

**Decision on Action and Application for Categorical Exclusion
For Activities Associated with Oil and Gas Development
Section 390, Energy Policy Act of 2005**

Router Addition
Bolster Injector 26
Yates Petroleum Corporation
CX08-2-004
Bureau of Land Management
Buffalo Field Office

Description of the Proposed Action

Yates Petroleum Corporation proposes to re-enter the plugged and abandoned FKA Jaguar #1 well located NESW section 18, T49N., R77W over federal lease WYW134246. The purpose of the proposed re-entry is to drill and complete the Bolster Injector #26 to facilitate the injection of CBNG water to the Fort Union Sand zone at a depth ranging from 2,400 to 4,700 feet. This location will be shared with the exiting CBNG production well the Bolster CS #6.

Well List

Well Name	Well #	QTR	Sec	TWP	RNG	Lease
ROUTER BOLSTER INJECTOR	26	NESW	18	49N	77W	WYW134246

The proposed action includes an onsite water injection facility and installation of approximately 1.23 miles of 8 to 12 inch diameter steel pipeline in conjunction with the injection well. The existing construction area will be utilized for drilling activities and placement of the water injection facility. The proposed water pipeline will share an existing buried utility corridor along the Bolster #6 access road. To accommodate a drilling rig with a 60 foot derrick and the anticipated increased average daily traffic associated with a water injection facility, the existing gate and fence line will be relocated to allow for a wider turning radius and the engineered segment of the access road and well location ingress will be widened and straightened.

The Bolster Injector #26 provides an alternative water management strategy in addition to the existing Router POD water management plan of containment of CBNG produced water within on-channel impoundments.

The well location falls within the Visual Resource Management Class II area. The Key Observation Point (KOP) of concern is Interstate 90 however the well location is not highly visible as the Bolster Injector 26 is not sky-lined and will blend into the topography utilizing environmentally friendly colors Carlsbad Canyon or Covert Green. The well location is most visible from Interstate 90 at a distance of 1.75 mile. At this distance, facility lighting is the greatest concern. The operator plans to mount any lighting on the north or east sides of the facility and out of direct line of sight from the KOP.

Yates Petroleum Corporation states in its requests conformance with the approved Router POD Surface Use Plan (EA-WY-070-05-267), June 15, 2005.

The total surface disturbance for this action consists of:

Because the majority of the proposal falls within pre-disturbed area, the only additional disturbance from this action will be related to the widening of 0.4 miles of access road by approximately 20 feet or 0.97 acres.

Plan Conformance

The proposed action is in conformance with the terms and the conditions of the Approved Resource Management Plan for the Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management, Buffalo Field Office (BFO), April 2001 and the PRB FEIS, as required by 43 CFR 1610.5

Plan of Operations

The proposal is designed in conformance with all bureau standards and incorporates appropriate best management practices, required and designed mitigation measures determined to reduce the effects on the environment.

A surface use plan of operations describing all proposed surface-disturbing activities has been reviewed and is approved pursuant to Section 17 of the Mineral Leasing Act, as amended.

Compliance with the Energy Policy Act of 2005

The proposed activity has been determined to be statutorily categorically excluded from NEPA documentation in accordance with Section 390 of the National Energy Policy Act of 2005.

The proposed Bolster Injector #26 will share the Bolster CS Federal #6 well location which was drilled January 2006.

The applicable Categorical Exclusion reference in Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 is exclusion number (b)(2) which is *drilling an oil and gas location or well pad at a site at which drilling has occurred within five (5) years prior to the date of spudding the well.*

Persons and Agencies Consulted

Previous inventory:

A previously reviewed and accepted Class III cultural resource inventory (BFO # 61830337) adequately covered the proposed project area. No cultural resources are in the area of potential effect. On 3/11/2008, the project area was monitored. No cultural or paleontological remains were observed. The project area is mapped as Tertiary Wasatch, with a Paleontological sensitivity rating of 3, a moderate ranking. Paleontological remains have been found in the area, but no specimens were observed during monitoring. No resources of interest to Native American cultural groups or Traditional Cultural Properties are known to occur in the project area. On 3/20/2008, BJ Earle, BLM Archaeologist, notified the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) following section VI(A)(1) of the Wyoming State Protocol, of a finding of no effect for the proposed project.

The wildlife biologist has reviewed the proposal and determined that the project is consistent with the Final Environmental Impact Statement (WY-070-02-065) and programmatic biological opinion (ES-6-WY-07-F012) from the Powder River Basin Oil and Gas Project.

Decision and Rationale on Action

I have decided to implement the following action:

- Re-entry of the FKA Jaguar #1 to drill and complete the Bolster Injector #26.
- Installation of the 1.23 miles of water pipeline.
- Modification of BLM rangeland gate(s) and fencing as needed
- Road improvements over approximately 0.4 miles of existing O&G access road.

Conditions of Approval (COAs):

Yates Petroleum Corporation will adhere to all COAs included in the Router POD Environmental Assessment WY-070-05-267, June 15, 2005.

The above COAs and/or terms and conditions provide justification for this decision and may not be segregated from project implementation without further NEPA review. In addition, I have reviewed the plan conformance statement and have determined that the proposed activity is in conformance with the applicable land use plan(s). Further, I have reviewed the proposal to ensure the appropriate exclusion category as described in Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 has been correctly applied. It is my determination that no further environmental analysis is required.

The above described action must be completed by **April 18, 2013**

Implementation Date: April 18, 2008

This project will be implemented on or after the below date.

Chris E. Hanson
Field Manager

Date

Administrative Review or Appeal Opportunities

This decision is subject to administrative review in accordance with 43 CFR 3165. Any request for administrative review of this decision 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, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003, no later than 20 business days after this Decision Record 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.

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this decision, contact
Jim Verplancke
Natural Resource Specialist
BLM - Buffalo Field Office
1425 Fort Street, Buffalo, WY 82834
Office: (307)684-1057