

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

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**DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2016-0055-DNA**

**February 17, 2016**

**DECISION RECORD**

**SM Energy Company  
Request to Flare Baker 9-9**

***Location:***

**Roosevelt County, MT  
T. 28 N., R. 58 E., Section 9**

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Miles City Field Office  
111 Garryowen Road  
Miles City, MT 59301  
Phone: 406-233-2800  
FAX: 406-233-2921



**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Miles City Field Office  
111 Garryowen Road  
Miles City, MT 59301**

**DECISION RECORD**

**SM Energy's Flaring Request  
DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2016-0055-DNA**

**Decision**

Based upon the analysis of potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures described in the Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared by the BIA and Documentation of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2016-0055-DNA, it is my decision to select the Proposed Action Alternative, including the mitigation measures, from the DNA authorizing the flaring of casinghead gas from the following well producing on Indian lease 14-20-0256-8504 per NTL-4A:

Baker 9-9  
NESE Section 9, T28N-R58E  
Roosevelt County, Montana

The EA prepared by the BIA analyzed these same actions and based on the DNA, I have determined that the proposed action involves no significant impact to the human environment and no further analysis is required.

Your NTL-4A application for the above captioned facilities has been approved effective January 22, 2016 as authorized by NTL-4A, IV.B.1. This approval is based on the following:

1. It is necessary to occasionally flare casinghead gas to continue to produce this well.

**Terms and Conditions of Approval:**

1. No royalty shall accrue if the gas is vented or flared from the above captioned facilities.
2. This approval does not constitute approval via permit or rule to vent gas from the Oil and Gas Conservation Division, Department of Natural Resource and Conservation of the State of Montana or the Air Quality Division, Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. Venting and flaring cannot occur unless it is in compliance with the aforementioned agencies' permits and administrative rules.
3. This approval remains in effect unless conditions change that would allow the vented/flared gas to be sold and provided volumes and conditions remain such that flaring of the gas is deemed appropriate by this office.

## **Compliance with Laws & Conformance with the Land Use Plan**

The BLM does not have land use management authority for Indian lands. Therefore there are no BLM land use management plans or decisions which apply to those lands. Additionally, BLM does not write surface NEPA documents for resources on Indian lands in accordance with the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding between BLM and the BIA (BLM-MOU-MT920-0121); that responsibility belongs to the BIA as the surface management agency for the affected tribal and allotted lands.

## **Administrative Remedies**

You have the right to request a State Director Review of this decision and these Conditions of Approval pursuant to 43 CFR 3165.3(b). An SDR request, including all supporting documentation shall be filed with the Montana State Office, State Director (MT-920) at 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101-4669 within 20 business days of your receipt of this decision. If adversely affected by the State Director's decision, it can be further appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) pursuant to 43 CFR 3165.4, 43 CFR 4.411, and 43 CFR 4.413. Should you fail to timely request an SDR, or after receiving the State Director's decision, fail to timely file an appeal with IBLA, no further administrative review of this decision would be possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Helland at 406-233-3668.

## **Signature of Authorized Official**

**/s/ Shane Findlay**  
Shane Findlay  
Assistant Field Manager  
Division of Minerals  
Miles City Field Office

**2/26/2016**  
Date