



# United States Department of the Interior



## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Farmington District Office  
1235 La Plata Highway - Suite A  
Farmington, New Mexico 87401  
www.blm.gov/nm

October 20, 2010

**Project:** PNM 42" Waterline

**EA No.** NM - F0102010-344

**File Code:** 2800

**Serial No.** NMNM- 12

**BLM Surface Location(s):**

T. 30N., R15W., sec 29, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ; sec 31, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

### **Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) River to Lake Waterline Project**

**Applicant:** Public Service Company of New Mexico, Alvarado Square MS2101, Albuquerque, NM 87158 - Phone: 505-241-4942

**Third Party Contractor:** Ecosphere Environmental Services

#### **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT: Impact identification and analysis of approving the project proposal and/or alternative(s) has been completed. A complete and comprehensive environmental analysis has been conducted. Completion of the environmental assessment, along with implementation of required stipulations and/or mitigating measures, will result in (projected) impacted resources values being restored to pre-project conditions and/or acceptable post-project standards. Further analysis in an environmental impact statement is not needed.

Rationale for Recommendations: The proposed action is in conformance with the Farmington Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Impact Statement, March 2003 as approved by the Record of Decision, September 29, 2003. These plans have been reviewed to determine if the proposed action is in conformance with land use planning terms and condition required by 43 CFR 1610.5. County and local planning; No land use planning or zoning exists in Rio Arriba County that will affect this action.

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Bill Liess  
Branch Chief, Environmental Protection and Realty

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Date

Proposed Decision: It is my decision to approve the Right-of-Way for the River to Lake project as described in the Proposed Action in the attached environmental assessment (DOI-BLM-NM-F010- 344 -EA). The Approval of the Proposed Action is to construct a 42-inch water line on federal land to transport water from the PNM San Juan River Pump Station to the PNM San Juan Lake. Also to install a buried fiber optic cable to transmit data from the existing river pump station to the lake pump station.

Rationale for Decision: This pipe will replace the existing 36-inch. pipeline. Due to corrosion of the interior of the pipe the resulting increased friction factor, the pumping capacity has been reduced from the original capacity of 20,000 GPM to a current capacity of 15,000 GPM. In addition, the corrosion has caused frequent leaks. The fiber optic line would provide a reliable control data line from the river pump station to the lake pump station.