



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Wyoming State Office

P.O. Box 1828

Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003-1828

In Reply Refer To:

1793 (930)

May 28, 2004

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared this Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) to document and disclose the results of an environmental analysis of an application received by the BLM to drill for and produce natural gas from leases within the Rawlins and Rock Springs Field Offices as detailed below. A copy of this document is provided for your review and comment. The FEIS may be reviewed on the BLM Wyoming homepage ([www.wy.blm.gov](http://www.wy.blm.gov)). Copies of the FEIS also are available for public inspection at the following BLM offices.

Bureau of Land Management  
Wyoming State Office  
5353 Yellowstone Road  
Cheyenne, WY 82009

Bureau of Land Management  
Rock Springs Field Office  
280 Highway 191 North,  
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901

Bureau of Land Management  
Rawlins Field Office  
1300 N. Third Street  
Rawlins, WY 82301

A Draft EIS (DEIS) was published in April 2003, and the 60-day comment period ran from May 01, 2003, to July 1, 2003. One hundred and eighty one-letters to the DEIS were received during the comment period. Formal public hearings were held on June 7, 2003, in Rawlins, Wyoming, and June 8, 2003, at Rock Springs Wyoming, to receive oral comments on the DEIS. No comments were received from the public at these hearings. Comment letters are included in the FEIS package in Section 4, and BLM responses to those comments in Section 5 of the FEIS.

The BLM will accept public comments on the FEIS for thirty (30) days commencing on the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes a Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*. BLM will post the publication and closing dates for comments on its internet site when the precise date of publication is known.

If you wish to comment on the FEIS, your comments should relate directly to the document. We request that you make your comments as specific as possible and that you cite the location, or locations, in the document on which you are commenting. Substantive comments should: (1) give any new information that could alter conclusions; (2) show why or how analysis or assumptions in the FEIS are flawed; (3) show errors in data, sources, or methods; or (4) request clarifications that bear on conclusions. Comments that contain only opinions or preferences will not receive a formal response. However, they will be considered and included as part of the BLM decisionmaking process.

This FEIS was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and applicable regulations, and other applicable statutes, to address possible environmental and socioeconomic impacts that could result from this project. This FEIS is not a decision document. Its purpose is to inform the public and the agency decisionmakers of the impacts of natural gas exploration, development, and production within the Desolation Flats Project Area.

*Freedom of Information Act Considerations:* Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the addresses listed above during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, 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, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Please send written comments to Bureau of Land Management, Rawlins Field Office, Attn: David Simons, 1300 N. 3rd Street, Rawlins, Wyoming 82301. Written comments may also be e-mailed to the attention of David Simons at DesFlats\_WYMail@blm.gov. E-mail comments must include the name and mailing address of the commenter to receive consideration. Written comments may also be faxed to (307) 328-4224.

If you have any questions or would like to obtain additional copies of this Final EIS, please contact David Simons at (307) 328-4328 or at the above address.

Sincerely,

  
for Robert A. Bennett  
State Director