Oil and Gas Development and BLM NEPA Analysis
BLM management of lands for energy development

- Public lands managed for renewable energy development, oil and gas, and coal operations
- Companies pay royalties, rents and bonus payments
- Half of revenue goes to states, half to U.S. Treasury for oil and gas
- BLM determines best management practices for energy projects to minimize environmental impacts
Calendar Year 2014 BLM Oil and Gas Lease Sales
BLM Onshore Oil and Gas—By The Numbers-FY13

• 47,427 leases in effect
• 36,092,482 acres leased
• 12,617,743 acres in production
• 99,975 producible and service completions
• 123,029,214 bbls of oil
• 2,636,277,484 mcf gas
NEPA Analysis—When does it occur?

- Resource Management Plan
- Leasing
- Permitting
  - Master Development Plan (several wells)
  - Individual APD-1 well
- Master Leasing Plan
Air Analysis completed for NEPA

- Detailed oil and gas emissions inventories specific to the basin for current and future year inventories (criteria pollutants, HAP, GHG)
- Photochemical Grid Modeling
- Near-field air modeling
- Long range transport modeling
BLM projects and BLM contributions to Oil and Gas Air Analysis in the West

- Major funder of WestJumpAQMS
- Major funder to 3 State Air Quality Study
- CARRMS in Colorado/NW New Mexico
- Several PGM studies in Wyoming
- Utah PGM and Uintah Basin ozone analysis
- 1-hour NO2 drill rig study
- Montana/Dakotas inventory improvements and PGM study
Reducing Emissions

• BLM has identified state-of-the-art best management practices to control air pollution from oil and gas production sites
• Through Resource Management Plans, stipulations and notices, BLM requires site-specific air pollution control for oil and gas production
• Required emissions reductions (state, EPA and BLM) are reflected in current and future year inventories for the wells and equipment associated with Record of Decision for that project
Challenges

• Technologies and E&P practices changing / advancing at a rapid pace
• Historic inventories and equipment configurations are not necessarily good predictors of future inventories after RoD
• Significant difficulty / uncertainty in predicting future year inventories
• Emerging technologies may address one environmental issue at the expense of another
• Differences within in-basin geology and new technologies developing new formations may result in large differences in air emissions
• Lack of national air requirements for oil production like NSPS OOOO
• Record of decision cannot impact activities occurring on state or private land
• Lack of consistency between inventories and modeling
Opportunities

• BLM NEPA analysis drives the acquisition of detailed emissions information about oil and gas development in the west
• Linkage of basin-specific information has been achieved in the past for regional analyses (WestJumpAQMS)
• 3 States Air Quality Study demonstrating usefulness of data sharing, development of modeling platform
Questions?

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