

Total Estimated Burden Hours: 8,032.

Status: Reinstate approval with change.

Authority: Section 3507 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 35, as amended.

Dated: April 11, 2000.

Wayne Eddins,

*Departmental Reports Management Officer,
Office of the Chief Information Office.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Letters of Authorization to Take Marine Mammals

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance of Letters of Authorization to take marine mammals incidental to oil and gas industry activities.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 101(a)(5)(A) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implementing regulations [50 CFR 18.27(f)(3)], notice is hereby given that Letters of Authorization to take polar bears and Pacific walrus incidental to oil and gas industry exploration, development, and production activities have been issued to the following companies:

Company	Activity	Date issued
Exxon Mobil	Exploration ...	March 16, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John W. Bridges at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, (800) 362-5148 or (907) 786-3810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Letters of Authorization were issued in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Rules and Regulations "Marine Mammals; Incidental Take During Specified Activities (65 FR 5275; February 3, 2000)."

Dated: March 27, 2000.

Gary Edwards,

Deputy Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 00-9726 Filed 4-18-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UT-070-99-5101-00; J-608; UTU-77149, UTU-77164, UTU-78301, FERC Doc. No. CP00-68-000]

San Juan County, New Mexico; La Plata, Montezuma, Dolores, and San Miguel Counties, Colorado; and San Juan, Grand, Emery, Carbon, Sanpete, Utah, Juab and Salt Lake Counties, Utah; EIS for a Refined Petroleum Products Pipeline, Natural Gas Pipelines and Utility Corridor Analysis and Plan Amendments

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Utah.

ACTION: Revised Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (original notice was published April 28, 1999, (FR Vol. 64, No. 83 p. 23349-23351) for the construction of underground pipeline facilities and above ground structures for the transportation of Refined Petroleum Products and Natural Gas and Notice of Scoping Meetings.

SUMMARY: On April 28, 1999, the Bureau of Land Management, Utah, announced its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and conduct EIS Scoping Meetings for: (1) Construction of Pipeline Facilities and Transportation of refined petroleum products via underground pipeline in San Juan County, New Mexico; La Plata, Montezuma, Dolores, and San Miguel Counties, Colorado; and San Juan, Grand, Emery, Carbon, Sanpete, Utah, Juab and Salt Lake Counties, Utah; and (2) Construction of Pipeline Facilities and Transportation of natural gas via an underground pipeline in Emery, Carbon, Sanpete, Utah, Juab, and Salt Lake Counties. This revised notice is to clarify the proposals, nature of the proposals, responsible officials, roles of responsible officials, and decisions. This revised notice also updates the project schedule and public involvement.

Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Utah State Office, will be the lead agency directing the preparation of an EIS on the impacts of proposed transportation of refined petroleum products and natural gas through pipelines located on public lands, including BLM and National Forest System, State, and private lands in northwest New Mexico, southwest Colorado, and southeast to north-central Utah. In addition, the EIS will also analyze utility corridors across the

Manti-LaSal and Uinta National Forests to identify the use and allocate National Forest System Lands which may or may not expand the existing designated corridors and/or identify other corridors. This analysis may result in Forest Plan amendments to the Manti-LaSal and Uinta National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and USDA Forest Service, Manti-LaSal and Uinta National Forests, will be participating in the EIS preparation as Cooperating Agencies in accordance with Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1501.6. The EIS will address all reasonable alternatives including locating the pipelines on and off USFS and public lands.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Williams Pipeline Company has proposed to transport refined petroleum products to the Wasatch Front in Utah, using a combination of existing pipelines in New Mexico and Colorado, and a new segment of pipeline in Utah from near Crescent Junction, Utah to a terminal on the Wasatch Front. The refined petroleum products would include diesel fuel, fuel oil, jet fuel, and gasoline. In addition to the Williams proposal, Questar Pipeline Company (Questar) and Kern River Gas Transmission Company (Kern River) have proposals to transport natural gas from Price, Utah to the Wasatch Front and connect to an existing Kern River pipeline located in central Juab county and western Utah county. Questar has proposed to loop it's existing pipeline from Price to Payson, provide natural-gas service to the communities of Goshen, Genola, and Elberta, and connect to the existing Kern River Pipeline near Elberta. Kern River has proposed to construct a new pipeline from Price to near Indianola, then to a point just north of Nephi, and then westerly to intersect the existing Kern River Pipeline in Dog Valley.

Preliminary Issues

Issues identified at this time include: biology; visual resources; soils, water, and air resources and quality; threatened, endangered and sensitive plant and animal species; cultural and historic resources; public health and safety; geologic and land stability; roadless areas; multiple entries resulting in repetitive impacts and the ability to meet use demands; capacity of the utility corridor; and social and economic impacts in association with oil and natural gas pipeline construction and operation. Other issues and concerns may be identified through