



Bureau of Land Management

Utah
News

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HTTP://WWW.BLM.GOV/UT/ST/EN.HTML

For Immediate Release
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Media Contact: Stephanie Howard, (435)781-4400

BLM Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Roadway South of Vernal

Vernal, Utah—The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Utah Vernal Field Office is seeking public comment on an environmental assessment (EA) analyzing potential impacts associated with the proposed Ashley Valley Energy Route project five miles south of Vernal, Utah.

Uintah County filed a right-of-way application seeking authorization to build a new roadway in a 300-foot wide right-of-way that would extend from US 40 at the McCoy Flat area along 6500 South to US 40 south of Naples, Utah. The proposed route crosses 3.16 miles of BLM-administered lands, 5.2 miles of School and Institutional Trust lands, and 3.9 miles of private land. This roadway would accommodate heavy commercial traffic, which is expected to increase with oil and gas industry growth.

The EA is available for public review and comment online at:

https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do.

In conjunction with the 30-day comment period which ends Aug. 26, 2015, a public open house will be held on Aug. 14, 2015, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Uintah Basin Applied Technology Center in Vernal. Representatives from the BLM and the county will be present to provide information and answer questions about the proposed project. The format of the meeting is informal and participants may come at any time from 6 to 8 p.m.

Written comments will be accepted until Aug. 26, 2015. The BLM encourages the public to review the EA and provide written comments on issues and concerns regarding the analysis. The most useful comments will provide specific details about any errors or oversights in the EA. All substantive comments will receive a formal response in the final version of the EA prior to the BLM making a decision regarding the proposal. Please reference “Ashley Valley Energy Route” when submitting comments.

Written comments may be submitted in person at the open house or by mail, email, or online using the following:

Mail

BLM-Utah Vernal Field Office
Stephanie Howard

170 South 500 East
Vernal, Utah 84078

Email

[blm ut vernal comments@blm.gov](mailto:blm_ut_vernal_comments@blm.gov)

Project website

https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do

To submit a comment on the above webpage, choose the “Text Search” tab, then on the “Advanced Search” link. In the “Project Name” field type in “Ashley Valley Energy Route.” Open the project website, click on the “Document” link, then click on the “Comment on Document” link.

Before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in any comments, be aware that the entire comment—including personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. Requests to withhold personal identifying information from public review can be submitted, but the BLM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so. The BLM will not consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

For additional project-specific information, please contact Stephanie Howard at (435)781-4400. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question with the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In fiscal year 2014, the BLM generated \$5.2 billion in receipts from public lands.

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