

**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
BAKERSFIELD FIELD OFFICE**

Decision Record

**Holmes Western Oil Corporation
Sundry to Install Power Poles and Flowlines for Idle Wells Pacific 7 and Pacific 12
DOI-BLM-CA-C060-2016-0050-EA**

Introduction

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes to approve one (1) Sundry Notice of Intent submitted by Holmes Western Oil Corporation (HWOC) to install 587 feet of new 2 inch flowline and 596 feet of new 2 inch CVR line on 29 new pipe supports, two new power poles and three new anchors, as well as plug and remove existing pipeline located on the well pads; the project would occur on HWOC's federal Pacific mineral lease (CALA033068) in Section 32, T12N, R23W, SBBM. This project is located on federal lands containing subsurface minerals administered by the BLM. No new disturbance would result in association with the proposed project.

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide HWOC with the authority to install power poles and flowlines and remove existing pipeline in order to return idle wells Pacific 7 and Pacific 12 to production in the future to produce its federal mineral lease (CALA033068) and provide energy resources to the American public. The need for the proposed action is to respond to the Sundry Notice of Intent submitted by the applicant to conduct operations on public lands containing subsurface minerals administered by the BLM.

Decision

I have reviewed the recommendations on the proposed action addressed in this environmental assessment. I find this action to be in conformance with applicable land use plans, that it effectively serves the public, and that it will not cause unnecessary or undue degradation. It is therefore my decision to approve the proposed action subject to the mitigation measures identified for the proposed action in the Environmental Assessment.

Alternatives Considered but not Selected

A No Action Alternative that would deny the application was considered, but not selected.

Decision Rationale

The decision to approve the Sundry to install power poles and flowlines for HWOC's idle wells Pacific 7 and Pacific 12 best meets the purpose and need of Holmes Western and the American public by upgrading facilities associated with supplying energy resources. This decision also meets the Bakersfield RMP's leasable minerals objective to "facilitate reasonable, economical, and environmentally sound exploration and development of leasable minerals while minimizing impacts to resources."

Consultation and Coordination

Public Involvement

This project was listed on the California BLM NEPA web list on February 24, 2016 to notify the public of this project and invite comments from those interested. No comments were received.

Plan Consistency

Based on information in the EA, the project record, and recommendations from BLM specialists, I conclude that this decision is consistent with the Bakersfield RMP; the Endangered Species Act; the Native American Religious Freedom Act; other cultural resource management laws and regulations; Executive Order 12898 regarding Environmental Justice; and Executive Order 13212 regarding potential adverse impacts to energy development, production, supply and/or distribution.

Administrative Remedies

Administrative remedies may be available to those who believe they will be adversely affected by this decision. Appeals may be made to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior, Board of Land Appeals (Board) in strict compliance with the regulations in 43 CFR Part 4. Notices of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days after publication of this decision. If a notice of appeal does not include a statement of reasons, such statement must be filed with this office and the Board within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed. The notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs must also be served upon the Regional Solicitor:

U.S. Department of the Interior
Office of the Solicitor, Pacific Southwest Region
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1712
Sacramento, CA 95825-1890

The effective date of this decision (and the date initiating the appeal period) will be the date of approval by the authorized officer.

/s/John Hodge

3/31/16

Assistant Field Manager- Minerals

Date