

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Environmental Assessment
Expressions of Interest 1073, 1075, and OH1120
DOI-BLM-ES-030-2013-0007-EA

The proposed action is for the BLM to offer the federally owned oil and gas resources in the Blue Rock State Forest, Blue Rock and Salt Creek Townships, Muskingum County, Ohio, containing 4,525 acres, on the next available Eastern States competitive oil and gas lease sale.

There are no surface disturbing activities proposed at the leasing stage. However, it is reasonable to expect the development of one or more wells in the future. When an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) is proposed for these lands, a site specific NEPA document will analyze the effects of the development.

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-ES-030-2013-0007-EA), and considering the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, I have determined that the proposed action will not have significant impacts on the human environment. Therefore, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required prior to approving and implementing the proposed action.

Authorized Officer:

Tony Herrell, Associate State Director
Eastern States Office

Date