

OPTIONAL PLAN CONFORMANCE/NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD

Roswell Field Office/BLM
Case File No.: NM-108742

DNA NUMBER: NM-060-03-0001

Proposed Action Title/Type: Free Use Application and Permit for Additional Mineral Materials

Location Of Proposed Action: NE¼, Sec. 07, T. 11 S., R. 21 E., N.M.P.M., Chaves County, New Mexico.

Description of Proposed Action: The New Mexico State Highway & Transportation Department (NMSH&TD) proposes to expand and remove mineral materials from an existing pit in order to provide enough material for the next phase of the highway project. The NMSH&TD will continue to operate under all terms, conditions, and stipulations of the previously issued Free Use Permit (NM-105353).

Applicant: New Mexico State Highway & Transportation Department

Part I: Plan Conformance Review.

The Roswell Field Office is currently operating under the approved Roswell Resource Management Plan. This proposed action is in conformance with this plan. The proposed action is consistent with existing Bureau policy and guidance.

The proposed action is consistent with State and local government programs, plans, zoning, and applicable regulations. The land is suitable for the proposed use and would not result in any undue or unnecessary environmental degradation.

Part II: NEPA REVIEW

A. Existing EA review. This proposed action is addressed in the following existing BLM EA:
NM-060-2001-0128, EA for the NMSH&TD Pit approved 08/01/01.

This EA has been reviewed against the following criteria to determine if it covers the proposed action:

1. The proposed action is a feature of, or essentially the same as, the alternative selected and analyzed in the existing document.
2. A reasonable range of alternatives was analyzed in the existing document.
3. There has been no significant change in circumstances or significant new information germane to the proposed action.
4. The methodology/analytical approach previously used is appropriate for the proposed action.
5. The direct and indirect impacts of the proposed action are not significantly different than those identified in the existing document.
6. The proposed action would not change the previous analysis of cumulative impacts.
7. Public involvement in the previous analysis provides appropriate coverage for the proposed action.

/s/Jerry Dutchover 10/18/02

Jerry Dutchover, Geologist

Date

/s/Irene Salas 10/18/02

Irene M. G. Salas
Environmental Coordinator

Date

Part III. Decision

I have reviewed the proposed action and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with existing Bureau policy and guidance and that the action is categorically excluded from NEPA documentation. It is my decision to implement the proposed project subject to BLM Standard Terms and Conditions for Mineral Material Sites.

Compliance and Monitoring: The construction phase of this proposed action and subsequent operational phases will be monitored as per regulation.

/s/Larry D. Bray

10/18/02

Larry D. Bray
Assistant Field Office Manager
Land and Minerals

Date