

6-months notice, during a legislative session, of his intention to submit the petition; or

3. The state legislature implements a law or regulation permitting and encouraging the development of coalbed methane.

Since the State of Illinois has met the condition for removal from the List of Affected States by passing a resolution requesting removal, the State of Illinois is officially removed from the List of Affected States.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David R. Stewart, Chief, Branch of Resources Planning and Protection, Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States, 7450 Boston Boulevard, Springfield, Virginia 22153, or telephone (703) 440-1728; or Charles W. Byrer, U.S. Department of Energy, 3610 Collins Ferry Road, Morgantown, West Virginia 26507, or telephone (304) 285-4547.

Dated: January 16, 1997.
Carson W. Culp, Jr.,
State Director, Eastern States.
[FR Doc. 97-1951 Filed 1-27-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-GJ-M

[UT-066-1310-03]

Carbon and Emery Counties, UT; EIS on Natural Gas Development

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Utah.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Prepare and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on Natural Gas Development in Carbon and Emery Counties, Utah, and Notice of Scoping Meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Bureau of Land Management, Price Field Office, will be directing the preparation of an EIS by a third-party contractor on the impacts of proposed natural gas development on public and private lands in Carbon and Emery Counties in central Utah.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Development of natural gas in the Castle Valley area is proposed by Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, Chandler and Associates, Inc., Questar Pipeline Company and Texaco Exploration and Production, Inc. The BLM is preparing an EIS to analyze a conceptual natural gas development model based on industry's proposal.

Description of the Proposed Action

Field development of existing Federal leases within an area of approximately 96,000 acres in the Castle Valley area of Carbon and Emery Counties, Utah is proposed. The project would involve approximately 375 wells and related

facilities including roads, pipelines, power lines, compressor stations and water disposal facilities.

The BLM also proposes to approve development of natural gas within the project area and approve individual drilling applications and right of way authorizations.

Possible Alternatives

The EIS will analyze the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative. Other alternatives may include various well spacing options and resource protection alternatives.

Anticipated Issues

Potential issues include air quality, social and economic impacts, ground water, water disposal, wildlife, and threatened and endangered species.

Other Relevant Information

The tentative project schedule is as follows: Begin Public Comment Period—February 1997, File draft EIS—June, 1998, File Final EIS—November, 1998, Record of Decision—January 1999.

Public Scoping Meetings

Three public scoping meetings will be held. The location and schedule for the meeting are as follows: February 11, 1997, 7:00 pm, Price City Hall, Price, Utah, February 12, 1997, 7:00 pm, Emery County Courthouse, Castle Dale, Utah, February 13, 1997, 7:00 pm, Bureau of Land Management, Salt Lake District Office, 2370 South, 2300 West, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Public Input Requested

Comments should address issues to be considered, feasible alternatives to examine, and relevant information to be aware of or having a bearing on the proposal.

DATES: The comment period for scoping of the EIS will commence with publication of this notice. Written comments must be submitted on or before March 14, 1997. Three public scoping meetings will be held to receive oral comments on February 11, 12 and 13, 1997, at the times and locations listed under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to George Diwachak, Team Leader, The Ferron Natural Gas EIS, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 45155, Salt Lake City, UT, 84145-0155.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL: George Diwachak, (801) 539-4043.

Dated: January 22, 1997.
G. William Lamb,
State Director, Utah.
[FR Doc. 97-2001 Filed 1-27-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-DQ-M

[CO-030-07-1820-00-1784]

Southwest Resource Advisory Council Meetings

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice; Resource Advisory Council meetings.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 USC), notice is hereby given that the Southwest Resource Advisory Council (Southwest RAC) will meet on Thursday, February 13, 1997, at the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Montrose District Office in Montrose, Colorado, and on Thursday, March 13, 1997, at the La Plata Fairgrounds in Durango, Colorado.

DATES: The meetings will be held on Thursday, February 13, 1997, and Thursday, March 13, 1997. Both meetings will begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: For additional information, contact Roger Alexander, Bureau of Land Management, Montrose District Office, 2465 South Townsend Avenue, Montrose, Colorado 81401; Telephone 970-240-5335; TDD 970-240-5366; E-Mail r2alexan@co.blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The February 13, 1997, meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room at BLM's Montrose District Office, 2465 South Townsend, Montrose, Colorado. The agenda will focus on off-highway vehicle use on public lands in the Gunnison Resource Area. Time will be provided for public comments.

The March 13, 1997, meeting is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Extension Building's Animas Room at the La Plata County Fairgrounds, 2500 Main Avenue in Durango, Colorado. The agenda will focus on BLM's oil and gas program in southwest Colorado. Time will be provided during the morning session for public comments. A field trip is scheduled for the afternoon session; the public is welcome to accompany the Southwest RAC on the field trip, but must provide their own transportation.

All Resource Advisory Council meetings are open to the public. Interested persons may make oral statements to the Council, or written statements may be submitted for the Council's consideration. Depending on