

RECEIVED NOV 17 2008

November 12, 2008

Bureau of Land Management Wyoming State Office
5353 Yellowstone Road
Cheyenne, Wyoming

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Re: Protest of December 2, 2008 Competitive Oil and Gas Sale

Protest of 14 parcels. Specific parcels protested include: Parcels WY-0812-177, WY 0812-178, WY-0812-179, WY-0812-180, WY-0812-181, WY-0812-182, WY-0812-183, WY-0812-186, WY-0812-187, WY-0812-188, WY-0812-189, WY-0812-190, WY-0812-191, WY-0812-192.

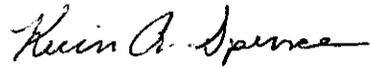
Dear Director Simpson:

Please accept this correspondence as my formal protest against leasing the above referenced parcels in the lease sale advertised by the BLM on October 17, 2008. I request the above parcels be withdrawn from sale in order to comply with the management actions identified in the existing BLM Green River Resource Management Plan. These proposed leases are located within the boundaries of the Greater Red Creek Area of Critical Environmental Concern as identified in your RMP document. The RMP on page 27 states "MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: All resource and land uses in the area will be managed in support of watershed stability and Colorado River cutthroat trout habitat management objectives", and the RMP further states "Management will include emphasis on maintaining or improving important wildlife habitat", and furthermore "The Greater Red Creek ACEC will in general, be managed as an avoidance area for rights of way, and surface disturbing activities". The RMP clearly guides BLM to emphasize management of this unique area for the benefit of wildlife habitat and watershed resource values, NOT energy development.

About 80% of the area around Little Mountain available for energy leasing is already leased, and the remaining 20% is unleased. Given the recent interest in energy development in this area, and the amount of leases that have and continue to be proposed or sold during 2008 raise legitimate public concerns about inadequate pre-planning for potential cumulative energy development effects in the Little Mountain ecosystem. Standard stipulations attached to the existing leases that have been sold in 80% of the area provide only piecemealed seasonal and short term habitat protections, and do not provide the long term planned protections necessary to maintain sound wildlife habitat function. In order for BLM to responsibly balance energy development in this area with the multiple use RMP mandate of maintaining sound ecosystem function and integrity of the Little Mountain landscape, the remaining 20% of the area should be completely withdrawn from energy leasing or

leased with the No Surface Occupancy stipulation. This will provide BLM with better management strategy options for responsible energy development. Otherwise, most of the entire landscape will become a leased property right, and BLM will be forced to accommodate the increasing demands for intensive energy development at the expense of other important land resource needs and jeopardize compliance with the existing Green River Resource Management Plan.

Respectfully,



Kevin Spence
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