

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Preparation of an Environmental Assessment**  
**Red Bluff 2-D Seismic Exploration**

Dawson Geophysical Company (Dawson) has filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) to conduct a 2-D vibroseis geophysical survey for the purpose of gathering subsurface geologic data for oil and gas exploration and engineering, proprietary to COG Operating, LLC. Geophysical exploration is a methodology that is used to define, through geologic subsurface mapping, oil and gas reservoirs. It is possible that the data for this project may be collected in Phases.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) will be required under the National Environmental Policy Act and Council for Environmental Quality regulations in order to assess the potential effects of the proposed geophysical exploration operation upon environmental resources in the project area.

The project area is located on federal, state, and private lands approximately 12 miles south of Loving, New Mexico. Federal lands that will be impacted are described as follows:

New Mexico Principal Meridian:

T. 25S., R. 27E.: Section 21(NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ );

T. 25S., R. 28E.: Section 25 (S $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ ), 26 (N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ );

T. 25S., R. 29E.: Section 30 (Lot 04, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ), 31 (N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ );

Through the scoping process for the Environmental Assessment, the Bureau of Land Management will identify and address any impacts to critical environmental resources including, but not limited to cultural resources, wildlife, cave and karst resources, soils, noxious and undesirable weeds, visual resource management, off highway vehicle management, and recreation.

The BLM Carlsbad Field Office must receive comments concerning the proposed geophysical exploration project in writing by the close of business on February 16, 2012.

Please address questions concerning the proposal or the Environmental Assessment, comments on the scope of the Environmental Assessment, and requests to receive a copy of the Environmental Assessment to:

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