UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Farmington District
Farmington Field Office
6251 N College Blvd., Ste. A
Farmington, NM 87402

Finding of No Significant Impact

Chaco 2408-26E No. 126H
Oil and Natural Gas Well Projects
NEPA No. DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2014-0088-EA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

I have determined that the proposed action, as described in the EA will not have any significant impact, individually or cumulatively, on the quality of the human environment. Because there would not be any significant impact, an environmental impact statement is not required.

In making this determination, I considered the following factors:

1. The activities described in the proposed action do not include any significant beneficial or adverse impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(1)). The EA includes a description of the expected environmental consequences of approving two right-of-way (ROW) grants to construct, operate, and terminate an off lease well pad and the access road.

2. The activities included in the proposed action would not significantly affect public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(2)).

3. The proposed activities would not significantly affect any unique characteristics of the geographic area such as such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3)).

4. The activities described in the proposed action do not involve effects on the human environment that are likely to be highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)).

5. The activities described in the proposed action do not involve effects that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)).

6. My decision to implement these activities does not establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)).

7. The effects of approving two right-of-way (ROW) grants to construct, operate, and terminate the off lease well pad and the access road would not be significant, individually or cumulatively, when considered with the effects of other actions (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)). The EA discloses that there are no other connected or cumulative actions that would cause significant cumulative impacts.

8. 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 and a Cultural Resources Record of Review 2014(I)022F was signed on November 8, 2013 for the Chaco 2408-26E #126H well pad and access road. The project was mitigated by avoiding any cultural

resources in the project area. Page 29 of the March 2014 Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2014-0088 EA describe effects to cultural resources.

9. 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 proposed project area does not contain any known populations or designated critical habitat for federally listed species. There are no known populations of Special Status Species presents in the proposed project area. Pages 26 through 28 of the March 2014 Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2014-0088 EA describe effects to Special Status Species.

10. The proposed activities will not threaten any violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10 Pages 2 through 4 of the March 2014 Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2014-0088 EA describes Plan conformance and conformance with relevant laws, regulations, and policy.

APPROVED:

Sarah Scott

Sarah Scott
Supervisory Multi Resource Specialist
Farmington Field Office

3/26/14
Date