

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
White River Field Office  
220 E Market St  
Meeker, CO 81641

## FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

### *Moon Lake Power Line to Serve a Rectifier for Chevron* DOI-BLM-CO-N05-2015-0055-DNA

#### **Background**

Chapter 2 Moon Lake Electric Association (MLEA) has submitted an application to construct a new 7.2/12.5 kV, overhead distribution power line to serve a rectifier for Chevron Texaco. The power line would have one wood pole that would extend 35 to 40 out of the ground and have two anchors. The proposed power line would tie in to an existing MLEA power line and the total length of the new installation would be approximately 220 feet, entirely on BLM lands. A 50-foot-wide construction and permanent ROW is requested. This ROW would be used for the construction and staging area, as well as for the future operation and maintenance of this facility. This proposed ROW would encompass approximately .25 acres.

#### **Finding of No Significant Impact**

Based upon a review of the EA and the supporting documents, I have determined that the Proposed Action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. No environmental effects meet the definition of significance in context or intensity, as defined at 40 CFR 1508.27 and do not exceed those effects as described in the White River Resource Area Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (1996). Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required. This finding is based on the context and intensity of the project as described below.

#### **Context**

The project is a site-specific action directly involving BLM administered public lands that do not in and of itself have international, national, regional, or state-wide importance. The power line would be used for the life of the well, and the ROW would be reclaimed to BLM specifications upon termination. There are three adjacent ROWs in the immediate area and all construction would be done within previously disturbed ground.

#### **Intensity**

The following discussion is organized around the 10 Significance Criteria described at 40 CFR 1508.27. The following have been considered in evaluating intensity for this Proposed Action:

#### **1. Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.**

Beneficial and adverse effects of the Proposed Action were described in the EA. Mitigating measures to reduce potential short-term impacts to soils, distribution of invasive non-native species, special status species, cultural resources, and paleontology were incorporated. None of the environmental effects discussed in the EA are considered significant.

**2. The degree to which the Proposed Action affects public health or safety.**

There would be no impact to public health and safety if the safety measures described in the operator's Plan of Development are adhered to.

**3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.**

There are no historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas that are in the project area.

**4. Degree to which the possible effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.**

Right-of-way decisions have been made in the past, with multiple right-of-ways existing in the area. No comments or concerns have been received regarding possible effects on the quality of the human environment during scoping.

**5. Degree to which the possible effects on the quality of the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risk.**

No highly uncertain or unknown risks to the human environment were identified during analysis of the Proposed Action.

**6. Degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.**

The Proposed Action neither establishes a precedent for future BLM actions with significant effects nor represents a decision in principle about a future consideration. This action is similar to many actions proposed and reviewed in the NEPA process in the BLM WRFO that involve constructing access roads, pipelines and other power lines.

**7. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.**

The Proposed Action was considered in the context of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions. No cumulative impacts related to other actions that would have a significant adverse impact were identified or are anticipated.

**8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed on the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.**

No potential impacts to districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or potential loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources have been identified. If any previously unknown cultural resources are located during construction of the Proposed Action, construction would stop and the BLM would be notified.

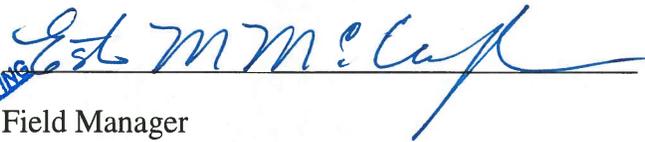
**9. The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973.**

No endangered or threatened species or habitat is present in the project area.

**10. Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.**

The Proposed Action does not violate any laws or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

**Signature of Authorized Official**

  
ACTING  
Field Manager

7/21/15  
Date