

**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Finding of No Significant Impact
and
Decision Record
DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2016-0081-EA**

August 2016

Castle Valley Communication Site

Location: Castle Valley, Utah

Applicant/Address: Royce's Electronics, Inc.
611 South Main Street
Moab, Utah 84532

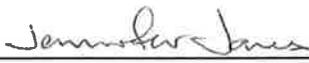
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Moab Field Office
82 East Dogwood
Moab, Utah 84532
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FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Environmental Assessment
Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2016-0081-EA

Proposed Right-of-Way UTU-91392
Castle Valley Communication Site

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the (referenced or attached) environmental assessment, and considering the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, I have determined that the action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. An environmental impact statement is therefore not required.



Jennifer Jones, Acting Field Manager

0/26/2016

Date

DECISION RECORD
Environmental Assessment
Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-UT-Y010-2016-0081-EA

Proposed Right-of-Way UTU-91392
Castle Valley Communication Site

It is my decision to authorize right-of-way UTU-91392 as described in the proposed action in environmental assessment (EA) DOI-Y010-2016-0081-EA. Right-of-way UTU-91392 will allow Royce's Electronics, Inc. to install a communications facility that will provide high speed internet and more reliable internet service to the town of Castle Valley. Facilities installed on-site for the life of the project will include the following:

- Rohn 25 g lattice tower (15 feet tall)
- Microwave dish (2 feet in diameter)
- Solar panel rack (8 x 8 x10 feet)
- Metal equipment cabinet (2 x 2 x 8 feet)

The right-of-way grant includes the tower site location (40 feet by 50 feet) and use of a designated route (15-foot wide and 3,410 feet long). The right-of-way will be issued for a period of 10 years.

Authorities: Pursuant to the authority of Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

PLAN CONFORMANCE AND CONSISTENCY:

The proposed action has been reviewed and found to be in conformance with the terms and conditions of the Moab Field Office Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved October 2008. The Proposed Action is in conformance with the approved RMP based on the following:

- 1) Lands and Realty, Goals and Objectives, page 65, which states: "Meet public needs for use authorizations such as rights-of-way (ROWs), alternative energy sources, and permits while minimizing adverse impacts to resource values."
- 2) Lands and Realty, Management Decision LAR-7, page 65, which states: "Right-of-way (ROW) avoidance and exclusion areas will be consistent with the stipulations identified in Appendix A for oil and gas leasing and other surface-disturbing activities. These stipulations have been developed to protect important resource values." The proposed action involves lands identified as a ROW avoidance area with a No Surface Occupancy (NSO) stipulation in order to

protect the Castle Valley Municipal Watershed. However, the stipulation grants an exception “for activities where it can be demonstrated that the proposed action would not result in a negative impact to the aquifer. No exception for oil and gas leasing.” (2008 Moab Resource Management Plan, page A-10). Since the proposed action would not impact groundwater, soils, or aquifer characteristics, the proposal is in conformance with the NSO provision for the Castle Valley Municipal Watershed.

- 3) Lands and Realty, Management Decision LAR-13, page 66, which states: “Lands and/or interest in lands (such as minerals and conservation easements) acquired through future LTA will take on the management of the surrounding area.”

Alternatives considered: The EA considered two alternatives: the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative.

Rationale for Decision: By authorizing this action, the BLM would fulfill its responsibility under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, which provides for land use authorizations to accommodate communication transmission systems. The provisions in the right-of-way application, the attachments to the right-of-way application, and the Terms and Conditions for the right-of-way grant are adequate to prevent undue and unnecessary impacts to the environment. The right-of-way is in conformance with management actions provided for in the Moab Field Office RMP.

The BLM posted the Proposed Action on BLM’s ePlanning website and issued a press release in order to invite public scoping comments. The BLM released the EA on BLM’s ePlanning website for a public comment period from June 16, to July 1, 2016. A press release was issued notifying the public of the EA’s availability. The BLM accepted public comments via ePlanning, email and the U.S. Postal Service. All public input received during these opportunities were adequately considered and addressed in the EA. (See Appendices C and G of the attached EA.)

In addition, the BLM considered an adequate range of alternatives. Section 1.8 of the attached EA provides a rationale for why certain options were dismissed from detailed analysis.

Protest/Appeal Language: This decision shall take effect immediately upon the date it is signed by the Authorized Officer and shall remain in effect while any appeal is pending unless the Interior Board of Land Appeals issues a stay (43 CFR 3165.4). Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR Part 4. Within 30 days of the decision, a notice of appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at:

Bureau of Land Management
Moab Field Office
82 E Dogwood Ave.
Moab, UT 84532

If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of Hearings and Appeals U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy St., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203 within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

If you wish to file a petition for stay pursuant to 43 CFR Part 4.21(b), the petition for stay should accompany your notice of appeal and shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

1. The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
2. The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
3. The likelihood of irreparable harm to the appellant or resources if the stay is not granted, and
4. Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

If a petition for stay is submitted with the notice of appeal, a copy of the notice of appeal and petition for stay must be served on each party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken, and with the IBLA at the same time it is filed with the Authorized Officer.

A copy of the notice of appeal, any statement of reasons and all pertinent documents must be served on each adverse party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken and on the Office of the Regional Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior, 6201 Federal Building, 125 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1180, not later than 15 days after filing the document with the Authorized Officer and/or IBLA.



Jennifer Jones, Acting Field Manager

01/20/2016

Date