

A. Background

BLM Office: Arctic Field Office LLAKF01000

Lease/Serial/Case File No. AA081817, AA092344

Applicant: Mr. Chip Alvord
ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.
700 G Street
ATO 1708
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-0360

Proposed Action Title/Type: Injection Well/Application to Drill

General Location of Proposed Action: 5 Miles Northwest of Nuiqsut

Date of Proposed Action: September 15, 2015 Start Date

Description of Proposed Action: The applicant, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc. (CPAI), has requested approval from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) of an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) on lands within the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A). CPAI is currently conducting a production program on a state oil and gas lease within CPAI's Colville River Unit. The activity is taking place at the CD5 pad (Figure 1) which is located on Kuukpik Corporation Lands (Kuukpik), and approximately 5 miles northwest of Nuiqsut, Alaska.

CPAI has requested through an APD to drill an injection well from the CD5 pad. The well would be considered a service well used for water flooding or tertiary recovery. The anticipated spud date of the well is September 15, 2015. Water would be injected to a depth of 5000 feet. Wells are drilled and the casing is tested to ensure the water stays within the casing. The surface location of the injection well (CD5-315) would be located on Kuukpik lands. The well would be directionally drilled; the toe (end of the well) would be located on a BLM oil and gas lease and BLM subsurface property. The surface location is also BLM managed property but would not be accessed for this project.

The well location would be accessed via existing roads. There are currently three existing wells on the CD-5 Pad, this would be the fifth well drilled on the pad. The existing camp at the Alpine Central Facility would be used for this project. There are no water wells in the Colville River Unit. Water for the project would be withdrawn from Lake L9313 and L9312, both of which are outside of the NPR-A and not managed by the BLM. Sanitary waste and domestic waste is managed through a wastewater treatment plan and injected into a Class I Well located at Alpine. Industrial trash would be hauled to the Oxbow Landfill.

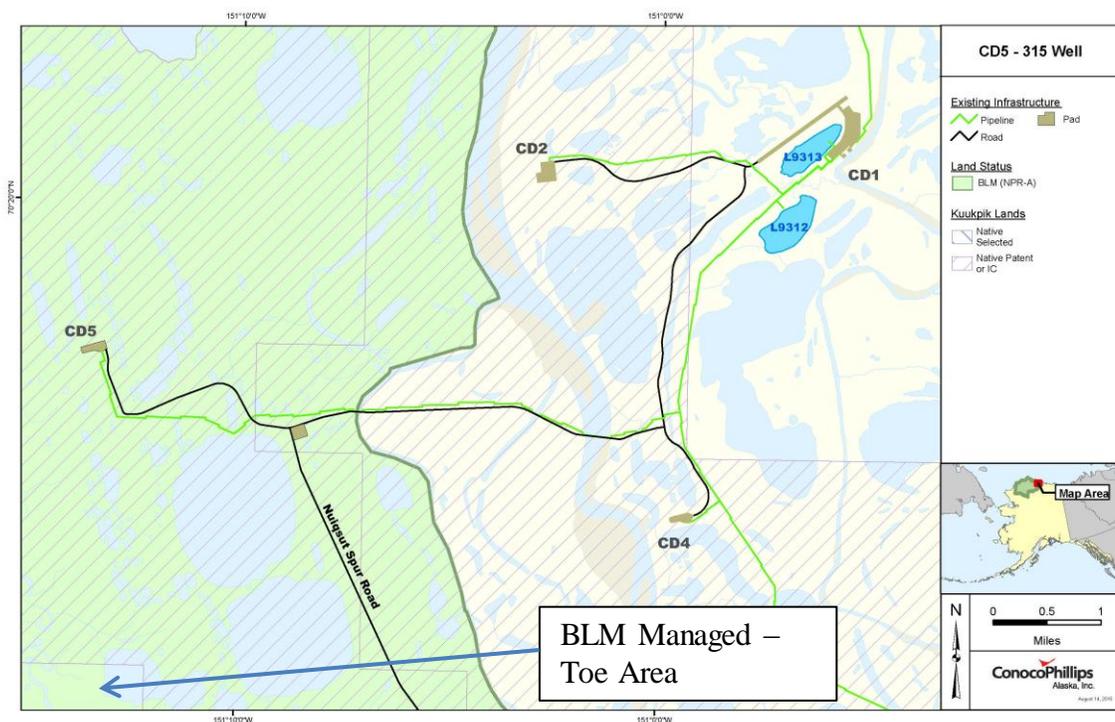


Figure 1: Applicant Supplied Map

Legal Description (All Umiat Meridian):

Location	Township	Range	Section	Ownership
Surface	11 North	4 East	18	Kuukpik Corporation
Heel ¹	11 North	4 East	19	Kuukpik Corporation
Toe ²	11 North	4 East	31	BLM

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

The proposed action is in conformance with the following planning document: National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS) dated November 2012 and associated Record of Decision dated February 2013 and Alpine Satellite Development Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement dated September 2004 and associated Record of Decision dated November 2004.

The proposed action is in conformance with the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act which allows for the authorization of uses consistent with the purposes of the Act.

¹ Directionally drilled well, heel is the top of Productive Horizon.

² Directionally drilled well, toe is the end point of the well.

C. Compliance with NEPA:

The IAP/EIS Record of Decision for the NPR-A developed stipulations and best management practices applicable to all activities in NPR-A. The stipulations and best management practices applicable to the proposed action will be provided, along with project-specific mitigation, to the applicant and are entitled: “ConocoPhillips Injection Well CD5-315 Conditions of Approval.”

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under section 390 of the Energy Policy Act (P.L. 109-58) of 2005. Specifically the proposed action meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion under exclusion 2 of the Act.

“Drilling an oil and gas well at a location or well pad site at which drilling has occurred within five years prior to the date of spudding the well. .”

There were two wells drilled on the CD5 pad this year. This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

Extraordinary Circumstances	Yes	No
2.1 Have significant impacts on public health or safety.		X
2.2 Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		X
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2) (E)].		X
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.		X
2.5 Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.		X
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.		X
2.7 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

