



**United States Department of the Interior**  
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**  
Uncompahgre Field Office  
2465 S. Townsend Avenue  
Montrose, Colorado 81401  
www.blm.gov



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
3160(CO-150-2008-035EA)

December 12, 2008

Dear Interested Parties:

The Bureau of Land Management Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO) has scheduled another comment period to provide the public an additional opportunity to review the draft of the Gunnison Energy Corporation (GEC) 16 well Environmental Assessment (EA), document number CO-150-2008-35. The proposed drilling plan includes vertical and directional drilling of a total of 16 wells. This will involve five new well pad locations, three existing well pads, and one plugged and abandoned well pad.

The project area is located north of the Paonia Reservoir in the Uncompahgre Basin of west central Colorado. This exploratory drilling project is specifically located in Gunnison County, Colorado, in Sections 17, 18, 19, and 20 of Township 12 South, Range 89 West, 6<sup>th</sup> PM.

This draft EA analyzes the impacts from drilling all 16 wells; however, development may be reduced due to future economics and the exploratory nature of this project. GEC currently has filed six of the 16 Applications for Permit to Drill (APD), pending approval of the EA. The additional 10 APDs will be potentially forthcoming as the development of the project progresses. Included in each APD are also proposals to install fluid gathering lines, and construct ancillary facilities on federal oil and gas leases COC-65106, COC-65523, and COC-66108. All are analyzed in the draft EA.

The UFO initiated the scoping process for this EA in March of 2008. Public comments generated by the scoping process were incorporated into the draft EA, and BLM specialists from a variety of disciplines contributed expertise in order to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. Final BLM review after consideration of public comments will occur prior to making a decision on the Proposed Action.

The draft EA will be available for review at the Montrose Public Lands Center, 2465 S. Townsend Ave., Montrose, Colorado. It is also available on-line at:  
[http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM\\_Information/nepa/ufo.html](http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Information/nepa/ufo.html) (select CO-150-2008-35 EA).

The public may submit written comments through January 19, 2009 by: 1) mail to the UFO, ATTN: Thane Stranathan, 2465 S. Townsend Ave., Montrose, Colorado 81401; 2) by fax to (970) 240-5368; or 3) by e-mail to [thane\\_stranathan@blm.gov](mailto:thane_stranathan@blm.gov).

Sincerely,

/S/ Barbara L Sharrow

Barbara L. Sharrow  
Field Office Manager

Enclosure: Finding of No Significant Impact (unsigned)