

Phoonswadi-Brewer, Sean

From: NPL_AR
Subject: Comments - EnCana's Normally Pressured Lance Project

"John Winkel"
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 PM

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To

cc

Subject

Comments - EnCana's Normally
 Pressured Lance Project

Dear Ms. Roadifer:

I am a Wyomingite who has worked in the oil and gas industry. That experience has taken me abroad, which in turn enables me to understand just how unique Wyoming's open spaces and wildlife are in today's resource-pressured world. EnCana's Normally Pressured Lance Project cannot help but impact wide stretches of our prime wildlife habitat. Like everyone, I am well aware of sage grouse declines and the highly sensitive and constricted critical pronghorn migration corridor from Seedskaadee National Wildlife Refuge to Grand Teton National Park. The Pinedale Anticline and Jonah Fields have clearly had a significant impact on our wildlife and government action should err on the side of wildlife protections versus desires of the oil and gas companies.

That does not mean I am opposed to well done exploration and development. As a nation we need to be good stewards of the land we have been given, balancing needs for energy with the need to honor our landscapes, maintain a healthy ecosystem that draws tourists, and to connect with the natural world for our own sanity. I urge you to very carefully address this need for balance, rather than enhancing oil and gas company profits, by requiring at least the following:

1) a maximum surface density of one wellpad per square mile throughout the entire project, and not just in sage grouse Core Areas. (Note that this is technically feasible given all the directional drilling technology we now have.),

2) siting wellpads far away (3+ miles) from sage grouse leks to reduce impacts during breeding and nesting,

3) provide a miles wide corridor free from drilling and road construction that protects the migration corridor for the Grand Teton antelope herd,

4) phased development whereby a limited number of acres is committed to full-field development at any one time, with new acreage being opened up for drilling after final reclamation of a similar acreage of wellfield, and

5) stipulating that this project pay its own way in terms of producing the necessary science and studies to adequately mitigate impacts. (Federal budget constraints raise the risk of projects being done in a half-baked way that could hurt Wyoming's unique nature in the long run.)

I trust the BLM will act to require balance in its multiple-use management of our public lands, given the world-class natural values that set Wyoming apart.

Sincerely yours,

John Winkel
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