

**SCOPING NOTICE
RME PETROLEUM COMPANY
MONELL CO2 PIPELINE PROJECT**

**Bureau of Land Management
Rock Springs Field Office**

July 25, 2002

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Rock Springs Field Office, is considering a proposal for a carbon dioxide pipeline. The enclosed document describes the proposal and serves as notice of the beginning of the environmental analysis process to fulfill the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. If you have concerns, issues, or alternatives you would like to see addressed in the analysis, please submit your comments by August 26, 2002, to:

Address: Teri Deakins, Project Manager
Rock Springs Field Office
280 Highway 191 North
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Email: teri_deakins@blm.gov
(Please reference *Monell CO2 Pipeline* 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 Rock Springs office during regular business hours (7:45-4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday (except federal holidays) after the comment period closes and may be published as part of the environmental process. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name and/or address from public review 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, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

If you have questions, please call Teri Deakins at 307-352-0211 or Jennifer Bates at 307-352-0344.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ted Murphy

Assistant Field Manager

Enclosure

SCOPING NOTICE
RME PETROLEUM COMPANY
MONELL CO2 PIPELINE PROJECT

Bureau of Land Management
Rock Springs Field Office

Description of Proposed Project

RME Petroleum Company (RME), a subsidiary of Anadarko Petroleum Corporation (APC), is proposing to construct, operate, and maintain a buried carbon dioxide (CO₂) gas pipeline and related facilities to transport CO₂ gas from an existing valve terminal at the Exxon/Mobil Shute Creek CO₂ distribution pipeline system located in NW1/4 of Section 15, T. 23 N., R 100 W, 6th Principal Meridian (P.M.), Sweetwater County, Wyoming south-southeast to the existing RME Monell Federal Unit oil field located in SE 1/4 of Section 11, T. 18 N., R. 99 W., 6th P.M. The pipeline would be approximately 32.7 miles in length and constructed with 6 and 8 inch outside diameter pipe (see Map). Approximately 14.6 miles of the pipeline route would follow the existing Duke Energy Field Services' Bravo pipeline. The pipeline route is located within the checkerboard landownership pattern (every other section is owned by either private or state entities).

Related facilities include metering equipment, a booster station, and cathodic protection beds. RME proposes to construct a metering station within the proposed right-of-way (ROW) at the existing valve terminal at the Exxon/Mobil CO₂ pipeline. A booster pump station is proposed in SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 35, T. 19 N., R. 99 W., 6th P.M. and would occupy approximately 0.86 acres within the Monell Unit boundary. Electric motors would drive the pumps. One 300 horsepower (HP) pump would boost pressure of the CO₂ gas for injection. As demand for the CO₂ gas increases, 4 additional pumps could be required. Each pump would be powered by a 300 HP, 4160 volt, 3 phase, 60 cycle, 3600 RMP electric motor. Electrical power is currently available at the proposed site. Primary cathodic protection beds would be located at the booster pump station. A second set of cathodic protection beds could be located north of the booster pump station depending upon the results of a soil study.

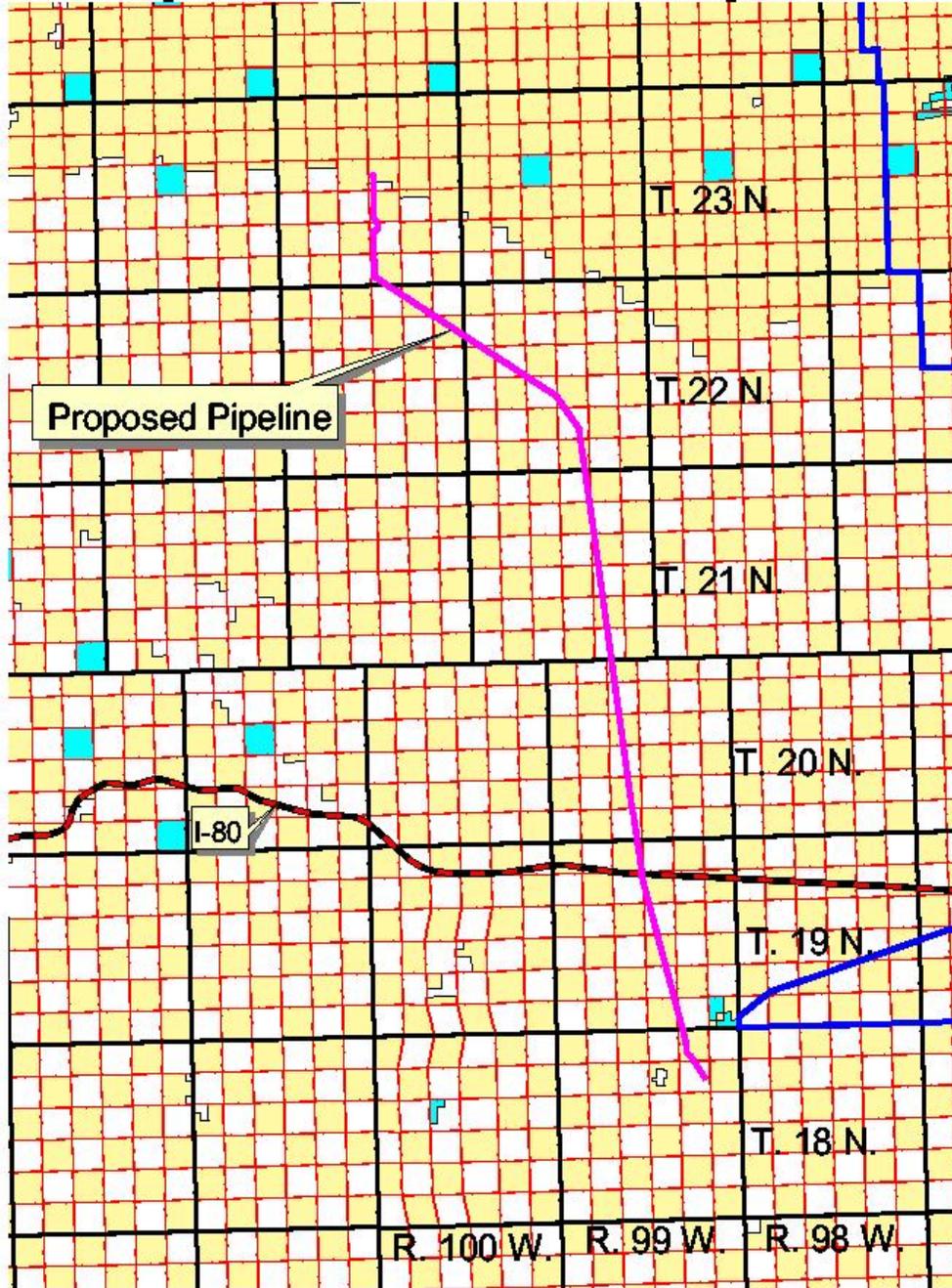
Relationship to Existing Plans and Documents

Green River Resource Management Plan. - The proposed Monell CO₂ pipeline is in conformance with the Green River Resource Management Plan (GRRMP) approved August 8, 1997. The GRRMP states that public lands will be made available for rights-of-way. The environmental analysis completed for this project will incorporate appropriate decisions, terms, and conditions of use as described in the GRRMP.

Continental Divide/Wamsutter II Natural Gas Project EIS – The pipeline route falls within a portion of the area covered in the analysis for the Continental Divide/Wamsutter II Natural Gas Project. This analysis may tier to the document if relevant.

Use Authorizations. Use authorizations for the Monell CO₂ Pipeline would be processed through the BLM right-of-way process under the authority of the Mineral Leasing Act, as amended.

Proposed Monell CO2 Pipeline



-  Monell CO2 Pipeline
-  Field Office Boundary
-  Interstate 80

- Surface Ownership
-  Bureau of Land Management
 -  Private
 -  State



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The proposed project is subject to the appropriate level of environmental analysis. To comply with NEPA and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations that implement NEPA, the BLM is required to conduct an environmental analysis. The environmental document will serve several purposes. It will provide the public and government agencies with information about the potential environmental consequences of the project and alternatives; it will allow the public and various agency officials to evaluate the significance of the potential environmental consequences of the project and alternatives; it will provide the opportunity to evaluate all practical means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the project and alternatives; and it will provide the responsible officials with information upon which to make an informed decision regarding the project.

One element of the NEPA process is scoping. Scoping is initiated early in the process to:

- Identify reasonable alternative measures to be evaluated in the environmental document;
- Identify environmental issues of concern related to the proposed project; and
- Determine the depth of analysis for issues addressed in the environmental document.

This scoping notice has been prepared to enable government agencies, the general public, and other interested parties to participate in and contribute to the analysis process. Public input is important in establishing the scope of analysis for any NEPA document and the BLM encourages public participation.

Identified Resource Management Issues, Concerns, and Opportunities

The following tentative issues and concerns have been identified by an interdisciplinary team and include the following resource issues:

- Potential impacts to wildlife populations and habitats within the analysis area including big game crucial winter range and raptor nesting habitat;
- Potential impacts to sensitive soils within the project area;
- Class III visual resource management area;
- Potential impacts to cultural and historical values;
- Potential impacts to listed, proposed for listing, or candidate plant and animal species;
- Potential opportunity to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the Exxon Mobil Shute Creek plant and put previously vented emissions to beneficial use;
- Potential opportunity to increase local, county, state, and federal revenues due to increased oil recovery.
- Cumulative effects of the proposed project when combined with other ongoing and proposed developments on lands within the BLM Rock Springs Field Office area.

Public Participation

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

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents will be available for public review at the BLM Rock Springs Field Office and will be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). They will be published as part of the Environmental Assessment and other related documents. Individuals may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review and disclosure under the FOIA, 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.

Written comments on the issues and concerns regarding the scope of this proposal will be accepted through August 26, 2002. Comments should be directed to:

Teri Deakins, Project Manager
Bureau of Land Management - Rock Springs Field Office
280 Highway 191 North
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901
Email: teri_deakins@blm.gov
(Please refer to the *Monell CO2 Pipeline* in the subject field)

The following agencies, individuals, and organizations received a copy of this scoping statement:

FEDERAL OFFICES

Federal Regulatory Commission – Office of Pipeline & producer Regulations
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. BLM- Wyoming State Office (921, 951, WY-030)
U.S. Department of Energy
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Council
U.S. Postmaster – Farson
U.S. Representative Barbara Cubin
U.S. Senator Craig Thomas
U.S. Senator Mike Enzi

STATE AGENCIES

Governor Jim Geringer
Office of Federal Land Policy – State Clearing House for all State Agencies
State Representatives - Fred Parady, Bud Nelson, Stephen Watt, Chris Boswell, Bill Thompson
State Senators – Rae Lynn Job, Mark Harris, Mark Harris, Tex Boggs
University of Wyoming – Collection Development Office
Western Wyoming Community College
Wyoming Assn of Professional Archeologists – Gov. Affairs
Wyoming Association of Municipalities

COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND MUNICIPALITIES

Sweetwater County Commissioners
Sweetwater County School Districts
Sweetwater Planning Commission
Mayors - Green River, Rock Springs, Superior, Wamsutter

NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

Eastern Shoshone Tribal Council
Medicine Wheel Coalition for Sacred Sites
Northern Arapahoe Tribal Council
Northern Ute Cultural Committee
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

LOCAL MEDIA

Casper Star-Tribune
Green River Star KGWC TV - Casper
KMKX - Rock Springs
KQSW/KRKK - Rock Springs
KSIT - Rock Springs
KTWO - Casper
KUGR - Green River
KYCS - Rock Springs
Rock Springs Rocket Miner
Wyoming, NPR - Laramie

RIGHTS-OF-WAY HOLDERS, LANDOWNERS

EPX Company
Overland Trail Tans., LLC
Pacific Power & Light
RME Petroleum Co
Rock Spring Grazing Association
Sweetwater County

OTHER AGENCIES AND INDIVIDUALS

Audubon Society
Fund for Animals
Humane Society of the U.S.
National Wildlife Federation
Natural Resources Defense Council
People for the USA
People for Wyoming
Petroleum Association of Wyoming
Predator Project

Public Lands Advocacy
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Sweetwater Wildlife Association
Sierra Club – National and Northern Rockies Regional Offices
Southwest Wyoming Economic Development Association
Southwest Wyoming Industrial Association
Southwest Wyoming Mineral Association
Southwest Wyoming Mule Deer Foundation
The Nature Conservancy
Wyoming Advocates for Animals
Wyoming Association of Professional Archeologists
Wyoming Business Alliance
Wyoming Department of Transportation – RS Office
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation
Wyoming Outdoor Council
Wyoming Public Lands Council
Wyoming Public Lands Council
Wyoming Sportsman’s Association
Wyoming State Grazing Board
Wyoming Stockgrowers Association
Wyoming Wildlife Federation
Wyoming Woolgrowers Association