

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

DOI-BLM-NM-A020-2016-0012-CX

Magellan Pipeline Maintenance BDA NWR

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Bureau of Land Management
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management
Socorro Field Office
901 S. HWY 85
Socorro, NM 87801

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW/DECISION

NEPA Log Number: DOI-BLM-NM-A020-2016-0012-CX

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: NMNM 0 016348

A. Background

Title of Proposed Action: Magellan Pipeline Maintenance BDA NWR

Location of Proposed Action:

County	Township	Range	Section	QQ
Socorro	005S	001E	022	
Socorro	006S	001E	001	
Socorro	007S	001E	006	

Applicant (if any): Magellan Pipeline Company

Description of Proposed Action: This section of pipeline Right-of-Way (ROW) is crossing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bosque Del Apache National Wildlife Refuge (USFWSBDA) and is administered by the Bureau of Land Management Socorro Field Office. This ROW is for a 6-inch petroleum pipeline. Total width of the ROW is 50 feet. The ROW is 25 feet either side of the current pipeline alignment. At least 7 locations have been identified for repair and maintenance. Maintenance activity is to remain within the 50 foot ROW. The ROW is in close proximity to the Little San Pascual Wilderness Area (LSPWA). Motorized vehicles of any type are not permitted in the LSPWA. Access road improvements and construction impacts outside the 50 foot wide corridor would require further NEPA analysis, surveys and approvals from the USFWSBDA. Magellan is responsible for obtaining other required permits, such as a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 permit. Under their current permit, Magellan is not required to bury the exposed pipeline; the right-of-way was granted Pre-FLPMA (1976).

B. Conformance with Land Use Plan

This proposed action conforms with the Socorro Resource Management Plan (RMP) 2010, because it is specifically provided for in the land use decision(s):

Or, it is clearly consistent with the following decisions, objectives, and conditions of the RMP:

PG 96 Appendix C: “Best Management Practices Best Management Practices (BMPs) are those land and resource management techniques designed to maximize beneficial results and minimize negative impacts of management actions. BMPs are defined as methods, measures, or practices selected on the basis of site-specific conditions to provide the most effective, environmentally sound, and economically feasible means of managing an activity and mitigating its impacts.”

Appendix C, Best Management Practices (BMPs), Oil and Gas Activities 7. “The burial of pipelines associated with oil and gas exploration, development, productions, and transportation is preferred” & Rights-of-Way and Utility Corridors 3. “Disturbed areas within road rights-of-way and utility corridors should be stabilized by vegetation practices designed to hold soil in place and minimize erosion”.

C. Compliance with NEPA

This proposed action is categorically excluded from further documentation under NEPA in accordance with BLM NEPA Handbook 1790-1 Appendix 3 or Appendix 4

CXAP3_1.7

“Routine and continuing government business, including such things as supervision, administration, operations, maintenance, renovations, and replacement activities having limited context and intensity (e.g., limited size and magnitude or short-term effects).”

This action does not meet any of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2.

Review for Extraordinary Circumstances	Signature	Date	Impact
Archaeologist	Brenda Wilkinson		No
Biologist-Animal/TE	Denny Apachito		No
Biologist-Plant/TE	Denny Apachito		No

I have reviewed this proposed categorical exclusion and determined that it is appropriate for the proposed action and that none of the Categorical Exclusions Extraordinary Circumstances apply.

Signatures By Signature Date

Virginia Alguire
Signature of Project Lead

03-25-2016
Date

C.H. Coors
Signature of NEPA Coordinator

21 Mar 2016
Date

D. Signature

Finding: Based upon the above review, I have determined that the proposed action (as described, including any indicated stipulations) is in conformance with the land use plan and meets criteria for the selected categorical exclusion in that none of the Extraordinary Circumstances apply. Therefore, the action is excluded from further environmental analysis and documentation.

Decision: It is my decision that since the cited CX is applicable for the proposed project and that the action conforms with the (*Socorro RMP*), I hereby authorize the proposed action.

Mark Matten
Signature of the Responsible Official

3/25/16
Date

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact Virginia Alguire, Realty Specialist, Socorro Field Office, 901 S. HWY 85, 575-838-1290.

Note: A separate decision document must be prepared for the action covered by the CX.