

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
For
Enterprise Jonah Gas Gathering Company, LLC
Environmental Assessment
DOI-BLM-WYD01-2016-066-EA
Riverside 11-13, Riverside 10-13 and Boulder 11-7 Pipelines
Rights-of-Way: WYW-184657, WYW-184659, WYW-184661
Temporary Use Permits: WYW-184658, WYW-184660, WYW-184662
6th PM Sublette County, Wyoming
T. 31 N., R. 108 W., Section 7, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$; Section 18, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$
T. 31 N., R. 109 W., Section 13, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

Introduction

The Bureau of Land Management, Pinedale Field Office conducted an Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-WYD01-2016-066-EA) which analyzed the effects of construction of the Riverside 11-13, Riverside 10-13 and Boulder 11-7 pipelines.

Enterprise has applied for both rights-of-way (ROW) and temporary use permits (TUP) for construction of 3 natural gas pipelines. The rights-of-way for the buried pipelines would total approximately 3,712 feet long by 50 feet wide, containing 4.3 acres. An additional 2.3 acres would be authorized under the temporary use permits.

Plan Conformance

The action is in conformance with multiple management objectives and decisions of the Pinedale Field Office Record of Decision (ROD) and Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved on November 26, 2008 and amended/approved on September 21, 2015. The plan has been reviewed (see page 2-15 and 2-16) and the proposed action as mitigated, conforms to the land use plan terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1610.5-3.

Context and Intensity of Selected Alternative

Context

The proposed action would occur in an area that is identified in the Pinedale RMP as an intensively developed natural gas field. This analysis tiers to the Pinedale RMP Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) (November 2008) and as amended (September 2015), and the Pinedale Anticline Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Project Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) ROD (September 2008). These documents are included in the analysis by reference.

Intensity

I have considered the potential intensity/severity of the impacts anticipated from the Proposed Action Alternative decision relative to each of the 10 areas suggested for consideration by the CEQ:

1. Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.

The environmental analysis has considered both beneficial and adverse impacts of the pipeline project. Overall, the project could result in improved air resources for the area under consideration. The proposed action would include minor impact to the resources as described in the EA. Those analyzed resources were: Air Resources, Cultural Resources, Socioeconomics, Soils, Vegetation, Noxious Weeds and Invasive Species and Wildlife & Sensitive Species. None of the environmental effects discussed in detail in the EA and associated appendices are considered significant, nor do the effects exceed those described in the EA.

2. The degree to which the proposed action affects public health and safety.

The proposed action is designed to have minimum impact on public health and safety. The proposed action achieves the balance of resource protection and beneficial uses of the human environment envisioned by the National Environmental Policy Act.

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

The historic and cultural resources of the area have been inventoried. Potential impacts for the pipelines have been mitigated.

The following components of the Human Environmental and Resource Elements were analyzed in detail in Chapter 3 and 4: Air Resources, Cultural Resources, Soils, Socioeconomics, Vegetation, Noxious Weeds and Invasive Species and Wildlife & Sensitive Species. None of these components will be significantly impacted because of design of the project, and/or mitigation measures incorporated into the project.

The following elements of the human environment and resource elements have been reviewed and it has been determined that these elements would not be affected by the proposed action; and therefore they are not carried forward for discussion on the EA:

- Environmental Justice
- Farm lands, Prime or Unique
- Native American Religious Concerns
- Recreation
- Sensitive Status Plants
- Global Climate Change
- Fish Habitat
- Migratory Birds
- Threatened or Endangered Species
- Water Quality; Drinking/Ground
- Visual Resources
- Aquatic Resources
- Paleontological Resources
- Wetlands, Riparian Resources and Floodplains
- Land Use and Livestock Grazing
- Forests and Rangelands
- Lands Wilderness Characteristics[‡]
- Wastes, hazardous or solid
- Wild and Scenic Rivers
- Wilderness/WSAs/ACECs

[‡]The BLM PFO has delineated a boundary for Lands with Wilderness Characteristics inventory in the Anticline Field (WYD01-6300-100). The inventory found the area did not contain any

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

The effects of the proposed action are similar to many other actions in the Pinedale Anticline Field area. The proposed action is similar in scope and among numerous other proposed actions analyzed in the Pinedale Anticline Project SEIS; thus, it was not externally scoped as a separate project. Internally, the BLM interdisciplinary team (ID team) reviewed the proposed development to identify potentially affected resources and land uses. No anticipated project specific effects are likely to be considered highly controversial. No unique or appreciable scientific controversy has been identified regarding the effects of the proposed action.

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. The BLM has experience implementing similar actions in similar areas. The environmental effects to the human environment are fully analyzed in the EA. There are no 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.

Actions such as these pipelines were envisioned in the Pinedale Anticline Project SEIS. This action would not establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration. Any future actions would be subject to the NEPA process.

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

The interdisciplinary team evaluated the possible actions in context of past, present and reasonably foreseeable actions. Significant cumulative effects are not predicted. A complete disclosure of the effects of the project is contained in Chapter 4 of the EA.

The environmental analysis did not reveal any cumulative effects beyond those already analyzed in the EIS's which accompanied the Pinedale Anticline Project and the Pinedale RMP, as amended.

8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or 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 historic resources.

The proposed action would not adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The proposed action would not cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources. Consultation with the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has been completed in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

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.

Threatened, endangered, and candidate species that may occur within the project area:

The proposed action has been determined not to adversely affect endangered or threatened species or their habitat. See the Vegetation and Wildlife & Sensitive Species sections in Chapter 3, Affected Environment and Chapter 4, Environmental Effects in this EA for details.

Mitigating measures to reduce impacts to wildlife and fisheries have been incorporated into the design of the action alternatives via the Plans of Development submitted by Enterprise. The Plans of Development are legally incorporated into the rights-of-way grants via stipulation.

10. Whether the action threatens a violation of federal, state, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

The project does not violate any known federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. In addition, the project is consistent with applicable land management plans, policies, and programs.

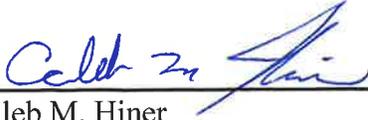
Finding of No Significant Impact Determination:

As discussed in the EA, the direct and indirect incremental change to the environment introduced by the approval of the Proposed Action Alternative results in no significant environmental impacts that have not been analyzed. Based on the analysis documented in the EA, and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended (NEPA) and the Pinedale Resource Management Plan, Record of Decision, as amended, I have determined that the Proposed Action Alternative would not result in significant impacts on the human environment (as defined in 40 CFR 1508.14) and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will not be prepared.

This determination for Finding of No Significant Impact is based on the rationale and management considerations discussed above and the implementation of mitigation measures outlined in the EA.

The Proposed Action has been designed to avoid or minimize environmental impacts to the extent feasible. The EA provides that adverse impacts to Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Noxious Weeds and Invasive Species, Soils, Socioeconomics, Vegetation, Wildlife & Sensitive Species would be minor, short-term, necessary and due impacts. Potentially substantial positive economic impacts could result for the company, local, state, and federal governments. The Pinedale Resource Management Plan provides for the use of these lands for rights-of-way. An amendment to the plan for the approval of this project will not be required.

This finding and conclusion is based on my consideration of the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) criteria for significance (40 Code of Federal Regulations 1508.27), both with regard to the context and the intensity of impacts described in the EA and as described above.



Caleb M. Hiner
Field Manager



Date