

5.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

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An environmental analysis is prepared when a federal government agency considers approving an action within its jurisdiction that may impact the human environment. An environmental analysis aids federal decision makers by presenting information on the physical, biological, and social environment of a proposed project and its alternatives. The first step in conducting an environmental analysis that meets the requirements of NEPA is to determine the scope of the project, the range of action alternatives, and the impacts to be included in the document.

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR, Parts 1500-1508) require an early scoping process to determine the issues related to the Proposed Action and alternatives that the analysis should address. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify important issues, concerns, and potential impacts that require analysis. The results of the scoping process are used to focus the analysis on the issues and concerns identified for the proposed project, so that alternatives or mitigation considered can be responsive to the issues and concerns. Alternatives that are not technically or economically feasible or responsive to the issues and concerns are not considered further in the analysis.

The EA documenting the NEPA analysis conducted for the JRPA was prepared by a third-party contractor working under the direction of and in cooperation with the lead agency for the project, BLM Rawlins Field Office in Rawlins, Wyoming.

5.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A scoping notice was prepared and submitted to the public by the BLM on June 14, 2001, requesting comments on the proposed Atlantic Rim Natural Gas Project. Scoping documents were sent out to the public listed on the BLM mailing list, as well as organizations, groups, and individuals that requested a copy of the scoping document.

As part of the scoping process, the interim drilling programs proposed by the Companies were included in the scoping notice. The scoping period ended on July 25, 2001. During preparation of the EA, the BLM and the consultant interdisciplinary team have communicated with, and received or solicited input from various federal, state, county, and local agencies, elected representatives, environmental and citizens groups, industries, and individuals potentially concerned with issues regarding the proposed exploratory drilling activities. The contacts made are summarized in the following sections.

The following organizations and individuals either provided comment or were provided the opportunity to comment during the scoping period.

FEDERAL OFFICES

U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office

U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Cubin

U.S. Senator Mike Enzi

U.S. Senator Craig Thomas
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

STATE AGENCIES

Governor Dave Freudenthal
State Representatives
State Senators
State Engineer’s Office
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
Wyoming Department of Transportation
Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission
Wyoming State Planning Coordinator

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Carbon County Commissioners
Carbon County Planning Commission

MUNICIPALITIES

Mayor-Baggs
Mayor-Rawlins
Mayor-Wamsutter

NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

Northern Arapahoe Tribal Council
Shoshone Tribal Council
Ute Mountain Tribe
Ute Tribal Council
Shoshone-Arapahoe Joint Tribal Council
Uinta-Ouray Tribal Council

GRAZING PERMITTEES

Weber Ranch
Montgomery Livestock Company
Salisbury Livestock Company
Stratton Sheep Company
Three Forks Ranch Corporation
Sam Morgan
Mike Sheehan
Robert Orchard
H.B. Lee

Matt Weber
Espy Livestock
Jack Creek Land and Cattle Company
PH Livestock Company

LEASE AND ROW HOLDERS

Benson-Montin-Greer
KCS Mountain Resources, Inc.
Merit Energy Company
North Finn, LLC
P&M Petroleum Management
Stone & Wolf, LLC

LANDOWNERS

The scoping notice was sent to 111 landowners potentially affected by the proposal.

LOCAL MEDIA

Casper Star-Tribune
Rawlins Daily Times
Rock Springs Rocket Miner
Wyoming State Journal
Wyoming State Tribune/Eagle
Gillette News-Record
Northwest Colorado Daily News
KRAI- Craig, Colorado
KRAL- Rawlins
KRKK- Rock Springs
KSIT- Rock Springs
KTWO- Casper
KTWO TV- Casper
KUWR- University of Wyoming

OTHER AGENCIES, INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES, INDIVIDUALS, AND ORGANIZATIONS

Audubon Society
National Wildlife Federation
Wilderness Society
Carbon County Stockgrowers
The Nature Conservancy
Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists
Field Museum of Natural History, Department of Geology
Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States
Montana Oil Journal
Murie Audubon Society
Petroleum Association of Wyoming

Sierra Club
 Wyoming Far Bureau Federation
 Wyoming Outdoor Council
 Wyoming Public Lands Council
 Wyoming Stockgrowers Association
 Wyoming Wildlife Federation
 Wyoming Woolgrowers Association
 Vern Brodsho
 Ivan Herold
 Little Snake River Conservation District

5.3 LIST OF PREPARERS

The following tables identify the core BLM Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) (**Table 5-1**) and the consultant IDT (**Table 5-2**) who were principally involved in preparing this EA.

**Table 5-1
 BLM Interdisciplinary Reviewers**

Name	Responsibility
BLM Team	
Larry Jackson	BLM IDT Lead/Natural Resource Specialist
Dave Simons	Atlantic Rim EIS Coordinator
Ramona Trapp	Cultural Resources
Krystal Clair	Visual Resources/Recreation
Bob Lange	Water Resources
Bob Hartman	Petroleum Engineering, Geology
Susan Foley	Soils and Vegetation
Cheryl Newberry	Range Resources
Frank Blomquist	Wildlife/T&E Issues
Mike Bower	Fisheries Biologist; Riparian/Wetland
Mike Robinson	Realty Specialist

**Table 5-2
 Consultant Interdisciplinary Team EA Preparers**

Name	Affiliation	Area of Expertise and Responsibility
Principal Interdisciplinary Team		
Robert Belford	PBS&J	Project Manager
Francesca Liccione	PBS&J	Environmental Scientist
Chris Miller	PBS&J	Environmental Planner
Mike Horvath	PBS&J	Environmental Planner
Technical Support Team		
Larry Hayden-Wing	Hayden-Wing Associates	Wildlife
Travis Olson	Hayden-Wing Associates	Wildlife
Larry Bennett	Hayden-Wing Associates	Vegetation/Wetlands
Jana Pastor	Western Archaeology	Cultural Resources