

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY (DNA)

Project Title:

**North Dakota Field Office Oil and Gas Leasing DNA for October 2013
DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2013-152-DNA**

Location: North Dakota Field Office

Applicant/Address: U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
North Dakota Field Office
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Dickinson, ND 58601
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Project Contact:

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Title: Natural Resource Specialist
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DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

A. Proposed Action

Parcel No.: NDM 97300-YA
T. 154 N, R. 94 W, 5th PM, ND
Sec. 32: Lot 2
Williams County
18.30 Acres

This lease parcel would be offered with North Dakota RMP (April 1988) lease stipulations and/or lease notices as necessary for competitive oil and gas lease sale and lease issuance.

The following lease stipulations (as required by 43 CFR 3131.3) shall be attached to the parcel to address site-specific concerns or new information not previously identified in the land use planning process:

CR 16-1 (All Lands)
LN 14-12 (All Lands)
NSO 11-39 (All Lands)
STANDARD 16-3 (All Lands)
TES 16-2 (All Lands)

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

This DNA is tiered to the decisions, information, and analysis contained in the North Dakota RMP (April 1988) and its associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), the governing land use plan for the North Dakota Field Office (NDFO). A more complete description of activities and impacts related to oil and gas leasing, development, production, etc. can be found on pages 9-10 in Chapter 2 of the RMP/EIS.

The parcel to be offered is within areas open to oil and gas leasing. Site-specific analysis was conducted during the fall and winter of 2012 by NDFO resource specialists who relied on professional knowledge of the area involved, review of existing databases and file information, and site visits to ensure that appropriate stipulations had been attached to specific parcels.

At the time of this review it is unknown whether this particular parcel will be sold and a lease issued. It is also unknown when, where, or if future well sites, roads, and facilities might be proposed. Assessment of projected activities and impacts was based on potential well densities discerned from the Reasonably Foreseeable Development (RFD) Scenario developed. Detailed site-specific analysis of activities associated with any particular parcel would occur when a lease holder submits an application for permit to drill (APD).

The proposed oil and gas leasing project would not be in conflict with any local, county, or state laws or plans.

C. Identify Applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Documents(s) and Other Related Documents That Cover the Proposed Action.

Environmental Assessment-DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2013-068-EA, July 16, 2013

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?

Yes

No

The proposed action was analyzed as part of the NDFO July 2013 Oil & Gas Lease Sale EA (DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2013-068-EA).

Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Yes

No

The project area is 1/2 mile from the analysis area with sufficiently similar topography, resource areas, and resource concerns. Concerns, stipulations and mitigations remain unchanged from the original analysis.

Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA documents(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Yes

No

Since the concerns, stipulations and mitigations remain unchanged from the original analysis, the "No Action" and "Proposed Action" alternatives in the NDFO July 2013 Oil & Gas Lease Sale EA (DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2013-068-EA) are appropriate and complete.

Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, or updated lists of BLM sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

Yes

No

The conditions as analyzed for this DNA are unchanged and the analysis and conclusions contained in the NDFO 2013 Oil & Gas Lease Sale EA (DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2013-068-EA) and FONSI remain appropriate and applicable.

Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Yes

No

The direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the proposed action are unchanged from those identified in the NDFO July 2013 Oil & Gas Lease Sale EA (DOI-BLM-MT-C030-2013-068-EA). The analysis is complete and adequately addresses site-specific impacts.

Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

Yes

No

All of the documents identified in Section B of this document have had extensive public review. All Federal, State, local agencies and local Tribal Councils were involved in the scoping process.

E. Preparers

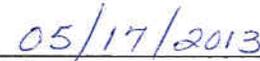
<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Resource Represented</i>	<i>Date/Initial</i>
Justin Peters	Cultural Resource Specialist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns and Paleontology	JWP 5/14/13
Mark Glaser	Natural Resource Specialist	Soil, Water, Solid Minerals and Fluid Minerals	MAG 5/15/13
Shelly Gerhart	Natural Resource Specialist	Vegetation, Visual Resources, Recreation and Travel Management, Noxious, and EA Land	SLG 5/14/13
Tim Zachmeier	Wildlife Biologist	Fish & Wildlife, Special Status Animal and Plant Species	TPZ 5/16/13
Linda Gisvold	Realty Specialist	Lands & Realty	LRG 5/14/13

F. Conclusion

I considered this review and determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with NEPA requirements.



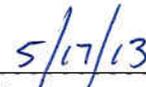
Shelly L. Gerhart, NRS/Project Lead



Date



Loren Wickstrom, Acting Field Manager

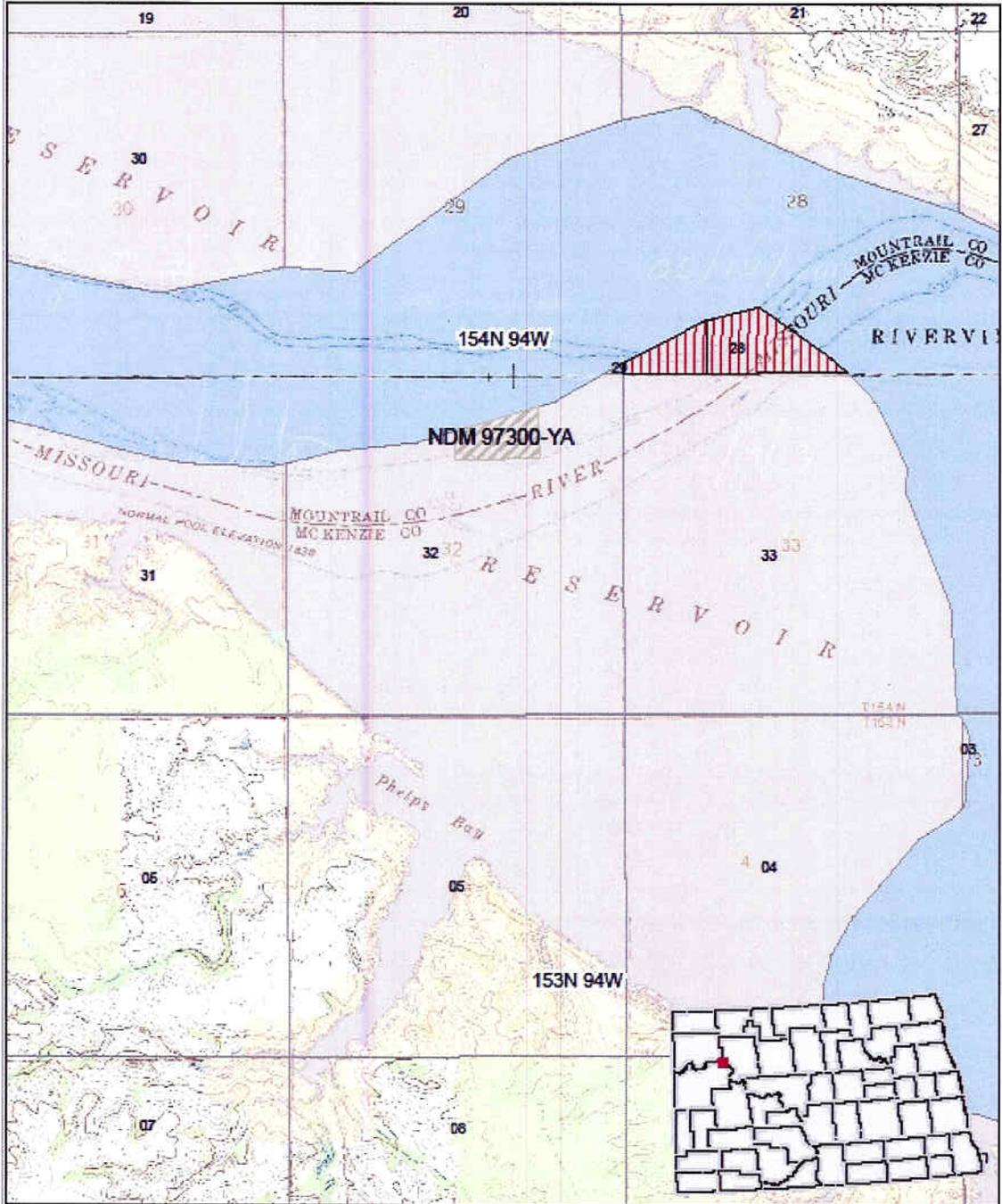


Date

The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.



Nominated Parcel NDM 97300-YA



-  Lease Parcel in DNA for October 2013 Sale
-  Lease Parcels in EA for July 2013 Sale

Corp of Engineers
USFS - National Grassland

