



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management – Farmington Field Office  
Bureau of Indian Affairs – Navajo Regional Office

## How to Read the Draft RMPA/EIS:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) have prepared a Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement (Draft RMPA/EIS) to analyze and permit oil and gas development on lands where the BLM or BIA has authority to make land use management decisions.

The BLM and BIA jointly prepared this Draft RMPA/EIS to update resource management in light of new drilling technologies like horizontal drilling and multi-stage hydraulic fracturing; new information on natural resources; and new and updated laws, regulations, and policies.

As required by NEPA, the Draft RMPA/EIS analyzes alternatives for management of BLM- and BIA-managed lands and minerals in the planning area to account for new drilling technologies. These new technologies may result in more wells, different surface disturbances, and different impacts in the planning area than those analyzed in the BLM Farmington Field Office (FFO) resource management plan (RMP) drafted in 2003. This amendment will also update the BLM's management of realty actions, vegetation, and lands with wilderness characteristics in the FFO. Finally, the document will facilitate joint BLM and BIA environmental analysis and permitting of mineral development on the lands that each agency manages.

The Draft RMPA/EIS contains the following:

- **Chapter 1**, which introduces the project and explains the purpose of and need for the federal action
- **Chapter 2**, which describes each of the alternatives considered by the BLM and BIA in detail
- **Chapter 3**, which describes the affected environment in the planning area, the environmental consequences of implementing each alternative on the affected environment, and the cumulative impacts of each alternative along with other NEPA considerations
- **Chapter 4**, which describes the public involvement, consultation, and coordination that occurred throughout the preparation of the Draft RMPA/EIS

The Draft RMPA/EIS also includes a series of appendices with supporting information. These appendices can be found in Volume 2 and include the figures referenced in the Draft RMPA/EIS, best management practices and conditions of approval relevant to planning actions considered in the Draft RMPA/EIS, rationale for restriction zones under the alternatives, and reasonable foreseeable development scenarios for oil and gas development in the planning area.