UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Farmington District
Farmington Field Office
6251 N College Blvd., Ste. A
Farmington, NM 87402

DECISION RECORD
for the
Escrito A31-2409 & Escrito H31-2409
NEPA No. DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2012-0391

I. Decision

I have decided to select **Alternative B** for implementation as described in the **Escrito A31-2409 & Escrito H31-2409**. Based on my review of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and project record, I have concluded that **Alternative B** was analyzed in sufficient detail to allow me to make an informed decision. I have selected this alternative because the proposed **project would allow Encana O&G (USA) access to their proposed drilling sites in order to horizontally drill for oil and gas within their valid existing lease.**

II. Finding of No Significant Impact

I have reviewed the direct, indirect and cumulative effects of the proposed activities documented in the EA for the **Escrito A31-2409 & Escrito H31-2409**. I have also reviewed the project record for this analysis. The effects of the proposed action and alternatives are disclosed in the Alternatives and Environmental Consequences sections of the EA. I have determined that **construction of two well pads, pipeline ties and access roads to allow Encana O&G (USA) reasonable access to the mineral lease in order to develop the existing lease** as described in the EA will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, I have determined that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary.

III. Other Alternatives Considered But not Analyzed

No alternatives have been developed that would result in significantly fewer impacts or any clear advantages over the proposed action.

IV. Rationale for the Decision

Pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 1508.28 and 1502.21, this site-specific environmental assessment (EA) tiers to and incorporates by reference the information and analysis contained in the Farmington Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement [(PRMP/FEIS) BLM 2003a]. This EA is in conformance with the management goals set forth in the Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Farmington Field Office (FFO) of the BLM, which was approved by the Record of Decision (ROD) signed September 29, 2003, and updated in December 2003 (BLM 2003b). Specifically, this action is in conformance with the following objective: It is the policy of the BLM to make mineral resources available for disposal and to encourage development of mineral resources to meet national, regional, and local needs, consistent with national objectives of an adequate supply of minerals at reasonable market prices. At the same time, the BLM strives to ensure that mineral development is carried out in a manner that minimizes environmental damage and provides for the rehabilitation of affected lands (2003b, 2-2). The PRMP/FEIS, RMP, and ROD are available for review at the BLM Farmington Field Office, 6251 College Blvd., Ste. A, Farmington, NM, or electronically at: http://www.nm.blm.gov/ffo/ffo_home.html

I have determined that the activities described in the proposed action will not adversely affect or cause loss or destruction of scientific, cultural, or historical resources, including those listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)). **Cultural resource surveys were completed (BLM report Number 2012 (III) 007 F & BLM report Number 2012 (III) 009 F). No cultural resources were identified within the project area,the project is not within a Traditional Cultural Property or ACEC.**

The proposed activities are not likely to adversely affect any endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)). **The project area is not within any Sensitive species or Threaten and Endangered habitat.**

V. Public Involvement

The Notice of Staking and/or Application for Permit to Drill was made available for the public to review at the Farmington Field Office. No comments were received.

VI. Appeals

Under BLM regulations, this decision record is subject to administrative review in accordance with 43 CFR 3165. Any request for administrative review of this decision record must include information required under 43 CFR 3165.3(b) (State Director Review), including all supporting documentation. Such a request must be filed in writing with the State Director, Bureau of Land Management, 301 Dinosaur Trail, Santa Fe, NM 87508, no later than 20 business days after this Decision Record is received or considered to have been received.

Any party who is adversely affected by the State Director's decision may appeal that decision to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, as provided in 43 CFR 3165.4.

/S/ Maureen Joe
Maureen Joe
Assistant Field Manager

4/5/2013
Date