

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
San Luis Valley Field Office
1313 East Hwy 160
Monte Vista, CO 81144**

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-F03-2015-0017 CX

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER (optional):

PROJECT NAME: SLVREC power line to private residence

PLANNING UNIT: SLVFO

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

New Mexico Principal Meridian, Colorado
T.40N, R.5E,
sec. 8, NE1/4NW1/4.

APPLICANT: San Luis Valley REC

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION

SLVREC inadvertently installed two poles and an overhead power line for a length of 160 feet and also buried a portion of the power line for a length of 135 feet on BLM in 2004. SLVREC wants to obtain a ROW Grant for this to be legal. The power line provides power to a residential home and out building on the neighboring private property. It would cause more resource damage to have this removed so issuing a ROW Grant would be the best option.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW:

Name of Plan: San Luis Resource Management Plan

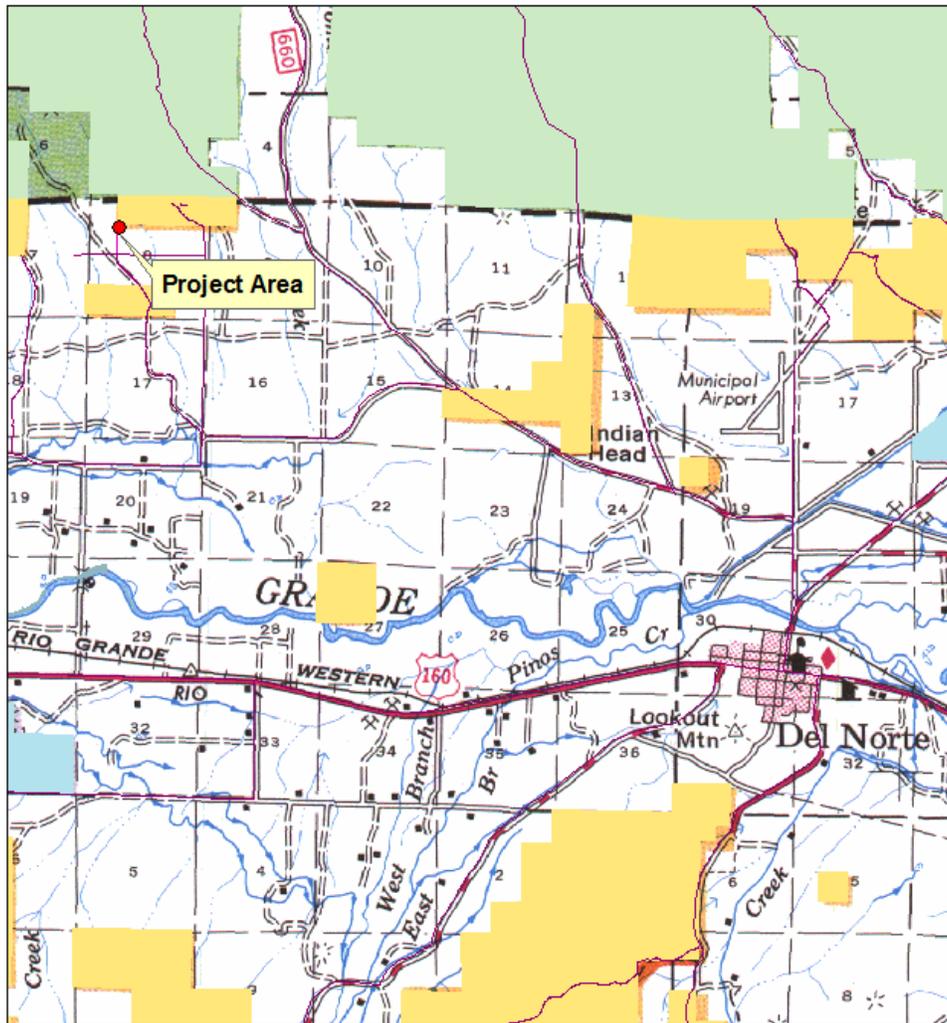
Date Approved: December 18, 1991

Decision Number: ROD – 1 -17 (Lands and Realty- LUA), Page 15

Decision Language: All other BLM lands will be open to right-of-way for other utility lines, roads, etc. and each will be evaluated on a case by case basis for alignment and mitigation stipulations.



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus D.S., U.S.A., USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGF, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



DOI-BLM-CO-FO3-2015-0015-CX
 San Luis Valley REC
 T. 40N, R. 5E, Sec. 8, NENW



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CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: This proposed action is listed as a Categorical Exclusion in DOI Departmental Manual Part 516 Chapter 11 E (17). None of the following exceptions in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

Exclusion Criteria	YES	NO
1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		x
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; lands with wilderness characteristics; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands; floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		x
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.		x
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		x
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		x
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		x
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.		x
8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		x
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.		x
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations.		x
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites.		x
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species.		x

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM REVIEW			
NAME	TITLE	AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY	Initials/date
Joel Humphries	Wildlife Biologist	Terrestrial Wildlife, T&E, Migratory Birds, Fisheries	JTH 05/28/2015
Melissa Shawcroft	Range Management Spec.	Range, Vegetation,	MJS 5/27/2015
Eduardo Duran	NRS	Riparian, T&E species, Invasive Plants, Farmland	ED 05/20/2015
Rebecca Morris	Geologist	Minerals, Paleontology, Waste Hazardous or Solid	RSM 05/20/2015
Negussie Tedela	Hydrologist	Hydrology, Water Quality/Rights, Soils, Air Quality	NHT 05/19/2015
Sean Hines	Cadastral Surveyor	Cadastral Survey	SJH 05/19/2015
Sean Noonan	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Recreation, Wilderness, LWCs, Visual, ACEC, W&S Rivers,	STN 05/28/15
Jill Lucero/Sue Swift-Miller	Wildlife Biologist	Wetlands	JL 05/22/2015
Martin Weimer	NEPA Coordinator	Environmental Justice, Noise, SocioEconomics	mw, 6/8/15
Brian Fredericks	Archaeologist	Cultural, Native American	BAF
Leon Montoya	Realty Specialist	Lands and Realty	LM 05/20/2015

REMARKS:

Cultural: No historic properties were found in the area of potential effect [see report 15-SLVFO-020]. Therefore, the proposed undertaking will have no effect on any historic properties.

Native American Religious Concerns: No Native American concerns.

Wildlife: Granting the right-of-way would have no effect on any threatened or endangered or BLM sensitive species.

COMPLIANCE PLAN (optional):

NAME OF PREPARER: Leon Montoya

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Martin Weimer

DATE: 6/8/15

DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have reviewed this Categorical Exclusion and have decided to implement the Proposed Action.

This action is listed in the Department Manual as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 10 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an exception and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

/s/ Andrew Archuleta
Andrew Archuleta, Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 6/1/15