

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

**DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2016-0062-DNA
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT/DECISION RECORD**

**Oasis Petroleum North America LLC
Jimbo Federal 2759 11-13H 4B**

Location: Roosevelt County, MT
T. 27 N., R. 59 E., Sec. 13,

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
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**UNITED STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
MILES CITY FIELD OFFICE
111 GARRYOWEN ROAD
MILES CITY, MONTANA 59301-7000**

**Finding of No Significant Impact
DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2016-0062-EA
Oasis Petroleum, LLC
Jimbo Federal 2759 11-13H 4B**

INTRODUCTION:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Application for Permit to Drill (APD) for the Oasis Petroleum, LLC well numbered Jimbo Federal 2759 11-13H 4B. The APD includes the drilling, completing, and producing of a Bakken horizontal oil well, along with the construction of access roads and installation of the associated infrastructure, and reclamation of disturbed areas. The proposed well is located in Roosevelt County, Montana, approximately 8.5 miles southeast of Bainville, Montana.

The EA analyzed the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action with mitigation measures. The EA is hereby adopted by BLM, attached to and incorporated by reference into this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) determination.

Plan Conformance: 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.

The proposed action has been reviewed and approval recommended by the Superintendent of the Fort Peck Agency, of the BIA.

Finding of No Significant Impact Determination: Based upon a review of the EA and the supporting documents, I have determined that the project is not a major federal action, significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. No environmental effects meet the definition of significance in context or intensity, as defined in 40 CFR 1508.27. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not needed. This finding is based on the context and intensity of the project as described below.

Context: The project is a site-specific action directly involving a total of approximately 6 acres of new disturbance in Roosevelt County, Montana. The proposed actions would be in an area previously impacted by railroad construction, road construction and oil and gas development. Within a 1-mile radius around the project area, the following oil and gas activity has taken place: 6 producing oil wells.

Intensity: The following discussion is organized around the Ten Significance Criteria described in 40 CFR 1508.27.

1. Impacts may be both beneficial and adverse.

The proposed action would impact resources as described in the EA. Mitigation measures to minimize or eliminate adverse impacts were identified in the analysis and will be included as Conditions of Approval with the approved permits. Beneficial impacts from the proposed project could occur, such as the potential to bring additional oil and gas into the market place and increase revenues to Tribal, federal, state and local governments. The proposal will obtain scientific data of the local geology which will increase the knowledge base of the subsurface mineral resources.

2. The degree to which the selected alternative will affect public health or safety.

The selected alternative minimizes adverse impacts to public health and safety by project design and additional mitigation measures.

3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farm lands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.

The location of the proposed well, pipeline, and access road have been subject to a cultural resource inventory. A cultural survey was conducted by Beaver Creek Archaeology and determined that cultural and historic resources would not be adversely affected. There are no effects on park lands, prime farm lands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.

4. The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.

The environmental analysis did not show any highly controversial effects to the quality of the human environment.

5. The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.

The project is not unique or unusual because BLM and the State of Montana have approved similar actions in the same geographic area. The environmental effects to the human environment are analyzed in the environmental assessment. There are no known predicted effects on the human environment that are considered to be highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.

6. The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.

The actions considered in the proposed action were considered by the BIA and BLM within the context of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. The action would not establish a precedent, since the project area is already within an area explored for oil gas resources.

7. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

The environmental assessment evaluated the possible actions in context of past, present and reasonably foreseeable actions. The analysis did not disclose any significant cumulative impacts. A disclosure of the effects of the project is contained in the environmental assessment.

8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or other objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

The project will not affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or other objects listed on or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, nor will it cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

9. The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

According to the environmental analysis, no threatened, endangered or other special status species are known to inhabit the subject area. The project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

10. Whether the action threatens a violation of a Federal, State, Local, or Tribal law, regulation or policy imposed for the protection of the environment, where non-Federal requirements are consistent with Federal requirements.

The project does not violate any known Federal, State, Local or Tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. Furthermore, the project is consistent with applicable BLM plans, policies, and programs.

Approved By: /s/ **Shane Findlay**
Shane Findlay
Assistant Field Manager
Miles City Field Office

2/9/2016
Date

DECISION RECORD
DOI-BLM-MT-C020-2016-0062-EA
Oasis Petroleum North America LLC
Jimbo Federal 2759 11-13H 4B

DECISION:

Based upon the analysis of potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures described in the Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared by the BIA, it is my decision to select the Proposed Action Alternative, including the mitigation measures, from the EA and approve the Application for Permit to Drill (APD) for the well number Jimbo Federal 2759 11-13H 4B and modified by the attached conditions of approval.

ALTERNATIVES:

In addition to the selected alternative, the EA considered the "No Action" alternative, which would carry out no management activities at this time.

RATIONALE FOR SELECTION

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has trust responsibilities for Indian tribal and allotted oil and gas leases and Indian Mineral Development Trust mineral agreements (IMDA). The BLM coordinates with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to insure the approval process of energy production and help protect sensitive resources within BIA and tribal jurisdiction.

The purpose of the action is to allow Oasis Petroleum, LLC to drill and produce the Jimbo Federal 2759 11-13H 4B to provide for the continued orderly, efficient and environmentally responsible development of the Allotted Indian Leases. This would be consistent with 43 CFR Part 3160, Onshore Oil and Gas Order Number 1 for Federal and Indian Oil and Gas Leases and the Memorandum of Understanding between the BLM and the BIA, (BLM-MOU-MT920-0121 (MOU)).

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 the MOU; that responsibility belongs to the BIA.

Oil and gas lands owned by Native Americans or Tribes are evaluated by the Tribes and BIA with subsequent leases issued by the BIA. The proposed action has been reviewed by the BIA.

Compliance and Monitoring: Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs will conduct compliance and monitoring inspections during the different phases of operations. Inspections will be conducted to determine whether or not operations are being conducted in compliance with the approved permit. Monitoring inspections will be conducted to determine the effectiveness of mitigation measures, results of reclamation work, and impacts to other resources. Based upon the results of inspections, BLM and BIA could impose requirements to modify operations to minimize or eliminate adverse impacts to other resources.

Terms / Conditions / Stipulations: The following mitigation measures were analyzed in the EA and are included as Conditions of Approval with each approved APD.

/s/ Shane Findlay
Shane Findlay
Assistant Field Manager

2/9/2016
Date