

**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

**South Chaco Unit #342H, 343H, 346H, 347H, 339H, &
340H Pipelines**

NEPA No. DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2015-0123-DNA

I. Decision

I have decided to select the Proposed Action for implementation as described in the April 2015 South Chaco Unit #342H, 343H, 346H, 347H, 339H, 340H pipelines DNA. Based on my review of the Documentation of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) and project record, I have concluded that the **Proposed Action** was analyzed in sufficient detail to allow me to make an informed decision. I have selected this alternative because the proposed treatments will provide WPX Energy Services, LLC reasonable access to Navajo Indian allotted lands to develop their existing Navajo Indian oil and gas mineral (allotted) leases, issued to the applicant by the BLM, Farmington Field Office.

II. Rationale for the Decision

The Proposed Action is similar to the action that was analyzed in the WPX Energy Production, LLC, Proposed S. Chaco UT 339H/340H and S. Chaco UT 342H/343H/346H/347H Well Pads, Access Roads, and Pipelines Project, February 2015 (EA # DOI-BLM-F010-2015-0038) and the analysis area. The project location and resource conditions are essentially the same for the construction, drilling, completion, pipeline installation, production, interim reclamation, abandonment and final reclamation of the proposed action. The Proposed Action conforms to the Farmington Resource Management Plan.

III. Public Involvement

Scoping efforts for this Proposed Action consisted of an on-site meeting, attended by WPX Energy, BLM/FFO, and an environmental consultant from Ecosphere, was held at the proposed action area on July 17, 2014. A public invitation to the on-site meeting was posted online (http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/fo/Farmington_Field_Office/ffo_oil_and_gas/ffo_onsites.html); no private citizens or groups attended the meeting. A BLM/FFO Interdisciplinary Team meeting was held in July 28, 2014, to discuss the proposed action. At the aforementioned meetings, potential issues of concern were identified by the BLM/FFO and Ecosphere Environmental Services, Inc. (Ecosphere).

Based on the size and scale, routine nature, and potential impacts associated with the proposed action, no additional external scoping was conducted. No public comments were received for the proposed action.

IV. Administrative Review and Appeal

Under BLM regulations, this Decision Record (DR) is subject to administrative review with regard to the Application for Permit to Drill (APD) in accordance with 43 CFR 3165. Any request for administrative review of this DR, with or without oral presentation, 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 DR 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.

This decision to authorize a right-of-way may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR Part 4. Any appeal must be filed within 30 days of this decision. Any notice of appeal must be filed with Gary Torres, Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Field Office, 6251 College Boulevard, Suite A, Farmington, NM 87402. The appellant shall serve a copy of the notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs on each adverse party named in the decision, not later than 15 days after filing such document (see 43 CFR 4.413(a)). Failure to serve within the time required will subject the appeal to summary dismissal (see 43 CFR 4.413(b)). If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the IBLA, Office of Hearings and Appeals, U. S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Farmington Field Office Manager.

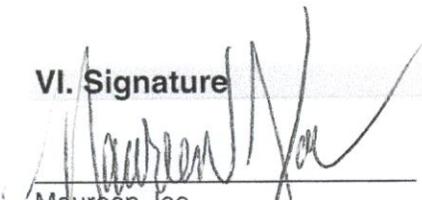
Notwithstanding the provisions of 43 CFR 4.21(a)(1), filing a notice of appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 does not automatically suspend the effect of the decision. If you wish to file a petition for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal.

A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied;
- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits;
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted; and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

In the event a request for stay or an appeal is filed, the person/party requesting the stay or filing the appeal must serve a copy of the appeal on the Office of the Field Solicitor: United States Dept. of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor, Southwest Regional Office, 505 Marquette Avenue NW, Suite 1800, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

VI. Signature


Maureen Joe
Assistant Field Manager
Lands and Renewable Resources
Farmington Field Office

04/21/15
Date

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Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) Worksheet

**South Chaco Unit #342H, 343H, 346H, 339H, 340H
NEPA No. DOI-BLM-NM-FO10-2015-0123-DNA**

BLM Office: Farmington Field Office. **Lease/Serial/Case File No.:** NMNM 13332 1X

Proposed Action Title/Type: South Chaco Unit #342H, 343H, 346H, 339H, 340H

Location of Proposed Action: T. 22 N., R. 07 W., Sec. 02, NMPM, Sandoval County, New Mexico

Applicant (if any): WPX Energy Production, LLC, P. O. Box 640, Aztec, NM 87410-0640

A. Description of the Proposed Action

WPX Energy Production, LLC submitted a Sundry Notice to construct a well connect pipeline corridor on lease with the South Chaco Unit to allow for the connection of gas and oil to sale. This well connect corridor will consist of 2-6 inch pipelines in the same trench for oil and gas. The well connect corridor parallels the existing roadway in its entirety. WPX will utilize the existing roadway to minimize surface disturbance. The proposed pipeline will be 2,718.43 feet in length and 20 feet wide. The pipeline will be on Indian allotment and contain approximately 1.2 acres. Conditions of Approval (COA) will be included to mitigate any impacts to the proposed action.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Farmington Resource Management Plan with Record of Decision

Date Approved/Amended: Approved September 29, 2003/ Amended December 2003

The proposed action is in conformance with the Farmington resource Management Plan with Record of Decision because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s): Provide opportunities for environmentally responsible commercial activities, including the orderly development of important energy resources (page 2-1), and development of energy related ROWs for roads and pipelines is one of the primary activities in the FFO lands program. The FFO processes ROW applications for applications for access, utilities and telephone lines, fiber optic cables and other communication sites. All ROW applications will continue to receive environmental review on a case by case basis (page 2-11).

C. Applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Document(s) and Other Related Documents

Environmental Assessment: DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2015-0038, February 2015. The construction of the well pads, access roads and pipelines were analyzed in this document for the proposed action.

Navajo Nation Historical Preservation Department (NNHPD), Cultural Resource Compliance Form #HPD-14-757 approved February 19, 2015. NNHPD cultural review indicated there were no cultural sites identified.

According to the USFWS, six federally listed threatened or endangered species (T&E) have the potential to occur in Sandoval County, New Mexico. There were no T&E or Designated Critical Habitat in the proposed project area. There were no Special Status Species (SSS) identified in the vicinity of the proposed project area.

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)? 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. The new proposed action is similar to the existing NEPA document (DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2015-0038, February 2015). The proposed project is within the same analysis area for geographic and resource conditions similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document.

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

Yes. The range of alternatives analyzed in the Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2015-0038, February 2015) is appropriate. The Proposed Action and No Action alternatives included in the EA for the construction, reclamation, and final abandonment analyzed in the EA for environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances.

3. 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. The existing analysis in the Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2015-0038 is valid. There is no new information and no new circumstances to rangeland health standard assessment, endangered species listing or BLM sensitive species to substantially change the analysis of the South Chaco Unit #342H, 343H, 347H, 339H, and 340H proposed pipeline project.

4. 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. The direct, indirect and cumulative effects from the implementation of the proposed action are similar quantitatively and qualitatively to those analyzed in the existing Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2015-0038, February 2015). There are no changes to the effects for this proposed project.

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

Yes. The public involvement and inter-agency review associated with the existing NEPA document (DOI-BLM-NM-F010-2015-0038-EA) are adequate for the proposed South Chaco unit #342H, 343H, 347H, 339H, and 340H pipeline. The EA was posted on the Farmington Field Office (FFO) website and FFO public room. A letter of concurrence was received from the Federal Indian Minerals Office (FIMO), April 2015 for the Environmental Assessment. No other comments were received for this proposed action.

E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted

Name	Title	Resource/Agency Represented
Andrea Felix	Regulatory Specialist	WPX Energy Production, LLC
Roger Herrera	Environmental Protection Specialist	BLM-FFO
Marcella Martinez	Planning & Environmental Specialist	BLM-FFO

CONCLUSION

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the Farmington Resource Management Plan and that the existing NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.



04/21/15

Roger Herrera, Project Lead

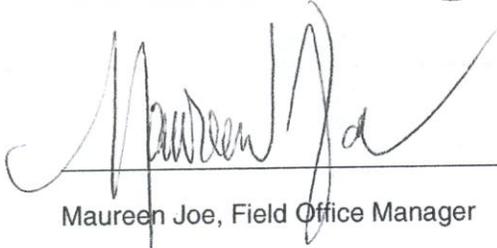
Date



04/21/15

Marcella Martinez, Planning & Environmental Specialist

Date



04/21/15

Maureen Joe, Field Office Manager

Date

Note: 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.