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
Chaco 2306-07L NO. 181 H
NEPA No. DOI-BLM-NM- F010-2014-0233-DNA
(ATS NO. F010-2013-392)

I. Decision

I have decided to select the proposed action for the DOI-BLM-NM- F010-2014-0233 DNA Chaco 2306-07L No. 181H. I have concluded that EA DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2013-0393, ***Chaco 2306-06L Number 179H, Chaco 2306-07L Number 183H Chaco 2307-13L Number 175H*** was analyzed in sufficient detail to allow me to make an informed decision on DOI-BLM-NM- F010-2014-0233 DNA for the Chaco 2306-07L No. 181H. I have selected this alternative because the proposed project will allow WPX Energy Production, LLC to drill and produce minerals on one or more valid federal mineral leases issued to the applicant by the BLM. 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. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended [30 USC 181 et seq.], authorizes the BLM to issue oil and gas leases for the exploration of oil and gas and permit the development of those leases. The existing lease is a binding legal contract that allows development of the mineral by the holder. An approved Application for Permit to Drill (APD), issued by the BLM, authorizes the applicant to construct and drill the proposed well.

II. 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], which was approved as the Final Resource Management Plan for the Farmington Field Office (FFO) of the BLM by the Record of Decision (ROD) signed September 29, 2003 (BLM 2003b). The PRMP/FEIS, Final Plan, and Record of Decision are available for review at the BLM Farmington Field Office, 6251 N College Blvd. Ste A, Farmington, NM 87402 or electronically at:

http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/fo/Farmington_Field_Office/farmington_rmp.html

This DNA addresses the resources and impacts on a site-specific basis as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (Public Law 91-90, 42 USC 4321 et seq.). The proposed project would not be in conflict with any local, county, or state plans.

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 2013(II) 005F). Cultural resources were not identified within the project area. The project is not within Traditional Cultural Property or a 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.

III. Public Involvement

The original EA for the *WPX Energy Production,* DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2013-0393 ***Chaco 2306-06L Number 179H, Chaco 2306-07L Number 183H Chaco 2307-13L Number 175H*** *Oil & Natural Gas Well* was posted to the web for 30 days to allow for public comment. There were no public comments received. Additionally, the APD was posted for public review and comment for 30 days. There were no public comments received.

IV. Administrative Review and Appeal

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.

VI. Signature

Maureen Joe
Assistant Field Office Manager
Farmington Field Office

Date 01/25/14