

May 11, 2011
Bureau of Land Management
Pinedale Field Office
P. O. Box 768
Pinedale, Wyoming 82941

Re: Comment on the Normally Pressured Lance Project

Dear Ms. Roadifer:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

EnCana's Normally Pressured Lance Project sprawls across a vast stretch of prime wildlife habitat, including key sage grouse areas and the internationally famous pronghorn migration corridor from Grand Teton National Park to Seedskaadee National Wildlife Refuge. Given the massive impacts to sage grouse and big game that have already been shown in the Pinedale Anticline and Jonah Fields, the needs of wildlife--not oil and gas companies--should take precedence here.

Please require a maximum surface density of one well pad per square mile throughout the entire project, not just in sage grouse Core Areas. And within sage grouse Core Areas, well pads need to be sited at least 3 miles from sage grouse leks in order to reduce impacts to breeding and nesting activities. In addition, the BLM should provide a corridor at least 2 miles wide where drilling and road construction are not allowed along the migration corridor for the Grand Teton pronghorn herd.

Phased development should be required for this project, under which no more than 25,000 acres should be committed to full-field development at any one time, and new acreage can only be opened up for drilling after final reclamation of a similar acreage of well field.

Oil and gas development has run roughshod over other resources and values, such as wildlife, public use of the land, water quality, and clean air in the Upper Green River Valley. It's time for the BLM to require some balance in its multiple-use management of our public lands.

What is the current pipeline capacity? Has there been a characterization of the aquifers in the project area? Has there been a wildlife survey/study conducted to determine exactly what species will be impacted and how?

Air quality already in the Upper Green River Basin has been significantly impacted. Adding more emissions will only make the impacts greater. The health of the residents of this county and the health of the general public are important. The Bridger Wilderness is a class 1 air shed, which Congress has decreed to be off limits to pollution. How can the BLM think that this project will not significantly impact the area, given the failure of the industry to maintain good air quality in and around the Jonah and Anticline Fields?

Sincerely,
Susan Kramer
Acting Chair
Citizens United for Responsible Energy Development
P. O. Box 55
Pinedale, WY 82941

