

Sheep Mountain Project – Mine Permit 381C

APPENDIX D-1 – LAND USE 2011 ADDENDUM

Appendix D-1 Land Use

The Sheep Mountain Project is situated in steep terrain at an average elevation in excess of 7,000 feet. The elevation and terrain limit land limit the agricultural use to stock grazing, traditionally cattle. Some production of alfalfa hay exists in the lowland areas of Crooks Creek north of the Project. However, these areas lie outside the permit and outside the area of planned disturbance.

The area is inhabited by a variety of wildlife. However, as document in Appendix D9-Addendum 2011, the area is not within the sage grouse core area, is not within critical winter range for big game, nor were threatened or endangered species identified during the various seasonal wildlife surveys completed on the Project.

As documented in Appendix D-2 History – Addendum 2011, since the 1950's uranium mining and exploration has been a dominant use of the land. Mining was active for a 30 year period from the early to mid 1950's through the 1980's. Mineral interests and the Permit to Mine 381C have been maintained since the cessation of active mine operations and remain valid. In addition to mining, oil and gas development is prevalent in the vicinity both along Crooks Creek and Sheep Creek. Only one oil well exists within the mine permit but it is recorded as dry and abandoned.

In summary, the Sheep Mountain Project will not be in conflict with present land uses. The mine reclamation plan seeks to return the mined lands to approximate original contours and re-establish native vegetation. Post-mine land uses as expected to be similar to present land use. The only exception will be the disposal area for the heap leach facility. Estimated at 80 acres, when all operations are completed and the site fully restored, these lands will be reclaimed and deeded to the Department of Energy for long term care and maintenance. The reclaimed configuration of the heap leach area will be entire on private lands established under the Stock Raising Homestead Act of 1916.