Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment/Environmental Impact Statement

Alternative 3: ACECs would have the same allocations as the rest of Priority Habitat Management Areas (PHMA):

➤ Locatable minerals –The BLM recommends all PHMA for withdrawal from location and entry under the Mining Law of 1872. A plan of operations is required in designated ACECs (see 43 CFR Part 3809.11(c)(3)).

Fluid minerals (including geothermal) and non-energy minerals – Closed to leasing

➤ Saleable Minerals/Mineral Materials – Closed to saleable mineral sale/development, including sand and gravel and other common variety minerals.

- ➤ Major ROWs Exclusion area for major ROWs.
- ➤ Wind and solar Exclusion
- >All other management same as described for PHMA.

Alternative 6: ACEC boundaries would be the same as described for Alternative 3, but management would be less restrictive compared to Alternative 3, though generally more restrictive than the rest of Alternative 6 PHMA.

Locatable minerals –Available for mineral location. A plan of operations is required in designated ACECs (see 43 CFR Part 3809.11(c)(3)).

Fluid minerals (including geothermal) – Open to leasing subject to major constraints (no surface occupancy stipulation). An exception could be considered if certain criteria are met.

➤ Non-energy minerals – Closed to new leases and expansion associated with existing operations (e.g., fringe leases).

Saleable Minerals/Mineral Materials – Closed to new operations for all sale types except for certain circumstances.

➤ Major ROWs – Exclusion for major ROWs. Avoidance for Minor ROWs avoidance. Compensatory mitigation required within designated RMP ROW corridors in the ACECs.

- ➤ Wind and solar Exclusion
- ➤ No exceptions to the disturbance cap otherwise available in PHMA.
- >All other management same as described for PHMA.

In Utah, 365,181 acres would be designated as ACEC under Alternatives 3 and 6. These areas are referred to as Box Elder (northwest Utah) and Rich (northeast Utah).

