

APPENDIX A

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS RECORD CHECKLIST

Project Title: Dominion Kings Canyon Road North Well Drilling Project (RBU 13-21E, 14-21E, 15-21E, 16-20E)

Well Name/Number	Surface	Lease Number
RBU 13-21E	SESE Sec. 20, T 10S R 19E	U-013766
RBU 14-21E	SESW Sec. 21, T 10S R 19E	U-013766
RBU 15-21E	SWSE Sec. 21, T 10S R 19E	U-013766
RBU 16-20E	SESE Sec. 20, T 10S R 19E	U-03505

NEPA Log Number: UTU-080-07-774

File/Serial Number: See list above.

Project Leader: Karl Wright

Date Received: See table below.

Plan Decision/Objective:

Date of Public Notification: NOS: 2-1-05, 12-2-05, 4-10-06, & 2-1-05. ENBB Notice: 7-18-07

FOR EAs: NP: not present; NI: resource/use present but not impacted; PI: potentially impacted

FOR DNAs only: NC: no change (anticipated resource impacts not changed from those analyzed in the NEPA document on which the DNA is based)

STAFF REVIEW OF PROPOSAL:

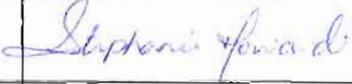
NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
NI	Air Quality	Compressor stations are not proposed. Increased traffic during drilling activities would be temporary. Minimum quantities of dust emissions are anticipated because the volume of traffic from this proposal would be less than one vehicle per day during the production life of the wells. The anticipated air quality impacts from the drilling of these four wells are minimal, and are encompassed within the air quality model that was conducted in 2006 in support of the Vernal RMP effort. The Uina Basin is currently classified as being in attainment. An Air Quality Assessment Report was prepared in 2006 to summarize the findings of a 2002 model that was conducted in support of the ongoing RMP revision process. The requested information falls within the scope of that model and report. No exceedences of National Ambient Air Quality Standards were modeled. In addition, an air quality model was run for the 2008 XTO Riverbend Infill project. Again, no exceedences of NAAQS were modeled. Finally, ozone was modeled on a regional basis in support of the West Taveputs EIS project. The West Taveputs proposed action, which includes approximately 800 wells, was estimated to result in a potential ozone increase of 0.44 ppb. Although ozone formation from its component parts (NOx and VOCs) is a non-linear, photo-reactive process, it is anticipated that the incremental change from this four-well proposed action would be so small as to be undetectable by both models and monitors.
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	None present (Vernal ROD, October, 31, 2008).
NI	Cultural Resources	A class III inventory was conducted for the proposed project. No cultural resources were found, so that no cultural resources would be affected by the proposed action. See reports dated 6-3-05, 10-2-06, 4-27-05, 4-27-05, & 6-6-05.
NI	Environmental Justice	No minority or economically disadvantaged communities or populations are present which could be disproportionately affected by the proposed action or alternatives.
NP	Farmlands (Prime)	None present.

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
	or Unique)	
NI	Floodplains	The proposed project is not within and would not affect the 100 year floodplain (See Vernal Field Office GIS data base and IRR reports dated 2-25-05, 4-26-06, 4-28-05, 4-28-05, & 2-25-05. ²
NI	Invasive, Non-native Species	Operator would control invasive species along road and pipeline corridors and on well pads (See APD operator committed measures).
NP	Native American Religious Concerns	There are no known issues of concern to the Northern Ute Tribe associated with the proposed action ¹ .
NI	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate plant Species	No Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant Species would be affected by the proposed action (see Interdisciplinary Resource Reports dated 2-25-05, 4-26-06, 4-28-05, 4-28-05, & 2-25-05). ³
PI	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate animal Species	There would be an affect to Threatened and Endangered and Special Status Fish Species due to water depletion. ² It is not anticipated that other direct or indirect effects will occur to threatened, endangered, proposed, candidate or sensitive wildlife species with the development of these wells. Under the no action alternative, there would be no direct disturbance or indirect effects to threatened, endangered, proposed, candidate, or sensitive wildlife from surface disturbing activities associated with this well. Current land use trends in the area would continue, including increased industrial development, increased OHV traffic, increased recreational use for hunting, bird watching and sight seeing.
NI	Wastes (hazardous or solid)	No chemicals subject to reporting under SARA Title III in amounts greater than 10,000 pounds would be used, produced, stored, transported, or disposed of annually in association with NBU well. Trash and other waste materials would be cleaned up and removed immediately after completion of operations.
NI	Water Quality (drinking/ground)	Compliance with "Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2, Drilling Operations" will assure that the project will not adversely affect groundwater quality. Due to the state-of-the-art drilling and well completion techniques, the possibility of adverse degradation of groundwater quality or prospectively valuable mineral deposits by the proposed action will be negligible Well completion must be accomplished in compliance with "Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2, Drilling Operations". These guidelines specify the following: <i>... proposed casing and cementing programs shall be conducted as approved to protect and/or isolate all usable water zones, potentially productive zones, lost circulation zones, abnormally pressured zones, and any prospectively valuable deposits of minerals. Any isolating medium other than cement shall receive approval prior to use.</i>
NP	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	No wetlands or riparian zones are present within the proposed project area as recorded within the Vernal GIS data base and IRR report dated 2-25-05, 4-26-06, 4-28-05, 4-28-05, & 2-25-05.
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers	None present (see Vernal GIS data base).
NP	Wilderness	There are no WSAs in the project area. (see Vernal GIS data base).
NP	Native American Trust Resources	There are no known Native American Trust resources associated with the proposed action.
NI	Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines	Hydrologic processes would not be altered because the site-specific well pads and roads are designed to minimize concentrated runoff and to convey runoff to adjacent undisturbed drainages. Species diversity would not decline due to reseeding.
NI	Livestock Grazing	Vegetation would initially be disturbed on 9.5 acres. Upon well completion, the reserve pit and the location up to the deadman would be reseeded and re-contoured to the approximate natural contours. This would reduce the effects of the disturbance by approximately one half when the seeding becomes established. Initial disturbance would be less than 1 AUM.
NP	Woodland / Forestry	None present.
PI	Vegetation including Special Status plant species	Vegetation would initially be disturbed on 9.5 acres. Upon well completion, the reserve pit and the location up to the deadman would be reseeded and re-contoured to the approximate natural contours. This would reduce the effects of the disturbance by approximately one half when the seeding becomes established. No special status plant species are present. ²

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
PI	Fish, Wildlife, and Special Status Species	There would be an affect to Special Status Fish Species due to water depletion. There would be an affect to migratory birds due to habitat disturbance. There would be no affects to other Wildlife Special Status Species. See wildlife reports dated 3-12-07, 7-18-07, 7-23-07, & 3-12-07. The area is designated as limited habitat for big game. See Appendix D – special status animal table.
PI	Soils	Soils would be initially disturbed on 9.5 acres. Upon well completion, the reserve pit and the location up to the deadmen would be reseeded and re-contoured to the approximate natural contours. This would reduce the effects of the disturbance by approximately one half when the seeding becomes established. After abandonment the entire well would be re-contoured and reclaimed. ²
PI	Recreation	There are no recreation sites or facilities present. However, even though it is approximately one mile away from the Green River, a portion of the road to the 16-20E well would be visible by recreationists on the River. The Green River was determined in the Draft Vernal RMP (2005) to contain high value scenery.
NI	Visual Resources	The area is designated Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class IV. VRM class IV allows for major modification of the existing character of the landscape without diminishing that classification. The proposed action and the alternatives analyzed are in compliance with the VRM objectives.
NI	Geology / Mineral Resources	<p>Compliance with existing BLM construction restrictions on slopes and construction design will cause the possibility of the project initiating landslides, other mass movements, or flooding to be unlikely.</p> <p>Natural gas, oil, gilsonite, oil shale, and tar sand are the only mineral resources that could be impacted by the project. Production of natural gas or oil would deplete reserves, but the proposed project allows for the recovery of natural gas and oil per 43 CFR 3162.1(a), under the existing Federal lease. Compliance with “Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2, Drilling Operations” will assure that the project will not adversely affect gilsonite, oil shale, or tar sand deposits. Due to the state-of-the-art drilling and well completion techniques, the possibility of adverse degradation of tar sand or oil shale deposits by the proposed action will be negligible.</p> <p>Well completion must be accomplished in compliance with “Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2, Drilling Operations”. These guidelines specify the following: <i>... proposed casing and cementing programs shall be conducted as approved to protect and/or isolate all usable water zones, potentially productive zones, lost circulation zones, abnormally pressured zones, and any prospectively valuable deposits of minerals. Any isolating medium other than cement shall receive approval prior to use.</i></p>
PI	Paleontology	Paleontological resources would not be affected by the proposed action for wells 13-21E, 15-21E, & 16-20E. Paleontological resources could be affected for well 14-21E. See reports 3-6-07, 7-19-07, 8-30-06, & 3-6-07.
NI	Lands / Access	A Right-of-Way would not be required. The location, access and pipeline are all within the unit. No conflict with other rights of way would occur.
NI	Fuels / Fire Management	No fuels projects are present. The proposed wells would not conflict with fire suppression activities.
NI	Socio-economics	The local economy is enhanced by oil and gas production. However, due to the small size of this project in relation to other ongoing oil and gas development and production in the area, the impact of this project on the social and economic status of the surrounding communities is expected to be negligible.
NP	Wild Horses and Burros	The project area is not part of a wild horse herd unit (Vernal GIS data base).
NP	BLM Natural Areas	<p>None Present per the Vernal RMP.</p> <p>The project area is within an area was determined by the Utah Wilderness Coalition to have wilderness characteristics, and is included in the Red Rocks Wilderness Act.</p> <p>A Wilderness Characteristics Review was completed by the Vernal Field Office on February 2, 2007 regarding the Desolation Canyon Area. The Review (signed 04/02/07) states that, “The interdisciplinary team found that a substantial amount of development has occurred east</p>

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
		<p>of Kings Canyon Road. These lands have diminished in naturalness and do not have the appearance of naturalness. It has been determined that the lands east of Kings Canyon Road do not contain wilderness characteristics."</p> <p>The Review further states, "The four areas that are east of the Kings Canyon Road are substantially less than 5,000 acres and are separated from any lands that have been found to contain wilderness characteristics. The interdisciplinary team found that the four areas did not retain the appearance of naturalness due to the development of oil and gas in the area and the small size of the four areas."</p>

FINAL REVIEW:

Reviewer Title	Date	Signature	Comments
Environmental Coordinator	5/6/09		
Manager Review	5/7/2009		

DOCUMENTS CITED:

**Signature incorporated by reference to the following documents. All documents are on file in the Vernal Office.*

Well Number	1: Cultural Resource Report	2: Interdisciplinary Resource Report	3: Paleontological Resource Report	4: Special Status Wildlife Species Report	5: Application for Permit to Drill
RBU 13-21E	6-3-05	11-8-06	3-6-07	3-12-07	3-22-05
RBU 14-21E	4-27-05	4-28-05	7-19-07	7-18-07	1-3-05
RBU 15-21E	10-2-06	4-26-06	8-30-06	7-23-07	5-26-06
RBU 16-20E	6-6-05	2-25-05	3-6-07	3-12-07	3-22-05