United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Colorado River Valley Field Office
2300 River Frontage Road
Silt, CO 81652

IN REPLY REFER TO:
LLCON040/3160
COC76833, COC76833T, and COC76837

July 10, 2015

Dear Interested Public,

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Colorado River Valley Field Office is initiating an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed Winter Flats natural gas and water pipeline upgrades and new pipeline construction. The project area is west of De Beque, Mesa County, Colorado, generally located along or near Mesa County Roads V.2 and V.6 **(see attached map**). The proponent, Red Rock Gathering Company, LLC (RRG), proposes to construct new buried, collocated natural gas and water pipelines and to convert an existing gas pipeline to a water pipeline. The pipelines would serve existing and proposed Black Hills Production (BHPP) oil and gas well pads. The water lines would transport fresh water to the oil and gas well pads for use in drilling and completion operations and produced water from the well pads for treatment and re-use or disposal.

The proposed pipelines would cross approximately 21.4 miles of BLM lands and would parallel an existing RRG pipeline corridor and County Roads V.2 and V.6 along most of their length. RRG is requesting a 30-foot-wide permanent ROW on BLM lands, encompassing approximately 77.8 acres along the 21.4-mile combined corridor length, plus an adjacent 45-foot-wide temporary use permit to provide for construction, access, equipment operation, and material handling. RRG hopes to begin work in fall 2015.

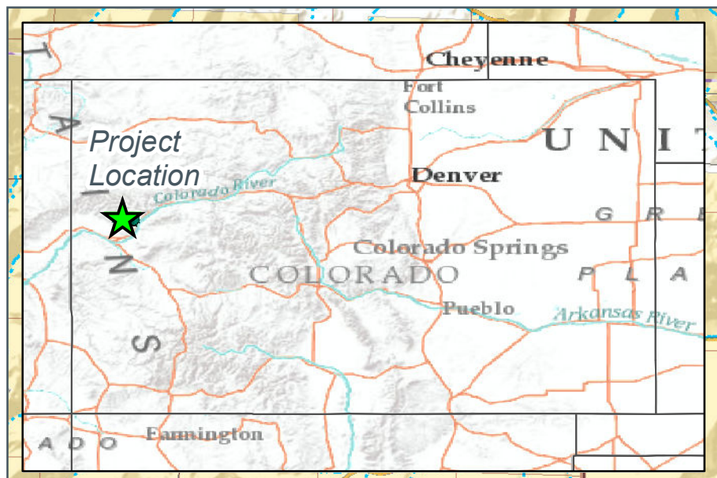
Rare plant and cultural resource surveys are currently nearing completion along the existing pipeline alignment, constructed in the 1980s. Surveys are also being conducted along one or more potential deviations from the existing alignment for resource protection. The EA will analyze the proponent's preferred alignment and any of the alternatives that it has identified as technically feasible and for which resource surveys have been completed to BLM's satisfaction.

Although the Winter Flats Pipeline project area lies within the administrative boundaries of BLM's Grand Junction Field Office (GJFO), the project is being managed by BLM's Colorado River Valley Field Office (CRVFO) in Silt, Colorado. This change is part of an oil and gas consolidation program in BLM Colorado's Northwest District. A more detailed Proposed Action, currently under review by the BLM, is expected to become available to the public later in July, either in the BLM office in Silt, Colorado, or online at ***https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/lup/lup_register.do.***

As a starting point in the assessment process, the BLM is soliciting input on the issues to be considered in preparation of the EA. You are encouraged to provide any comments, concerns, or issues that you may have with regard to the proposed development plan. Comments will be most helpful if received by August 11, 2015. Written comments and questions should be directed to the attention of the undersigned at ***BLM, Colorado River Valley Field Office, 2300 River Frontage Road, Silt, CO 81652,*** or electronically at ***blm_co_si_mail@blm.gov.*** Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,

Allen B. Crockett, Ph.D.
Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist



Proposed Action Location Map

Highways
Winter Flats Pipeline
Roads
BLM
Private

N 0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

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