Department of the Interior, Board of Land Appeals, 801 North Quincy St., MS300-QC, Arlington, VA, 22203. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals at the above address within 30 days after the Notice of Appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:



Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 07/30/2014

