

The BLM used several methods to inform the public and interested agencies of the proposed project and to solicit input, including:

- Scoping Announcements
- Agency Scoping Meeting
- Public Scoping Meetings

Each of these activities is described in the following sections.

2.1 SCOPING ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS for the proposed mine, railroad spur line, and other associated surface facilities in Garfield County and Mesa County was published in the *Federal Register* on July 27, 2006. The issuance of the NOI initiated the 45-day public scoping period.

A display Advertisement was placed in the Grand Junction daily newspaper, *The Daily Sentinel* on Friday, August 11, 2006. This Ad briefly described the project and the need for the public meeting. It gave the meeting time and place as well as stating that the scoping period end date of September 25, 2006.

A postcard/mailer was mailed to all individuals on the BLM mailing list, CAM mailing list, and specific property owners whose property fell within one-half mile on either side of the proposed rail spur line right of way (ROW).

A press release was issued by the BLM to their media contacts for immediate release on July 28, 2006. Included in the press release was a brief project description, information about when and where the public scoping meeting was to be held, the purpose of the meeting, and the duration of the scoping period.

Refer to Appendix A for a copy of these public notices.

A project website was developed that continues to provide report uploads, information, and meeting announcements, as well as EIS planning process updates.

2.2 AGENCY SCOPING MEETING

An agency scoping meeting was held on August 23, 2006 at the BLM Grand Junction Field Office in Grand Junction, Colorado. Representatives from the following agencies attended the meeting:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Mesa County
- Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (CDRMS)
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Bureau of Land Management
- City of Fruita
- Colorado State Parks

- Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Office of Surface Mining

The Colorado Division of Wildlife was unable to attend the agency scoping meeting, but they sent concerns to the BLM prior to the meeting about critical deer and elk winter range issues that needed to be addressed.

During the agency scoping meeting, the project description, purpose and need, other needed permits, key environmental issues, and agency concerns were discussed. A copy of the agenda, meeting notes and attendance sheet are provided in Appendix C.

2.3 PUBLIC SCOPING

One public meeting was hosted by the BLM, CAM, and URS Corporation. It was held at the City of Fruita Council Chambers on Thursday, August 24, 2006 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The format of the meeting was set up as a combination open house and presentation. There were informational boards and maps explaining the project and showing the proposed project site and proposed rail spur line. There were 54 attendees who signed in (sign-in sheets are included in Appendix D).

The following documents were available at the meetings:

- Comment Form
- Map of proposed project site and proposed rail spur line
- Fact Sheet about the project

Copies of these documents are contained in the Appendix B.

During the meetings David Lehmann, the Project Manager for the BLM, and Nick Glancy, the Senior Vice President for CAM Holdings, LLC, presented an overview of the proposed project and NEPA process. Following the presentations there were limited questions taken by Mr. Glancy and Mr. Lehmann. In the second half of the room, an open house format was set up so the public would have the opportunity to have one on one conversations with the project team and subject matter experts. The comments and concerns presented at the public scoping meetings are summarized in Section 3 of this document.