



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Vernal Field Office

170 South 500 East

Vernal, UT 84078

(435) 781-4400 Fax: (435) 781-4410

<http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/vernal/planning.html>



December 4, 2008

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1790

LLUTG01000

UT-080-08-342

Dear Public Land User:

The Southam Canyon Field Development EA is hereby submitted for your review and comment. Public comments will be accepted through close of business on January 6, 2009. The EA was prepared to analyze the potential impacts of Enduring Resources' field development proposal. The Southam Canyon project involves approximately 10,575 acres located in Township 10 South, Range 25 East, Sections 7, 18, 19, 30, and 31; and Township 10 South, Range 24E, Sections 13-15, 22-27, and 34-36, Salt Lake Base Meridian, about 40 miles southeast of Vernal, Uintah County, Utah. This EA analyzes three alternatives in detail.

The directional drilling alternative includes up to 152 well pads from which up to 249 wells would be drilled, about 36 miles of new access roads or upgraded two-tracks, about 47 miles of pipeline and one compressor station with a 1,500 horsepower gas-fired compressor engine. In all, approximately 858 acres, or 8% of the total project area, would be disturbed by the proposal. This is the applicant proposed alternative.

The no action alternative includes up to 24 well pads from which up to 36 wells would be drilled, about 12 miles of new access roads or upgraded two-tracks, about 17 miles of pipeline and one compressor station with a 1,500 horsepower gas-fired compressor engine. In all, approximately 181 acres, or 2% of the total project area, would be disturbed by the proposal.

The vertical drilling alternative includes up to 196 well pads from which up to 240 wells would be drilled, about 50 miles of new access roads or upgraded two-tracks, about 61 miles of pipeline and one compressor station with a 1,500 horsepower gas-fired compressor engine. In all, approximately 1,117 acres, or 11% of the total project area, would be disturbed by the proposal. The conceptual wells under this alternative would be predictably located and drilled vertically to facilitate coexistence between the proposed wells and the existing White River Oil Shale Mine and preferential oil shale lease.

The EA was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as well as other regulations and statutes, to address possible environmental and socio-economic impacts, which could result from implementation of the project. This EA is not a decision document. Its purpose is to inform the public and the decision maker, of the impacts associated with

implementing the proponent's exploratory drilling proposal, to evaluate alternatives to the proposal, and to solicit other agencies and the public for comments. A Record of Decision would be signed following the 30-day comment period and after consideration of any public comments.

If you wish to submit comments, please make them as specific as possible, with references to page numbers and chapters of the document. The most useful comments will contain new technical or scientific information, identify data gaps in the impact analysis, or will provide technical or scientific rationale for opinions or preferences. Please refer to "Southam Canyon EA" in your correspondence. Written comments will be accepted by fax, email, or letter for 30-days through close of business on January 6, 2009. Please provide your comments to:

Bureau of Land Management
Attn: Stephanie Howard
170 South 500 East
Vernal, Utah 84078
Fax: 435-781-4410
UT_Vernal_Comments@blm.gov

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents will be available for public review at the BLM Vernal Field Office from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. Comments may be published as part of the NEPA document and other related documents. All submissions from organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety. For further information, please contact Stephanie Howard at (435) 781-4469.

Sincerely,



William Stringer
Vernal Field Office Manager