C. James

Date: August 24, 2009

Define Proposed Action (who, what, where, when, how; include SOP's and any specifications and/or requirements). Please attach 7.5 Map with location:
Magma Energy US Corp ("Magma") is proposing to conduct a 3-D seismic survey utilizing vibroseis equipment on a checkboard private and public land area at the northern extent of their Soda Lake project area in Churchill County. The federal surface management agency for the involved public land is the Bureau of Reclamation ("Reclamation") and the BLM manages the geothermal resources underlying this area. Portions of this survey are off-lease where Reclamation has deferred surface management authority to BLM pursuant to the national 1982 BLM/Reclamation interagency agreement. Because the land status is Reclamation managed land, they do not have a migratory bird list, no sensitive species area identified, nor do they address of state listed species. Therefore BLM, to be consistent with Reclamation policy, will not address these potential resources.

The seismic survey will use a vibrator articulated truck and a field crew of up to 25 people (generally fewer) working ten hour days will be required to conduct the survey. Support vehicles including 4 wheel drive trucks and/or ATVs will be used to transport equipment and personnel. All wastes will be hauled out of the area for proper disposal.

See attachments; proposed operations and project maps.

Field Office: Stillwater Field Office, Carson City District

Applicant: Magma Energy US Corp

Legal Description:
T20N, R28E Sections 1-3, 9-13, 24 (section 2; NVN86869) (section 10, 12, 24 Reclamation; N86870)
T21N, R28E Sections 34-36 (Reclamation; N86869)
T20N, R29E Sections 5-8, 18, 19 (sections 6, 8, 18 Reclamation)

This action is in conformance with the Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan (2001); Reference and page number citation: MIN-1, 1. Encourage development of energy and mineral resources in a timely manner to meet national, regional and local needs consistent with the objectives for other public land uses.

Categorical Exclusion References:
Bureau of Land Management, 516 DM 11.9 (cite eligible action): B: Oil, Gas, Geothermal Energy, 6. Approval of Notices of Intent to conduct geophysical exploration of oil, gas, or geothermal, pursuant to 43 CFR 3250, when no temporary or new road construction is proposed.
SCREENING FOR EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES: The following extraordinary circumstances apply to individual actions within categorical exclusions (516 DM 2, Appendix 2). The preparer and/or indicated specialist must verify that the Proposed Action does not:

2.1 Have significant adverse effects on public health or safety
2.2 Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or...Preparer
refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; Archaeologist
prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; Rec/Wild/VRML
and other ecologically significant or critical areas..Preparer
2.3 Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources..Preparer
2.4 Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks..Preparer
2.5 Establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?...Preparer
2.6 Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?..Preparer
2.7 Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office...Preparer
2.8 Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species...Wildlife Biol.
2.9 Violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?..Preparer
2.10 Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)....Preparer
2.11 Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO13007)....Archaeologist
2.12 Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and EO 13112) Preparer

Other reviewers (As determined by the Field Manager):

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RMP conformance and CX review confirmation:

[Signature] 8/24/09
Preparer

EC Initials

Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist

DECISION: Based upon the review of this proposal, I have determined that the above-described project is a categorical exclusion, in conformance with the RMP, and does not require a NEPA analysis. It is my decision to implement the action, as described.

Approved By: [Signature] 9/30/09
Authorized Officer