TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1 PURPOSE AND NEED 1-1
INTRODUCTION 1-1
Description and Location 1-1
PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION 1-1
Purpose and Need for the Proposed Project 1-1
Environmental Analysis Process 1-2
RELATIONSHIP TO POLICIES, PLANS, AND PROGRAMS 1-3
Conformance with Great Divide Resource Area RMP 1-3
Conformance With Interim Drilling Guidelines 1-4
Relationship to Other Plans and Documents 1-4
Issues and Concerns 1-4

CHAPTER 2 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES 2-1
PROPOSED ACTION 2-1
Plan of Development 2-3
Preconstruction Planning and Site Layout 2-3
Construction and Drilling Phase 2-4
Access Road Construction 2-4
Well Pad Design and Construction 2-4
Drilling and Completion Operation 2-5
Production Operations 2-6
Well Production Facilities 2-6
Power Generation 2-6
Pipelines 2-6
Gas-Gathering Pipeline Systems 2-7
Produced Water-Gathering System and Injection Facilities 2-7
Gas-Delivery Pipelines and Compression 2-8
Ancillary Facilities 2-8
Traffic and Work Force Estimates 2-8
Site Restoration and Abandonment 2-9
Summary of Estimated Disturbances 2-10
Project-Wide Mitigation Measures and Procedures 2-10
Preconstruction Planning, Design, and Compliance Measures 2-11
Resource-Specific Requirements 2-12
Geology/Minerals/Paleontology 2-12
Air Quality 2-13
Soils 2-13
Water Resources 2-14
Vegetation/Wetlands/Noxious Weeds 2-16
Range Resources and Other Land Uses 2-16
Wildlife 2-17

Fisheries 2-17
Special Status Species 2-18
Recreation 2-18
Visual Resources 2-18
Cultural Resources 2-19
Socioeconomics 2-19
Transportation 2-19
Health and Safety 2-20
Noise 2-21
NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE 2-21
ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT NOT ANALYZED IN DETAIL 2-22

CHAPTER 3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT 3-1
INTRODUCTION 3-1
GEOLOGY/MINERALS/PALEONTOLOGY 3-2
Physiography, Topography, and Landforms 3-2
Geology 3-2
Mineral and Energy Resources 3-3
Geologic Hazards 3-4
Paleontology 3-4
CLIMATE AND AIR QUALITY 3-5
Climate 3-5
Air Quality 3-6
SOILS 3-8
WATER RESOURCES 3-10
Surface Water 3-10
Quantity 3-10
Quality 3-11
Waters of the U.S. 3-13
Groundwater 3-14
Location and Quantity 3-14
Quality 3-17
VEGETATION/WETLANDS/NOXIOUS WEEDS 3-19
Vegetation Cover Types 3-19
Threatened and Endangered Species 3-19
Species of Concern 3-19
Noxious Weeds/Invasive Species 3-20
RANGE RESOURCES AND OTHER LAND USES 3-20
Range Resources and Other Land Uses 3-20

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

WILDLIFE/FISHERIES 3-21
Wildlife 3-21
Big Game 3-21
Upland Game Birds 3-23
Raptors 3-23
Threatened and Endangered Species - Wildlife and Fish 3-23
Wildlife Species 3-23
Fish Species 3-24
Species of Concern - Wildlife and Fish 3-25
Wildlife Species of Concern 3-25
Fish Species of Concern 3-25
RECREATION 3-26
VISUAL RESOURCES 3-27
CULTURAL RESOURCES 3-27
Culture Chronology 3-27
Summary of Cultural Resources 3-28
Site Types 3-29
Excavation Data 3-30
Summary 3-30
SOCIOECONOMICS 3-31
Economic Conditions 3-31
Oil and Gas Activities 3-32
Economic Activities 3-32
Population 3-32
Temporary Housing Resources 3-32
Local Government and State Government Revenues 3-33
Ad Valorem Property Tax 3-33
Sales and Use Tax 3-33
Severance Taxes 3-34
Federal Mineral Royalties 3-34
State Mineral Royalties 3-34
Attitudes and Opinions 3-34
Environmental Justice 3-35
TRANSPORTATION 3-35
HEALTH AND SAFETY 3-36
Occupational Hazards 3-36
Pipeline Hazards 3-37
Other Risks and Hazards 3-37
NOISE 3-37

CHAPTER 4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES 4-1
INTRODUCTION 4-1
GEOLOGY/MINERALS/PALEONTOLOGY 4-2
Proposed Action 4-2
No Action 4-3
AIR QUALITY 4-3
Proposed Action 4-3
No Action 4-5
SOILS 4-5
Proposed Action 4-5
No Action 4-6
WATER RESOURCES 4-6
Proposed Action 4-6
No Action 4-9
VEGETATION/WETLANDS/NOXIOUS WEEDS 4-9
Proposed Action 4-9
No Action 4-10
RANGE RESOURCES AND OTHER LAND USES 4-10
Proposed Action 4-10
No Action 4-11
WILDLIFE/FISHERIES 4-11
Proposed Action 4-11
Wildlife 4-12
Big Game 4-12
Upland Game Birds 4-13
Raptors 4-14
Threatened and Endangered Species - Wildlife and Fish 4-14
Wildlife Species 4-14
Fish Species 4-15
Species of Concern - Wildlife and Fish 4-17
Wildlife 4-17
Fish 4-17
No Action 4-18
RECREATION 4-18
Proposed Action 4-18
No Action 4-18
VISUAL RESOURCES 4-19
Proposed Action 4-19
No Action 4-20

CULTURAL RESOURCES 4-20
Proposed Action 4-20
No Action 4-21
SOCIOECONOMICS 4-21
Proposed Action 4-21
Carbon County Oil and Gas Activity 4-22
Population Effects 4-22
Temporary Housing Demand 4-23
Law Enforcement and Emergency Response 4-23
Fiscal Effects 4-23
Environmental Justice 4-23
No Action 4-24
TRANSPORTATION 4-24
Proposed Action 4-24
Federal and State Highways 4-24
County Roads 4-24
Internal Roads 4-25
No Action 4-25
HEALTH AND SAFETY 4-25
Proposed Action 4-25
Occupational Hazards 4-25
Pipeline Hazards 4-26
Other Risks and Hazards 4-26
No Action 4-26
NOISE 4-27
Proposed Action 4-27
No Action 4-27
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS 4-27
Proposed Action 4-27
Geology/Minerals/Paleontology 4-30
Air Quality 4-31
Soils 4-31
Water Resources 4-32
Vegetation/Wetlands/Noxious Weeds 4-33
Range Resources and Other Land Uses 4-34
Wildlife/Fisheries 4-34
Wildlife 4-34
Fisheries 4-36
Recreation 4-37

Visual Resources 4-37
Cultural Resources 4-37
Socioeconomics 4-38
Transportation 4-38
Health and Safety 4-39
Noise 4-39
No Action 4-39

CHAPTER 5 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION 5-1
CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION 5-1
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION 5-1
LIST OF PREPARERS 5-4

CHAPTER 6 REFERENCES 6-1

CHAPTER 7 ACRONYMS 7-1

Figures

Figure 1 Blue Sky Project Map
Figure 2 Blue Sky Project Map; Wildlife Sections, Habitat Locations, and Buffer Zones

Tables

Table 2-1 New Well Information 2-1
Table 2-2 Traffic Estimates 2-9
Table 2-3 Disturbed Area Estimates - Blue Sky POD 2-10
Table 3-1 Elements of the Human Environment, Blue Sky Project Atlantic Rim Interim Drilling Program Carbon County, Wyoming - 2001 3-1
Table 3-2 Air Pollutant Background Concentrations, State and Federal Ambient Air Quality Standards, and PSD Increments 3-7
Table 3-3 Class I and II Wilderness Areas and National Monument Within 100 Miles of the Project Area 3-8
Table 3-4 BLM Map Units Found in and Adjacent to the Project Area 3-10
Table 3-5 Surface Water Quality in the Project Area 3-11
Table 3-6 Surface Water Quality Comparison 3-12

Table 3-7	Water-Bearing Characteristics of Geologic Formations in the Washakie Basin	3-15
Table 3-8	Existing Groundwater Wells in Project Vicinity	3-17
Table 3-9	Major Ion Composition of Mesaverde Groundwater	3-17
Table 3-10	Groundwater Quality for Mesaverde Wells in Project Area	3-18
Table 3-11	Prehistoric Chronology of the Wyoming Basin	3-28
Table 3-12	Historic Chronology of the Washakie Basin	3-28
Table 3-13	Access Routes to the Project Area	3-36
Table 4-1	Cumulative Impacts Analysis Matrix - Cumulative Impacts Associated with the Blue Sky Project (Pod 7)	4-28
Table 4-2	Oil and Gas Activity within the Atlantic Rim Project Area	4-30
Table 5-1	BLM Interdisciplinary Reviewers	5-5
Table 5-2	Consultant Interdisciplinary Team EA Preparers	5-5

Appendices

Appendix A	Interim Drilling Policy
Appendix B	Master Surface Use Program
Appendix C	Master Drilling Program
Appendix D	Water Management Plan
Appendix E	Plant and Wildlife Species of Concern Tables