

Dated: September 24, 2004.

Ian Senio,

*Bureau of Land Management, Information
Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-22094 Filed 9-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UT-080-1310-00]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Chapita Wells-Stagecoach Area Gas Development Project, Uintah County, UT

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent and notice of
scoping.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Vernal Field Office, Vernal, Utah, will be preparing an EIS on EOG Resources, Inc. (EOG) proposed gas development on about 31,872 acres in the Chapita Wells-Stagecoach Area gas producing region. The Vernal Field Office Manager will be the authorized officer for this project.

DATES: A 30-day public scoping period will begin on the date this notice is published in the **Federal Register**. A public scoping open house and information meeting will be conducted during the scoping period. Details on this meeting will be released to the public at least 15 days from the scheduled date. If you have any information, data or concerns related to potential impacts of the proposed action, including the issues identified above, or have suggestions for additional alternatives, please submit them to the address listed below.

ADDRESSES: Written scoping comments should be sent to: Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office, 170 South 500 East, Vernal, Utah 84078, ATTN: QEP Field Development Project.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents will be available for public review at the BLM Vernal Field Office and will be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). They may be published as part of the EIS and other related documents. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review and disclosure under the FOIA, you must state this prominently at the

beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jean Nitschke-Sinclear, 435-781-4437 or e-mail: jean_nitschke-sinclear@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The project area is located about 30 miles southeast of Vernal, Utah. It involves about 71% BLM-administered lands (22,693 acres); 6% (1,914 acres) State of Utah-administered lands; 21% Northern Ute Tribal and/or allotted lands administered by the BIA (6,577 acres); and, 2% (688 acres) patented land. Currently 325 producing gas wells, with their attendant service roads, exist within the project area, and about 100 additional wells have been approved for drilling under a Decision Record, dated April 11, 2000, entitled Chapita Wells Unit Infill Development, Uintah County, Utah (EA No. UT-080-1999-032). There are currently no oil wells or produced water disposal wells in the project area. EOG's long term development plan includes drilling additional wells at the rate of about 90 wells per year, over a period of 7 years, or until the resource base is fully developed. A total of up to 627 new wells would be drilled. Of these, 473 would be new locations and 154 would be twins drilled from existing locations (representing 25% of the total new wells that would be drilled). About 3% of the total wells drilled may result in dry holes. The total number of wells drilled would depend largely on factors outside of EOG's control, such as production success, engineering technology, economic factors, availability of commodity markets, and lease stipulations and restrictions.

Required infrastructure includes electric power lines, roads, gas flowlines and pipelines, well pads, water injection facilities, and gas treatment facilities. Gas would be transported via pipeline to existing centralized compression and treatment facilities. Produced water would be trucked to approved evaporation pits or EOG water injection wells where it would be re-injected into the oil reservoir or disposal zone via an injection well system. Major issues at this time include potential impacts on desert and semi-desert ecosystems and their dependent wildlife species (including antelope, sage grouse, white-tailed prairie dog colonies and their associated species), vegetation (including noxious weeds and reclamation), and riparian habitat associated with the Green River

corridor. Alternatives identified at this time include the proposed action, the no action alternatives and in accordance with national policy, an alternative incorporating Best Management Practices designed to reduce the environmental effects of production operations. Best Management Practices considered could include burial of flowlines in the roadbeds for transport of condensate, water and gas to centralized facilities, more extensive interim reclamation of production areas, and other techniques designed to substantially reduce the footprint of new and existing oil and gas production facilities and infrastructure."

Dated: September 20, 2004.

William Stringer,

Vernal Field Manager.

[FR Doc. 04-22056 Filed 9-30-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-SS-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO 850-1820-XA-241A]

Acceptance of Electronic Forms and Digital Signatures

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will accept the electronic submission of forms, including the use of digital signatures where practicable.

DATES: October 1, 2004.

ADDRESSES: 1849 C St., NW., Mail Stop LS 1000, Washington, DC 20240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on BLM's online forms, Karen Wrenn, BLM Forms Manager, 303-236-0233. For information on BLM's e-Government initiative, Peter G. D. Ertman, BLM e-Government Program Manager, 202-452-7706.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Effective October 1, 2004, the BLM will accept as "properly filed" any form in electronic format that was previously available only in paper format. If you choose to file on-line, you must use the forms available from <http://www.nc.blm.gov/blmforms>. BLM will not accept as "properly filed" the use of electronic forms in other formats or from other sources. In addition to using the form from the BLM forms Web site, you must also have a Federal Bridge Trusted credential. This credential provides a secure means of identifying you across the Internet. At the present time, you may obtain these credentials from two

providers. The contact information for the current providers is: (1) Verisign, Inc., NPiazzola@verisign.com, 410-691-2100 and (2) Betrustrusted US, Inc., TGreco@betrustrusted.com, 443-367-7052, or JTLazo@betrustrusted.com, 443-367-7011.

BLM will consider an electronic form submission to be: (1) Received at the date and time BLM receives the submission electronically by the BLM; and (2) Received in the proper office if filed on-line.

The *Government Paperwork Elimination Act of 1998* (GPEA) mandates that the Federal Government accept electronically submitted forms. The GPEA specifically states that electronic records and their related electronic signatures are not to be denied legal effect, validity, or enforceability merely because they are in electronic form. The public may continue to use, and BLM will continue to accept, filings on paper forms.

In many cases, our existing regulations require a written signature and filing of a paper form in a specific office. GPEA supercedes these regulations. Our intention is to propose regulations to address the inconsistency and to clarify that digital signatures and on-line filing (when performed as described above) is an acceptable way to file applications and other documents.

For more information on electronic signatures and e-Government in general, please visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/egov/ea.htm> and <http://www.egov.gov>.

Dated: September 8, 2004.

Lawrence E. Benna,

Assistant Director, Business and Fiscal Resources.

[FR Doc. 04-21785 Filed 9-30-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Colorado River Management Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon, AZ

AGENCY: National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the draft environmental impact statement for the Colorado River Management Plan for Grand Canyon National Park.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to subsection 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, codified at 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), the National Park Service announces the availability of a Draft

Environmental Impact Statement for the Colorado River Management Plan, Grand Canyon National Park, Grand Canyon, Arizona. The document describes and analyzes the environmental impacts of several action alternatives, including a preferred alternative, for future visitor use management of the Colorado River through Grand Canyon National Park, including the Lower Gorge. A no-action alternative is also evaluated.

DATES: The National Park Service will accept comments from the public on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for 90 days after publication of this notice. Public meeting dates will be posted on the Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/crmp>.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement are available from the Office of the Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park, P.O. Box 129, Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023. The document is also available on the Internet at: <http://www.nps.gov/grca/crmp>.

You may submit comments to any one of several addresses: (1) You may mail comments to CRMP Project, Grand Canyon National Park, P.O. Box 129, Grand Canyon Arizona 86023; (2) You may comment via the Internet to <http://www.nps.gov/grca/crmp>; and (3) You may hand-deliver comments to Grand Canyon National Park at Park Headquarters, 1 Village Loop Drive, Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Killeen, Project Assistant, Grand Canyon National Park, 928-638-7885.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Document distribution and public meetings: The public review and comment process will involve distribution of the document and a comment form. Public meetings will be held in Denver, Colorado; Phoenix, Arizona; Flagstaff, Arizona; Salt Lake City, Utah; the San Francisco, California area; and the Washington, DC area. Specific information on these meeting locations and their dates, and on any other locations and dates that may be added, will be posted at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/crmp>. Specific information may also be obtained from the individuals listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section, below.

Commenting by e-mail: Please submit Internet comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include "Attn: CRMP Project" and your name and return address in your Internet message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we

have received your Internet message, contact Linda Jalbert 928-638-7909.

Confidentiality: Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home addresses from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Killeen, 928-638-7885, or Linda Jalbert, 928-638-7909.

Dated: September 24, 2004.

Stephen P. Martin,

Director, Intermountain Region, National Park Service.

[FR Doc. 04-22040 Filed 9-30-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Renewal of the Sacramento River Settlement Contracts, Shasta, Tehama, Butte, Glenn, Colusa, Sutter, Yolo, and Sacramento Counties, CA

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the draft environmental impact statement (Draft EIS) and notice of public hearing (DES 04-50).

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (as amended), the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) as lead Federal Agency, has made available for public review a Draft EIS for the renewal of long-term contracts to deliver water from the Central Valley Project (CVP) to the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors. The Sacramento River Settlement Contractors are entities and individuals that typically receive both non-CVP water, referred to as base supply, and supplemental water from the CVP, referred to as Project Water. The proposed contract renewals would continue the delivery of base supply and Project Water for an additional 40 years. The Draft EIS describes and