



gallo@ucar.edu  
01/23/2006 01:29 PM

To Atlantic\_Rim\_EIS\_WYMail@blm.gov  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Atlantic Rim Natural Gas Development Project

Mr. David Simons

Dear Mr. Simons,

I am writing to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Atlantic Rim Natural Gas Development Project. As you know, the Atlantic Rim area is important habitat for big game, raptors, greater sage-grouse and Columbian sharp-tailed grouse. It's one of Wyoming's most productive and valued hunting destinations. Irresponsible development of gas resources would damage or destroy these wildlife and recreation values for generations--perhaps permanently.

TB1-1

Alternative C in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement makes some important steps toward preserving the values of the Atlantic Rim, most importantly by calling for the re-injection of wastewater produced from development. It falls short, however, of what is necessary to preserve a viable wildlife resource and hunting destination for future generations.

TB1-2-1

The Bureau of Land Management must consider an alternative that provides measurable long-term protection for sage grouse, big game and other species. This must include, at a minimum:

TB1-2

- Full compliance with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's "Minimum Recommendations for Development of Oil and Gas Resources within Crucial and Important Wildlife Habitats on BLM Lands" and the State of Wyoming's "No Net Loss" policy for crucial habitat.

TB1-2-2

- Real, phased development that suspends development on certain areas until other areas have been not only developed but adequately reclaimed, thus leaving somewhere for the wildlife to go.

TB1-2-3

- Increased protection for the greater sage-grouse and its habitat, as required under your obligations to increase--not decrease--population of this sensitive species

Thank you very much for considering this input.

Sincerely,

Inger Gallo  
430 COLLEGE AVE  
BOULDER, Colorado 80302