September 15, 2004

SCOPING NOTICE
Hams Fork 3D Geophysical

Dear Reader:

Zinke & Trumbo Inc., and PGS Onshore Inc. (PGS) have filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) to Conduct Geophysical Operations with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Kemmerer Field Office, for a geophysical project on public lands within Lincoln County, Wyoming. The project is located in multiple Sections within Townships 20 and 21 North, Ranges 114 and 115 West, 6th Principal Meridian. The attached document serves as notice of the beginning of the environmental analysis process to fulfill the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. If you are interested in participating in the process and have concerns, issues, or alternatives you would like to see addressed, please respond with your written comments by **October 15, 2004**.

Send written comments to:

Address: James Roberts
Kemmerer Field Office
280 Highway 191 North
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Email: Kemmerer_wymail@blm.gov
(Please reference the Hams Fork 3D Project in the subject field)

Written comments in response to this notice, including the names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM Kemmerer Field Office during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. thru 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday (except federal holidays) after the comment period closes. These comments may be published as part of the environmental process although individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name and/or address from public view or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety. You have been included in this mailing because you previously indicated interest in receiving information on actions of this type. Absence of response in this matter will remove you from further communications regarding this project.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact James Roberts at (307) 828-4506.

Sincerely,

/S/ Arlan Hiner for

Mary Jo Rugwell
Field Manager

Attatchment

Bureau of Land Management
Kemmerer Field Office

SCOPING NOTICE
Hams Fork 3D Geophysical Project

Description of Project

PGS Onshore, on behalf of Zinke & Trumbo Inc., has filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) to Conduct Geophysical Operations with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Kemmerer Field Office.

The proposed project is located east of the town of Kemmerer to the west side of the town of Opal. The project area extends from approximately Quealy Peak at the north extent to just south of Little Round Mountain at the south end. The project would encompass about 45.25 square miles of federal land, about 3.5 square miles of state land, and approximately 57.25 square miles of privately owned land within Townships 20 and 21 North, Ranges 114 and 115 West, 6th Principal Meridian (see attached map). Those portions of the project occurring on state land are not subject to BLM authorization and would be permitted separately by PGS Onshore.

A helicopter, and personnel on foot would be used to deploy recording equipment to predetermined locations on the receiver lines. The receiver station interval would be 220 feet with lines 1540 feet apart. The source station intervals will be 231.9 feet, with source lines 1540 feet apart.

The proposed project would use buggy mounted vibrators as an energy source where terrain allows. They run on all terrain low ground pressure tires to minimize surface disturbance impact (a PSI of around 10 to 13 pounds). Phase one of the project is scheduled to take about one month during the fall of 2004.

Relationship to Existing Plans and Documents

Resource Management Plan – The document that directs management of the BLM administered lands within the analysis area is the Kemmerer Resource Management Plan (RMP, June 1986). The objective for management of geophysical exploration is to provide opportunity for exploration of mineral resources and collection of geophysical data, while protecting resource values.

Use Authorization – An approved Notice of Intent to Conduct Geophysical Operations is subject to the Terms and Conditions for Notice of Intent to Conduct Geophysical Exploration. Other conditions of approval to protect important resources may be added to the authorization if analysis proves such measures would further reduce environmental impact.

National Environmental Policy Act

On reviewing the proposal from PGS Onshore, the BLM has determined that an environmental analysis is required to determine whether impact for the Proposed Action would be considered significant. Additionally, NEPA requires that a No Action

alternative be considered in all environmental documents. This will allow a comparison of the economic and environmental consequences of all alternatives. Under the No Action alternative, geophysical operations would not occur in the project area.

Identified Resource Management Issues, Concerns, and Opportunities

The following issues and concerns have been identified by the BLM to date. It is not meant to be an all-inclusive list, but rather a starting point for public input and a means of identifying the resource disciplines needed to conduct the analysis.

Raptor nesting habitat
Greater sage-grouse habitat
Big game winter ranges
Steep slopes
Riparian areas
Cultural resources including the Opal Cutoff Trail
Native American religious sites
Abandoned mines
Residential areas
Underground utilities and other facilities
Road crossings
Weeds
Hunting areas and other recreation
Grazing
Sensitive soils
Threatened and Endangered Species

Timing Needs or Requirements

Public input is important in establishing the level and scope of the analysis. The public is encouraged to participate in the environmental analysis process to help identify the level of analysis needed, alternatives to the proposed action, other issues or concerns that should be analyzed, mitigation opportunities, and any other comments or ideas to help ensure the completeness of the analysis process.

Please submit you comments by October 15, 2004. Written Comments should be mailed to:

Address: James Roberts
Kemmerer Field Office
280 Highway 191 North
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Email: Kemmerer_wymail@blm.gov
(Please reference the Hams Fork 3D Project in the subject field)

Public Participation

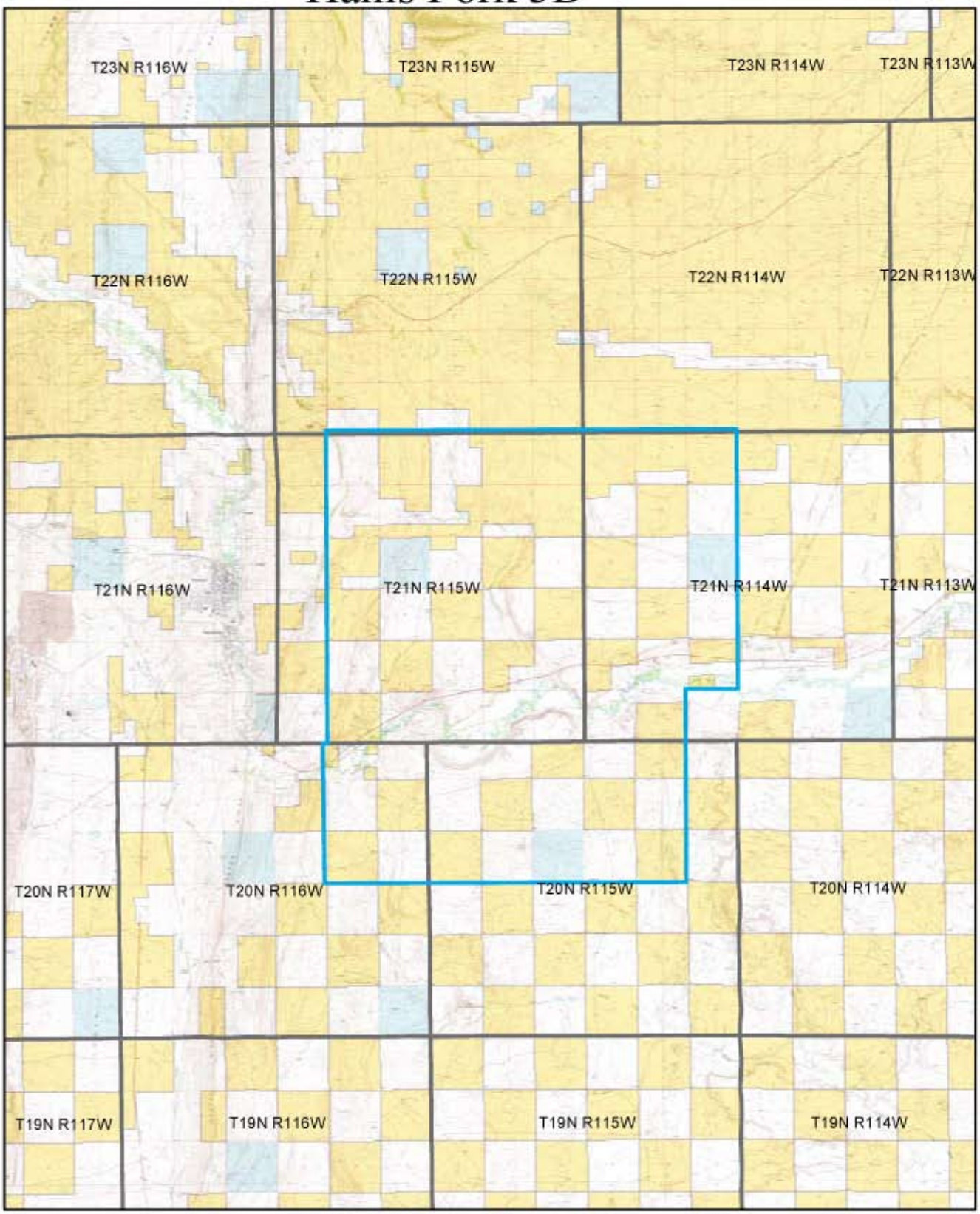
The following individuals and organizations will receive a copy of this scoping statement:

Government Offices
Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office (910, 912, 920,930)
Office of the Governor
U.S. Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Wyoming State Clearinghouse
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (Land, Air, and Water)
Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Cheyenne, Green River)
Office of State Lands and Investments
Wyoming State Planning Office
Wyoming State Geological Survey
Wyoming State Engineer
Wyoming Department of Revenue
Wyoming Water Development Commission
Bureau of Reclamation

Elected and Other Officials
Mayor of Kemmerer, Diamondville, Frontier, and Opal
State Senators:
State Representatives:
Lincoln County Commissioners
Lincoln County Planner
Lincoln County Libraries

Public Land Users and User Groups
Grazing permittes for the Quealy Peak, Slate Creek, Coyote Springs, Cumberland Flats, Roberson Creek, and Carter Allotments
Affected oil and gas lessees

Hams Fork 3D



0 1.25 2.5 5 7.5 10 Miles

NOTICE -- NOTICE-- NOTICE
Due to Federal and State Land Exchanges or Sales, this map may not accurately reflect Land Ownership Status.
Please consult the local BLM Field Office or USFS Ranger District for current updates or ownership status.

NO WARRANTY IS MADE BY THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT FOR USE OF THE DATA FOR PURPOSES NOT INTENDED BY BLM.

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