
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT/DECISION RECORD (FONSI/DR)

Decision

I have reviewed this Environmental Assessment (EA) including the explanation and resolution of any potentially significant environmental impacts. I have selected the proposed action alternative with the mitigation measures described below for authorization and implementation. I have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan. It is my decision to implement the project with the mitigation measures identified below.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the EA, I have determined that the impacts are not expected to be significant, and that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

Rationale for Decision

Compared to the No Action Alternative, the Proposed Action Alternative best meets the Purpose and Need and guiding laws, regulations, and directives, including the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA, 43 USC 35). The proposed action is in conformance with the Great Divide Resource Management Plan (RMP) and the Atlantic Rim Natural Gas Field Development Project EIS (AREIS).

Mitigation Measures/Remarks:

All needed mitigation is a part of the proposed action and is found in the Master Surface Use Plan (MSUP), and accompanying attachments and appendices, with the Conditions of Approval (COA) for the MSUP and Applications for Permit to Drill (APD). A total of six (6) wells and APD (5 Coal Bed Natural Gas wells and 1 water re-injection well) with associated well pads, access road and utility corridors, and infrastructure, and one small section of fee well access road and utility corridor, on public land are authorized under this decision.

Monitoring and Compliance

Designated BLM personnel will monitor operations under authorizations for the proposed action as needed to ensure compliance with the Master Surface Plan and Conditions of Approval.

Authorized Official:

Field Manager
Rawlins Field Office

Date

Appeal

Under BLM regulation this decision is subject to appeal. Under BLM regulation, 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 within 20 business days of the date this Decision Record is received or considered to have been received.