



**Department of Energy**  
Western Area Power Administration  
Rocky Mountain Customer Service Region  
P.O. Box 3700  
Loveland, CO 80539-3003

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION**

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

**BUFFALO HEAD SUBSTATION PROJECT  
DOE/EA-1938**

**ADOPTION OF BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DOCUMENT NO. WY-050-EA11-108)  
GRIEVE UNIT CO<sub>2</sub> ENHANCED RECOVERY PROJECT  
NATRONA COUNTY, WYOMING**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy, Western Area Power Administration

**ACTION:** Adoption of Environmental Assessment and Issuance of Finding of No Significant Impact

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management, Lander Field Office (BLM) issued an Environmental Assessment (EA) (July 26, 2012) and coordinated with the Department of Energy (DOE), Western Area Power Administration (Western) for the proposed action of authorizing the Grieve Unit CO<sub>2</sub> Enhanced Oil Recovery Project. BLM issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) following its evaluation of the proposed action to approve applications for permit to drill, sundry notices to rework existing wells, and rights-of-way.

In addition to the proposed action, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State), under an existing agreement, applied to Western requesting a new network delivery point on behalf of its member, High Plains Power, Inc. The delivery point would be at a new Buffalo Head switching station constructed by Western and located on the existing Badwater-Spence 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line. This new delivery point would accommodate Tri-State's request to provide up to 20 megawatts of electric service to new loads associated with a CO<sub>2</sub> injection and recovery facility being developed by Elk Petroleum Limited as discussed in the BLM EA.

**ADOPTION:** Western has reviewed BLM's EA "Grieve Unit CO<sub>2</sub> Enhanced Recovery Project, Natrona County, Wyoming" (BLM Document No. WY-050-EA11-108) and has concluded that the EA adequately describes Western's action, is satisfactory for DOE purposes, and that BLM's public involvement process is equivalent to DOE's. Western hereby adopts the BLM EA as a DOE Environmental Assessment, DOE/EA-1938.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Additional information and copies of the EA and the FONSI are available to all interested parties and the public from the following contact:

Mr. Gene Iley, Jr.  
Environmental Manager, NEPA Compliance Officer  
Western Area Power Administration  
P.O. Box 3700  
Loveland, Colorado  
Phone: (970) 461-7294  
Fax: (970) 461-7204  
Iley@wapa.gov

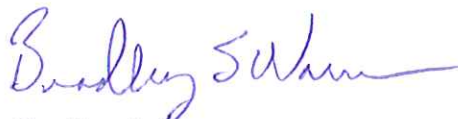
The EA and FONSI can be downloaded from Western's website at:  
<https://www.wapa.gov/rm/Environment/default.htm>

For further information on the DOE NEPA process, contact:

Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom  
Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585  
202-586-4600 or 1-800-472-2756

**DETERMINATION:** Based on information contained in DOE/EA-1938, Western has determined that its action to provide a new network delivery point under an existing agreement does not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of NEPA. Therefore, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required.

Issued at Loveland, Colorado on 9/13, 2012.



Bradley S. Warren  
Regional Manager