

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Colorado River Valley Field Office
2300 River Frontage Road
Silt, Colorado 81652**

Categorical Exclusion

NEPA LOG NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2016-0009-CX

A. Background

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM) OFFICE: Colorado River Valley Field Office

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: COC 77463 and COC 77463T

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: Authorization to install a 16-inch natural gas pipeline located on BLM approximately 3 air-miles southeast of Parachute, Garfield County, Colorado.

LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION: See **Table 1**.

Table 1. Proposed 16-inch Natural Gas Pipeline		
<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Legal Description (6th Principal Meridian, Colorado)</i>
COC 77463 and COC 77463T	Red Rock Gathering Company, LLC Tompkins Lateral Interconnect 16-inch Natural Gas Pipeline	T. 7 S., R. 95 W., Sec. 16, SE1/4SW1/4 and SW1/4SE1/4.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:

Red Rock Gathering Company, LLC (RRG), proposes to install a 16-inch diameter steel welded, buried, natural gas pipeline on land administered by the BLM (See Figures 1 and 2). The 16-inch pipeline would begin at a Proposed Ursa Pad (between the POB of the proposed RRG natural gas pipeline and the existing Encana PJ16 well pad) and proceed south and then west for approximately 261.78 feet to the PA 17 Valve Yard.

The 16-inch natural gas pipeline would be located within existing, previously disturbed rights-of-way (COC66335, COC72903, and COC 69572). RRG is requesting a 20-foot temporary construction right-of-way and a 30-foot permanent right-of-way along the 261.78-foot length, for a total of approximately 0.18 acre of surface disturbance.

RRG proposes to build the pipeline during the late fall/early winter of 2015 with construction taking approximately 2 to 3 weeks to complete. RRG is requesting a 30-year term and year-round operations.

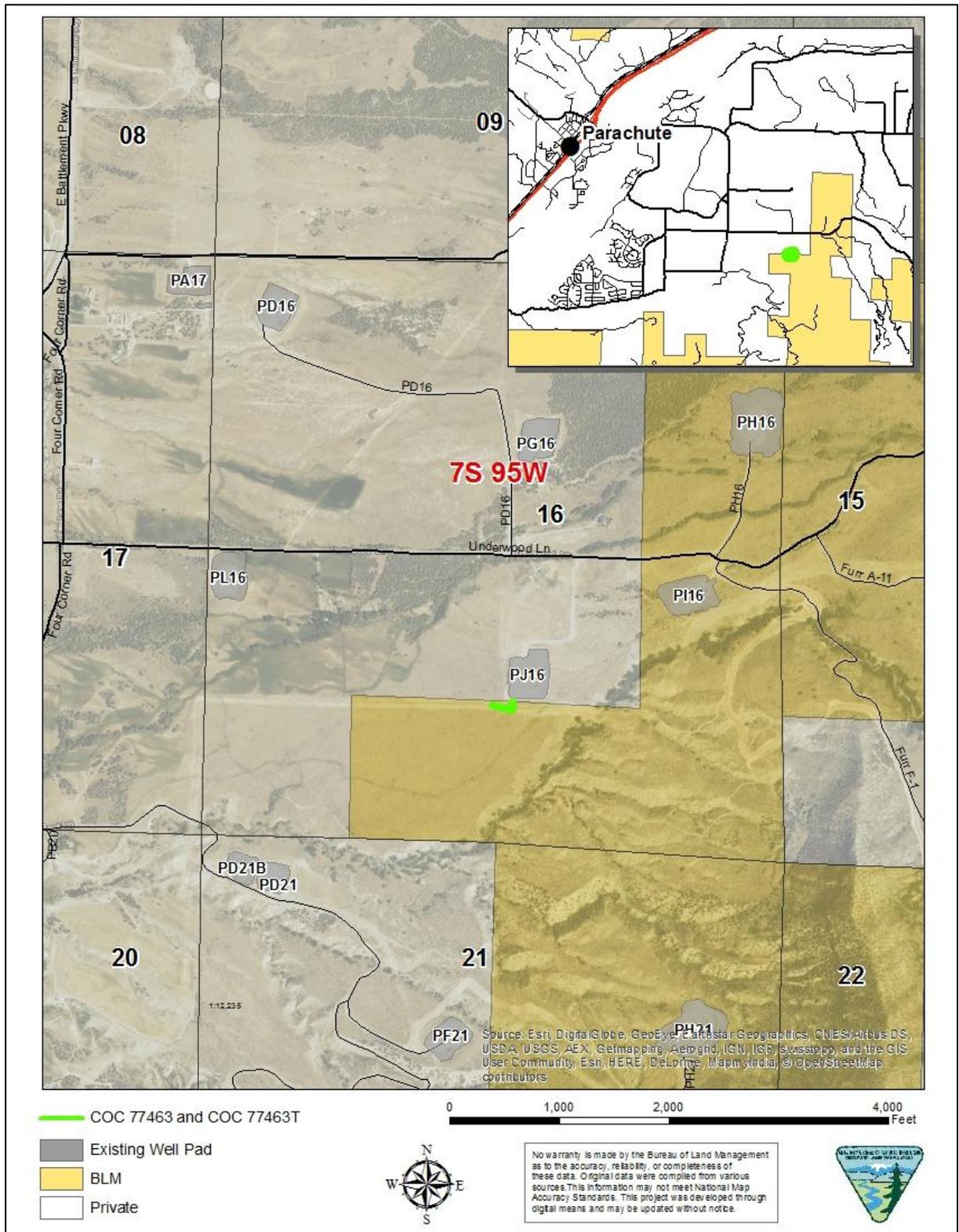


Figure 1. Project Vicinity.

EXHIBIT "A"

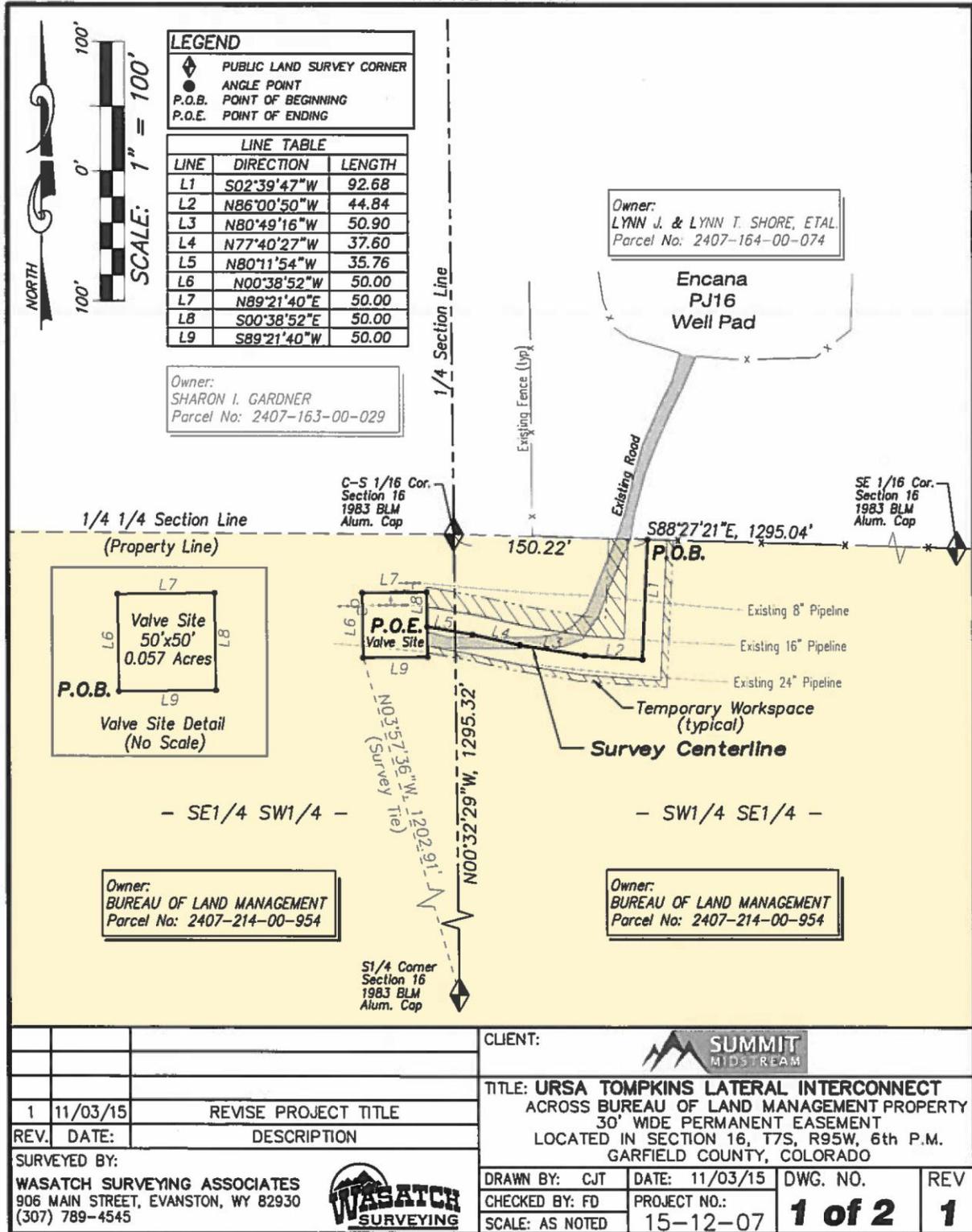


Figure 2. Pipeline Segment on BLM

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

The Proposed Action is subject to, has been reviewed for, and is in conformance with (43 CFR §1610.5 and § 2800, BLM 1617.3) the following plan:

Land Use Plan (LUP) Name: The current land use plan is the *Colorado River Valley Field Office Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP)*.

Date Approved: June 12, 2015.

Determination of Conformance: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for and is in conformance with (43 CFR §1610.5 and § 2800, BLM 1617.3) the CRVFO land use plan.

Decision Page and Language: Page 106, Lands and Realty, LRT-GOAL-01 – “Meet Public needs while for realty authorizations such as ROWs, renewable energy sources, permits, and leases when such needs are consistent with other resource values.” Page 106, Lands and Realty, LRT-OBJ-01 – “Provide for the development of transportation systems, utilities, communication sites, and renewable energy resources when such needs are consistent with other resource values.” Page 111, Fluid Minerals, MIN-OBJ-01 – “Facilitate orderly, economic and environmentally sound exploration and development of oil and gas resources...using the best available technology.”

C. Compliance with NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E. Realty Numbers:

(12) Grants of right-of-way wholly within the boundaries of other compatibly developed rights-of-way.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment (**Table 2**). The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 apply.

The Proposed Action was presented to the Colorado River Valley Field Office interdisciplinary team (**Table 3**) on November 9, 2015.

D. Remarks/Mitigation

Cultural Resources: The Proposed Action presented in this CX would not affect cultural resources provided the attached stipulations are adhered to. If the project is situated on lands that have previously been disturbed and no additional surface disturbance is anticipated, the project is exempt from additional inventory requirements under the provisions of 8110.23B2 and no further work is required.

Native American Religious Concerns: The Proposed Action presented in this CX would not affect Native American Religious Concerns provided the proposed stipulations are met.

Threatened or Endangered Species: A survey for Federally listed threatened or endangered plant species, BLM sensitive plant species, and invasive non-native plant species was conducted by WestWater Engineering in May-June 2015. No special status plant species were found, and there would be No Effect on any Federally list plant species or BLM sensitive plant species or any special status wildlife species.

Table 2. Extraordinary Circumstances	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; 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
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].		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 (Executive Order 12898).		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 (Executive Order 13007).		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 (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).		X

Noxious Weeds: Noxious weed surveys conducted by WestWater Engineering in May-June 2015 identified five State List B noxious weeds, as well as four State List C noxious weeds located in and near the project area. To reduce the risk of noxious weed infestation expansion into the disturbance area, noxious weeds should be treated prior to ground disturbance.

Interdisciplinary Review: BLM staff from the CRVFO listed in Table 3 participated in the preparation of this CX, including review of resource survey results submitted by the operator’s consultants, evaluation of impacts likely to occur from implementation of the proposed action, and identification of appropriate stipulations.

Name of Preparer: Julie McGrew, Realty Specialist Date Prepared: November 6, 2015

Table 3. BLM Interdisciplinary Team Authors and Reviewers

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Areas of Participation</i>
John Brogan	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns
Vanessa Carnese	Geologist	Geology and Minerals, Groundwater, Paleontology
Allen Crockett, Ph.D., J.D.	Supervisory NRS	NEPA Review
Carmia Woolley	Hydrologist	Air Quality, Noise, Soils, Surface Water, Waters of the U.S.
Julie McGrew	Realty Specialist	NEPA Project Lead, Access & Transportation, Socioeconomics, Wastes-Hazardous or Solid, Visual Resources
Judy Perkins, Ph.D.	Botanist	Invasive Non-native Species, Special-status Species (Plants), Vegetation
Sylvia Ringer	Wildlife Biologist	Migratory Birds, Special-status Species (Animals), Wildlife, Aquatic and Terrestrial

E. Decision and Rationale for Action

I considered the action and determined that it may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an exception and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.



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

12/3/15

Date

Contact Person:

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Julie McGrew, Realty Specialist, Colorado River Valley Field Office, 2300 River Frontage Road, Silt, CO 81652, telephone 970-876-9053.

RIGHT-OF-WAY STIPULATIONS

1. **Administrative Notification.** The operator shall notify the BLM representative at least 48 hours prior to initiation of construction. If requested by the BLM representative, the operator shall schedule a pre-construction meeting, including key operator and contractor personnel, to ensure that any unresolved issues are fully addressed prior to initiation of surface-disturbing activities or placement of production facilities.
2. **Compliance with Laws.** The holder shall comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations existing or hereafter enacted or promulgated regarding toxic substances or hazardous materials. In any event, the holder shall comply with the Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, as amended (15 U.S.C. 2601, *et seq.*) with regard to any toxic substances that are used, generated by, or stored on the right-of-way or on facilities authorized under this right-of-way grant. (See 40 CFR, Part 702-799 and especially, provisions on polychlorinated biphenyls, 40 CFR 761.1-761.193.) Additionally, any release of toxic substances (leaks, spills, etc.) in excess of the reportable quantity established by 40 CFR, Part 117 shall be reported as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, section 102b. A copy of any report required or requested by any Federal agency of state government as a result of a reportable release or spill of any toxic substances shall be furnished to the authorized officer concurrent with the filing of the reports to the involved Federal agency of State government.
3. **Public Health and Safety.** The holder shall comply with applicable State standards for public health and safety, environmental protection and siting, construction, operation and maintenance, if these State standards are more stringent than Federal standards for similar projects.
4. **Construction Limits.** All construction, operation, and maintenance shall be within the authorized limits of the right-of-way granted herein.
5. **Use of Roads.** For access and maintenance of facilities, the holder shall use existing roads. When existing roads are not available, the holder may use the right-of-way for access. BLM roads should not be maintained without first consulting with the authorized officer.
6. **Termination Inspection.** Prior to termination of the right-of-way, the holder shall contact the authorized officer to arrange a joint inspection of the right-of-way. This inspection will be held to agree to an acceptable termination and rehabilitation plan as necessary. This plan shall include, but is not limited to, removal of facilities, drainage structures, or surface material, recontouring, topsoiling, or seeding. The authorized officer must approve the plan in writing prior to the holder's commencement of any termination activities.
7. **Wet Conditions.** No construction or routine maintenance activities shall be performed during periods when the soil is too wet to support such equipment adequately. If the equipment creates ruts in excess of 4 inches deep, the soil shall be deemed too wet to support the construction equipment.
8. **Cultural Resources, Education/Discovery Stipulation.** All persons in the area who are associated with this project shall be informed that if anyone is found disturbing historic, archaeological, or scientific resources, including collecting artifacts, the person or persons will be subject to prosecution.

Cultural Resources. If in connection with operations under this contract, the operator, its contractors, their subcontractors, or the employees of any of them discovers, encounters, or becomes aware of any

objects or sites of cultural value or scientific interest such as historic ruins or prehistoric ruins, graves or grave markers, fossils, or artifacts, the operator shall immediately suspend all operations in the vicinity of the cultural resource and shall notify the BLM of the findings (16 USC 470h-3, 36 CFR 800.112). Operations may resume at the discovery site upon receipt of written instructions and authorization by the BLM. Approval to proceed will be based upon evaluation of the resource. Evaluation shall be by a qualified professional selected by the BLM from a Federal agency insofar as practicable. When not practicable, the operator shall bear the cost of the services of a non-Federal professional.

Within five working days, the BLM will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- what mitigation measures the holder will likely have to undertake before work can continue in that location (assuming that *in-situ* preservation is not necessary)
- the timeframe for the BLM to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800.11, or any agreements in lieu thereof, to confirm through the SHPO State Historic Preservation Officer that the findings of the BLM are correct and that mitigation is appropriate

The operator may relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and delays associated with this process, as long as the new area has been appropriately cleared of resources and the exposed materials are recorded and stabilized. Otherwise, the operator shall be responsible for mitigation costs. The BLM will provide technical and procedural guidelines for relocation and/or to conduct mitigation. Upon verification from the BLM that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will be allowed to resume construction.

Native American Human Remains. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the holder must notify the authorized officer, by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony on Federal land. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4 (c) and (d), the holder must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery that could adversely affect the discovery. The holder shall make a reasonable effort to protect the human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony for a period of thirty days after written notice is provided to the authorized officer, or until the authorized officer has issued a written notice to proceed, whichever occurs first. Any relocation, additional construction, or use that is not in accord with the approved conditions shall not be initiated without the prior written approval of the authorized officer. A copy of the complete right-of-way grant, including all plans and stipulations shall be made available at the right-of-way site during construction. Noncompliance with the above will be grounds for an immediate temporary suspension of activities if it constitutes a threat to public health or the environment.

9. Reclamation. In the event that ground-disturbing activities are required for maintenance in connection with this contract, standard BLM reclamation requirements shall be adhered to:
 - a. Reclamation Plans. In areas that have low reclamation potential or are especially challenging to restore, reclamation plans will be required prior to approval. The plan shall contain the following components: detailed reclamation plans, which include contours and indicate irregular rather than smooth contours as appropriate for visual and ecological benefit; timeline for interim reclamation earthwork and seeding; soil test results and/or a soil profile description; amendments to be used; soil treatment techniques such as roughening, pocking, and terracing; erosion control techniques

such as hydromulch, blankets/matting, and wattles; and visual mitigations if in a sensitive VRM area.

- b. Deadline for Interim Reclamation Earthwork and Seeding. Reclamation, including seeding, of temporarily disturbed areas along roads and pipelines, shall be completed within 30 days following completion of construction. Any such area on which construction is completed prior to December 1 shall be seeded during the remainder of the early winter season instead of during the following spring, unless the BLM approves otherwise based on weather.

If requested by the project lead Realty Specialist for a specific section of pipeline, the operator shall contact the Realty Specialist by telephone or email approximately 72 hours before reclamation and reseeding begin. This will allow the Realty Specialist to schedule a pre-reclamation field visit if needed to ensure that all parties are in agreement and provide time for adjustments to the plan before work is initiated.

The deadlines for seeding described above are subject to extension upon approval of the BLM based on season, timing limitations, or other constraints on a case-by-case basis. If the BLM approves an extension for seeding, the operator may be required to stabilize the reclaimed surfaces using hydromulch, erosion matting, or other method until seeding is implemented.

- c. Topsoil Stripping, Storage, and Replacement. All topsoil shall be stripped following removal of vegetation during construction of well pads, pipelines, roads, or other surface facilities. In areas of thin soil, a minimum of the upper 6 inches of surficial material shall be stripped. The BLM may specify a stripping depth during the onsite visit or based on subsequent information regarding soil thickness and suitability. The stripped topsoil shall be stored separately from subsoil or other excavated material and replaced prior to final seedbed preparation. The BLM best management practice (BMP) for the Windrowing of Topsoil shall be implemented for well pad construction whenever topography allows.
- d. Seedbed Preparation. For cut-and-fill slopes, initial seedbed preparation shall consist of backfilling and recontouring to achieve the configuration specified in the reclamation plan. For compacted areas, initial seedbed preparation shall include ripping to a minimum depth of 18 inches, with a maximum furrow spacing of 2 feet. Where practicable, ripping shall be conducted in two passes at perpendicular directions. Following final contouring, the backfilled or ripped surfaces shall be covered evenly with topsoil.

Final seedbed preparation shall consist of scarifying (raking or harrowing) the spread topsoil prior to seeding. If more than one season has elapsed between final seedbed preparation and seeding, and if the area is to be broadcast-seeded or hydroseeded, this step of scarifying shall be repeated no more than 1 day prior to seeding to break up any crust that has formed.

If directed by the BLM, the operator shall implement measures following seedbed preparation (when broadcast-seeding or hydroseeding is to be used) to create small depressions to enhance the capture of moisture and establishment of seeded species. Depressions shall be no deeper than 1 to 2 inches and shall not result in piles or mounds of displaced soil. Excavated depressions shall not be used unless approved by the BLM for the purpose of erosion control on slopes. Where excavated depressions are approved by the BLM, the excavated soil shall be placed only on the downslope side of the depression.

If directed by the BLM, the operator shall conduct soil testing prior to reseeding to identify if and what type of soil amendments may be required to enhance revegetation success. At a minimum, the soil tests shall include texture, pH, organic matter, sodium adsorption ratio (SAR), cation exchange capacity (CEC), alkalinity/salinity, and basic nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium [NPK]). Depending on the outcome of the soil testing, the BLM may require the operator to submit a plan for soil amendment. Any requests to use soil amendments not directed by the BLM shall be submitted to the CRVFO for approval.

- e. Seed Mixes. A seed mix consistent with BLM standards in terms of species and seeding rate for the specific habitat type shall be used on all BLM lands affected by the project (see Attachments 1 of the letter provided to operators dated October 24, 2014).

For private surfaces, the operator shall use a BLM-approved native seed mix unless specified otherwise by the private landowner.

The seed shall contain no prohibited or restricted noxious weed seeds and shall contain no more than 0.5 percent by weight of other weed seeds. Seed may contain up to 2.0 percent of “other crop” seed by weight, including the seed of other agronomic crops and native plants; however, a lower percentage of other crop seed is recommended. Seed tags or other official documentation shall be submitted to the BLM at least 14 days before the date of proposed seeding for acceptance. Seed that does not meet the above criteria shall not be applied to public lands.

- f. Seeding Procedures. Seeding shall be conducted no more than 24 hours following completion of final seedbed preparation.

Where practicable, seed shall be installed by drill-seeding to a depth of 0.25 to 0.5 inch. Where drill-seeding is impracticable, seed may be installed by broadcast-seeding at twice the drill-seeding rate, followed by raking or harrowing to provide 0.25 to 0.5 inch of soil cover or by hydroseeding and hydromulching. Hydroseeding and hydromulching shall be conducted in two separate applications to ensure adequate contact of seeds with the soil.

An exception to these seeding requirements shall be made for seeding of sagebrush. Sagebrush seeding shall occur prior to winter snowfall, or on top of snow. Either sagebrush may be sown by broadcast seeding, or, if not on snowpack, by placing the seed in the fluffy seed box of a seed drill, with the drop tube left open to allow seed to fall out on the ground surface.

If revegetation is unsuccessful, the operator shall implement subsequent reseedings until reclamation standards are met.

- g. Mulch. Mulch shall be applied within 24 hours following completion of seeding. Mulch may consist of either hydromulch or of certified weed-free straw or certified weed-free native grass hay crimped into the soil. Mulch shall not be used within mountain shrub or spruce-fir forest habitat types, unless requested or approved by the BLM.

NOTE: Mulch is not required in areas where erosion potential mandates use of a biodegradable erosion-control blanket (straw matting).

- h. Erosion Control. Cut-and-fill slopes shall be protected against erosion with the use of water bars, lateral furrows, or other BMPs approved by the BLM. Additional BMPs, such as biodegradable wattles, weed-free straw bales, or silt fences, shall be employed as necessary to reduce transport

of sediments into the drainages. The BLM may, in areas with high erosion potential, require use of hydromulch or biodegradable blankets/matting to ensure adequate protection from slope erosion and offsite transport of sediments and to improve reclamation success.

- i. Monitoring. The operator shall conduct annual monitoring surveys of all sites categorized as “operator reclamation in progress” and shall submit an annual monitoring report of these sites, including a description of the monitoring methods used, to the BLM by **December 31** of each year. The monitoring program shall use the four Reclamation Categories defined in Appendix I of the 1998 DSEIS to assess progress toward reclamation objectives. The annual report shall document whether attainment of reclamation objectives appears likely. If one or more objectives appear unlikely to be achieved, the report shall identify appropriate corrective actions. Upon review and approval of the report by the BLM, the operator shall be responsible for implementing the corrective actions or other measures specified by the BLM.

10. Noxious Weeds. **Before any mobilization of equipment onto public lands**, in order to prevent the spread of invasive species, the operator shall perform inspections to ensure that all construction equipment and vehicles are pressure-washed so as to be clean and free of soil, mud, and vegetation material. The operator shall provide copies of such cleaning and inspections upon request by the BLM. Vehicles and equipment shall avoid driving through or parking on weeds.

The operator shall regularly monitor and promptly control noxious weeds or other undesirable plant species as set forth in the Glenwood Springs Field Office *Noxious and Invasive Weed Management Plan for Oil and Gas Operators*, dated March 2007. A Pesticide Use Proposal (PUP) must be approved by the BLM prior to the use of herbicides. Annual weed monitoring reports, including GPS shapefiles of treatment areas and Pesticide Application Records (PARs) (see the letter provided to operators dated February 27, 2014), shall be submitted to the BLM by **December 1**.

11. Fossil Resources. All persons associated with operations under this authorization shall be informed that any objects or sites of paleontological or scientific value, such as vertebrate or scientifically important invertebrate fossils, shall not be damaged, destroyed, removed, moved, or disturbed. If in connection with operations under this authorization any of the above resources are encountered the operator shall immediately suspend all activities in the immediate vicinity of the discovery that might further disturb such materials and notify the BLM of the findings. The discovery must be protected until notified to proceed by the BLM.

Where feasible, the operator shall suspend ground-disturbing activities at the discovery site and immediately notify the BLM of any finds. The BLM will, as soon as feasible, have a BLM-permitted paleontologist check out the find and record and collect it if warranted. If ground-disturbing activities cannot be immediately suspended, the operator shall work around or set the discovery aside in a safe place to be accessed by the BLM-permitted paleontologist.

12. Bald and Golden Eagles. It shall be the responsibility of the operator to comply with the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (Eagle Act) with respect to “take” of either eagle species. Under the Eagle Act, “take” includes to pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest and disturb. “Disturb” means to agitate or bother a bald or golden eagle to a degree that causes, or is likely to cause, based on the best scientific information available, (1) injury to an eagle; (2) a decrease in its productivity by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior; or (3) nest abandonment by substantially interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior. Avoidance of eagle nest sites, particularly during the nesting season, is the primary and preferred method to avoid a take. Any oil or gas construction, drilling, or completion activities

planned within 0.5 mile of a bald or golden eagle nest, or other associated activities greater than 0.5 miles from a nest that may disturb eagles, should be coordinated with the BLM project lead and BLM wildlife biologist and the USFWS representative to the BLM Field Office (970-628-7187).

13. Raptor Nesting. Raptor nest surveys in the project vicinity in June 2015 did not result in location of raptor nest structures within 0.25 mile of a well pad or 0.125 mile of an access road, pipeline, or other surface facility associated with this project. Therefore, a 60-day raptor nesting TL is not required. However, to help ensure compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the operator should schedule construction or drilling activities to begin outside the raptor nesting season (February 1 to August 15) if practicable. If initiation of construction, drilling, or completion activities during these dates cannot be avoided, the operator is responsible for complying with the MBTA, which prohibits the “take” of birds or of active nests (those containing eggs or young), including nest failure caused by human activity (see COA for Migratory Birds, below).
14. Migratory Birds – Birds of Conservation Concern. Pursuant to BLM Instruction Memorandum 2008-050, all vegetation removal or surface disturbance in previously undisturbed lands providing potential nesting habitat for Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) is prohibited from **May 15 to July 15**. An exception to this TL may be granted if nesting surveys conducted no more than one week prior to surface-disturbing activities indicate that no BCC species are nesting within 30 meters (100 feet) of the area to be disturbed. Nesting shall be deemed to be occurring if a territorial (singing) male is present within the distance specified above. Nesting surveys shall include an audial survey for diagnostic vocalizations in conjunction with a visual survey for adults and nests. Surveys shall be conducted by a qualified breeding bird surveyor between sunrise and 10:00 AM under favorable conditions for detecting and identifying a BCC species. This provision does not apply to ongoing construction, drilling, or completion activities that are initiated prior to May 15 and continue into the 60-day period at the same location.
15. Noise. Construction and maintenance workers shall comply with posted speed limits on public roads and limit driving to 25 miles per hour on unpaved roads to reduce traffic-related noise. Activities related to the installation of the natural gas pipeline shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Activities related to the overall proposed action shall comply with the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission’s Noise Abatement regulation (No. 802) for a Residential/Agricultural/Rural Zone. The BLM may direct the operator to implement noise abatement measures as necessary.
16. Soils. Erosion control measures (such as biodegradable wattles, weed-free straw bales, or silt fences) shall be installed prior to any surface disturbance. The topsoil shall be stripped to at least a depth of six inches following removal of vegetation for the pipeline installation. The stripped topsoil shall be stored separately from subsoil or other excavated material and replaced prior to final seedbed preparation. The disturbed area shall be stabilized immediately following the pipeline installation; this may be achieved through the reclamation process or, if reclamation is delayed, as directed by the BLM.
17. Hazardous Substances and Waste. Environmentally hazardous or toxic materials (such as fuel or chemicals) used during the installation, operation, and maintenance of the pipeline shall be properly managed and contained. Any waste material shall be contained, collected, and disposed off-site at a properly licensed facility.