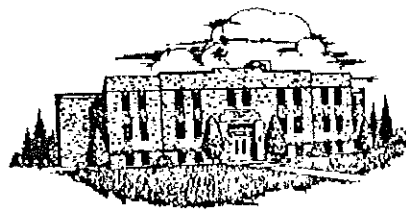


**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RIO BLANCO COUNTY  
P.O. Box i  
Meeker, CO 81641  
970-878-9430**



May 3, 2012

Colorado Common Cause  
1536 Wynkoop St., #302  
Denver, CO 80202  
Attn: Elena Nunez, Executive Director

RE: CORA Request for Documents Concerning the March 27<sup>th</sup> & April 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting Attended by one or more the Rio Blanco County Commissioners in Vernal, Utah

Dear Ms. Nunez:

I am writing in response to your above referenced Colorado Open Records Act Request (CORA) Request dated May 1, 2012. I am enclosing the following documents in response to each specific request:

1. **All documents listing the meetings attendees.** Attached is the Attendee Sign In List for the March 27, 2012 meeting. Rio Blanco County does not have a copy of the sign in list for the April 24, 2012 meeting.
2. **All documents distributed at the meeting.** Rio Blanco County has no documents in response to this request.
3. **All documents prepared at the meetings, regardless of author, including, but not limited to, notes and minutes.** Rio Blanco County has no documents in response to this request.
4. **All documents concerning travel to and from the meetings, including, but not limited to, reimbursement forms and payment records.** Rio Blanco County has no documents in response to this request.
5. **All public notices of the meetings.** Rio Blanco County has no documents in response to this request.

---

*Shawn J. Bolton, Chairman*

*Kai M. Turner*

*Ken C. Parsons*

*County Administration (970) 878-9430*

*Fax (970) 878-5442*

*Rio Blanco County Administration Building, 200 Main Street, Suite 100, Meeker, CO 81641*

*[bocc@co.rio-blanco.co.us](mailto:bocc@co.rio-blanco.co.us)*

**6. All documents concerning the meetings or matters discussed at the meetings.**

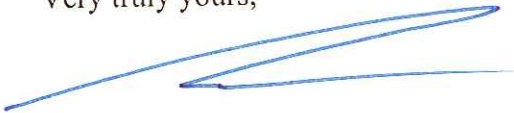
Enclosed are the following documents in response to this request:

- a. E-mail from Tammie Lucero dated March 30, 2012
- b. E-mail from Tammie Lucero dated April 13, 2012 with attachment
- c. E-mail from Tammie Lucero to Ken Parsons dated April 17, 2012
- d. E-mail from Tammie Lucero to Irene Hanson, et al. dated April 25, 2012 with attachment
- e. E-mail from Tammie Lucero to Irene Hanson, et al. dated April 26, 2012 with attachment

The only document in the possession of Rio Blanco County being withheld from disclosure is the Confidential Draft-Tri-State Resolution which is attached to the Tammie Lucero e-mail dated March 30, 2012. This document was deemed confidential and protected by the sender.

If you have any further questions regarding your CORA request please feel free to contact Kent A. Borchard, Rio Blanco County Attorney at 970-878-9680, e-mail address: [kborchard@co.rio-blanco.co.us](mailto:kborchard@co.rio-blanco.co.us).

Very truly yours,



Shawn A. Bolton  
Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County, Colorado

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*Shawn J. Bolton, Chairman*

*Kai M. Turner*

*Ken C. Parsons*

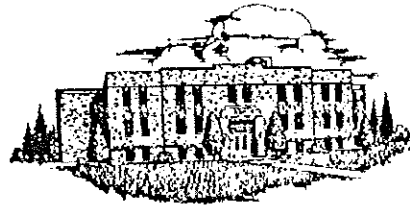
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**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
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May 3, 2012

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1536 Wynkoop St., #302  
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If you have any further questions regarding your CORA request please feel free to contact Kent A. Borchard, Rio Blanco County Attorney at 970-878-9680, e-mail address: [kborchard@co.rio-blanco.co.us](mailto:kborchard@co.rio-blanco.co.us).

Very truly yours,



Shawn A. Bolton  
Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County, Colorado

## **Response to Request #6**

**Kent Borchard**

---

**From:** Ken Parsons  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 01, 2012 4:38 PM  
**To:** Kent Borchard  
**Subject:** FW: CONFIDENTIAL DRAFT - TRI-STATE RESOLUTION  
**Attachments:** Oil Shale Meeting Proposed Resolution.pdf

Third email. Ken P.

---

**From:** Tammie Lucero [mailto:tlucero@uintah.utah.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 30, 2012 2:08 PM  
**To:** Tammie Lucero  
**Subject:** CONFIDENTIAL DRAFT - TRI-STATE RESDLUTIDN

Thank you all for coming to the Tri-State Oil Shale meeting on March 27th. I have received a lot of feedback saying this was one of the best meetings we have ever had! I believe that is because of the great participation and input from the group that was present. If there is something that we have discussed that it is inadvertently left out of this resolution, please let me know as soon possible.

Our Chief Deputy Attorney, Jonathan Stearmer, has provided the following direction regarding the attached document:

Attached is a draft version of the proposed resolution outlined and discussed during Uintah County Commissions closed session, held on March 27, 2012. As such, this document is deemed confidential and protected.

The purpose of disseminating this copy is to receive input, if any, from the participants in the closed session, to ensure we included necessary grievances, procedural points, and calls to action. This input is viewed by Uintah County as an extension to the closed session that we held.

**\*\*Please note, any deliberations or changes made by other entities would need to conform with your own specific laws regarding closed sessions and protecting legal strategies. In short, we can keep confidential all information on all topics discussed in closed session, but any of your own deliberations and processes followed to adopt your specific resolution would need to be addressed by your own legal counsel.**

We realize that each entity may want to amend this resolution to your individual needs, however, it is the hope of the Uintah County Commission that changes be minimal so that we can protect the integrity of the resolution and have a clear, concise, message to send to the BLM.

--

Thank you so much for your participation in the very important issue. I am sorry for the delay in getting this out. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

*Tammie*

*Tammie Lucero*  
Uintah County Economic Development  
Executive Director  
152 E 100 N

Vernal, UT 84078  
435.781.6767 (office)  
435-790.0016 (cell)  
435.781.6766 (fax)

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**Kent Borchard**

---

**From:** Ken Parsons  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 01, 2012 4:38 PM  
**To:** Kent Borchard  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up Oil Shale/Sage grouse meeting in Vernal, UT  
**Attachments:** 20120409 resolution #04-09-2012 osts peis - final.docx

Fourth email. Ken P.

---

**From:** Tammie Lucero [mailto:tlucero@uintah.utah.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2012 4:52 PM  
**To:** Tammie Lucero  
**Subject:** Follow-up Oil Shale/Sage grouse meeting in Vernal, UT

Hello everyone.

Uintah County would like to thank you for participating in the oil shale meeting held on March 27, 2012. Because of the hard work and energy of the group, we accomplished great things in passing our united resolutions.

I have attached the most recent copy of the Resolution that was adopted by Uintah County, Utah on April 9th, 2012 in Commission meeting for your review and am requesting that you send me a copy of each of your resolutions that have been passed or will be passed soon.

We will be having a joint press release at 10:00 am to show our unity for the resolutions we have passed and for our support of oil shale in our areas. We would like to use the press to our advantage and feel it is crucial that everyone attend and be prepared to discuss our united position on this issue.

We would like to remind each of you that we will be having a follow-up meeting to discuss sage grouse on April 24, 2012 at 11:00 am.

Below is the schedule for our meetings on April 24th.

10:00am - 10:30 am	Press Release	Uintah County Building, 147 Main Street, Vernal, UT
10:30am - 11:00 am	Break - Drive to mtg.	
11:00am - 3:00 pm (2000 west), Vernal, UT (Lunch will be served)	Meeting	Sunset room/Golden Age Center - 333 S. Aggie Blvd

--

**We anticipate radio, newspaper and television coverage. If any of you have anyone from the press in your areas that you would like to invite, please feel free to do so.**

Please RSVP to Tammie Lucero at [tlucero@uintah.utah.gov](mailto:tlucero@uintah.utah.gov) as soon as possible if you will be attending this meeting.

Tammie Lucero  
Uintah County Economic Development  
Executive Director



152 E 100 N  
Vernal, UT 84078  
435.781.6767 (office)  
435-790.0016 (cell)  
435.781.6766 (fax)

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**UINTAH COUNTY COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION NO. #04-09-2012**

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE BLM'S 2012 OIL SHALE AND TAR SANDS  
DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT,  
BLM PROJECT #WO-300-1310-PP-OSHL (HEREAFTER 2012 OSTTS DPEIS)  
FOR LANDS ADMINISTERED BY THE BLM IN COLORADO, UTAH AND WYOMING**

This Resolution is adopted in open meeting after due opportunity for public comment, by the Board of Commissioners of Uintah County, in order to redress the many violations of law, regulation, and policy by the BLM with respect to the BLM's 2012 OSTTS DPEIS.

**BACKGROUND**

As background to this Resolution, Uintah County recites the following grievanccs:

**WHEREAS**, On April 14, 2011, the BLM caused to be published in the Federal Register, Volume 76, No 72/Thursday, April 14, 2011, pages 21003-21005, a notice of intent to prepare the 2012 OSTTS DPEIS; and

**WHEREAS**, the preliminary purpose and need statement in the notice of intent, states the PEIS will analyze removing from oil shale and tar sands leasing "All areas that the BLM has identified or may identify as a result of inventories conducted during this planning process, as lands containing wildcrness characteristics[.]" Id., at page 21004; and

**WHEREAS**, the notice of intent further states at page 21004:

Lands that the BLM identifies as having wilderness characteristics will be considered during this planning initiative, as described above, and consistent with Secretarial Order No. 3310, dated Dec. 22, 2010, and BLM Manuals 6301 and 6302. Future leasing of lands determined by the BLM to have wilderness characteristics, if compatible with the allocation decisions stemming from this initiative, will subsequently be assessed in accordancc with BLM Manual 6303, as appropriate (i.e., where the BLM has not determined, consistent with BLM Manual 6302, whether the lands with wilderness characteristics at issue should be receive a wild lands designation, BLM Manual 6303 will apply); and

**WHEREAS**, the Purpose and Necd portion of the 2012 OSTTS DPEIS states at page 1-5, lines 14-18:

"In addition, the BLM has recently completed updating its inventory of lands having wilderness characteristics (LWC) in each of the three states for the planning area, and the

status of several areas originally proposed to be Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) in Utah has changed since the preparation of the 2008 OSTs PEIS.”

**WHEREAS**, this language documents the BLM’s intent to implement, administer and/or enforce Secretarial Order 3310 and one or more of the BLM guidance manuals promulgated under Order 3310; and

**WHEREAS**, any attempt by the BLM to implement, administer and/or enforce Secretarial Order 3310, including any effort by the BLM to proceed further on the 2012 OSTs DPEIS, violates the spending moratorium of Section 1769 of the April 21, 2011 Congressional Continuing Resolution to Fund Fiscal Year 2011 through September 30, 2011, which states:

For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, none of the funds made available by this division or any other Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce Secretarial Order No. 3310 issued by the Secretary of the Interior on December 22, 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, this spending moratorium has been carried forward in all subsequent Congressional spending resolutions up to and including the current spending resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2012 OSTs DPEIS, is an admitted attempt by the BLM to implement, administer and/or enforce Secretarial Order 3310 and its policies and objectives, all in violation of the Spending Moratorium of the 2011 Continuing Resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2008 Oil Shale and Tar Sands Programmatic EIS (2008 OSTs PEIS) was required under Section 369 (d) (1) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and was prepared in cooperation with 14 federal, state, and local governmental organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2008 OSTs PEIS was 3 years in the making, and it honored the input of a task force of Governors and other stakeholders as per requirement of the 2005 Energy Policy Act;

**WHEREAS**, the Record of Decision (ROD) for the 2008 OSTs PEIS amended 10 land use plans in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming to make approximately 2 million acres of public lands available for potential leasing and development of oil shale and approximately 430,000 acres available for tar sands leasing. Together with the regulations published in 2006 and 2008 for oil shale and tar sands resources, the 2008 OSTs PEIS and subsequent land use amendments constituted a reasonable and rational establishment of an oil shale and tar sands program as mandated in the Energy Policy Act of 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, the oil shale and tar sands program to which the 2008 OSTs PEIS and related regulations gave birth, was a reasonable response to the fact that oil shale and tar sands resources in the Green River Formation located in northeastern Utah, northwestern Colorado and southwestern Wyoming may reach 9 trillion barrels of oil; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Geological Survey Oil Shale Assessment Team reports the estimated total in-place oil shale resource for the Uinta Basin of Utah to be 1.32 trillion barrels; and

**WHEREAS**, the preferred alternative in the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS drastically shrinks, diminishes and in many areas outright reverses virtually all of the lands made available for Oil Shale and Tar Sands development in 2008, and does so using the same data and science; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS fails to analyze alternative 2b, and the BLM admits as much on pages 2-35 of the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS; and

**WHEREAS**, such a drastic reversal in lands available for Oil Shale and Tar Sands development between the 2008 PEIS and the 2012 preferred alternative, violates regulatory Task Force requirements of certainty for industry and investors; and

**WHEREAS**, such a drastic reversal of lands available for Oil Shale and Tar Sands development in 2008, constitutes a de facto, piece-meal revision of previous BLM Resource Management Plan, in violation of the Section 202 Planning Process under FLPMA;

**WHEREAS**, the preferred alternative in the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS entirely ignores the input of the task force, the cooperating agencies, and the other stakeholders which the 2005 Energy Policy Act directed the BLM to honor and follow; and moreover the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS may well violate various memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with counties, cities and local government coalitions which require the BLM to (1) publish the written input of cooperators who have unresolved disagreements over the substantive elements of the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS, and (2) describe the objectives of the cooperators' land use plans and policies; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS restricts the acreage allotted in the 2008 PWID for research and development leasing;

**WHEREAS**, the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS threatens to arbitrarily undermine the process and the work utilized in creation of the 2008 OSTIS PEIS, and essentially dismantle a reasonable and rational oil shale and tar sands program in violation of Section 369 of the 2005 Energy Policy Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS is the creature of a friendly lawsuit settlement agreement between the BLM and ideological opponents to oil shale development, and is therefore entirely pre-determined and pre-decisional in violation of NEPA, with no apparent rationale for revising the acreages approved in 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, the BLM has settled on a preferred alternative in the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS admittedly without having first analyzed its impacts; BLM should be required to withdraw the preferred status of the alternative until it has performed this analysis; and

**WHEREAS**, the acreage approved for Oil Shale and Tar Sands development in the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS preferred alternative bears no rational relationship to the stated purpose and need;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Energy has basically abdicated the responsibility Congress placed upon it to defend and uphold a viable oil shale energy program in America, leaving it instead to the BLM encumbered by a host of anti-oil shale pre-wilderness groups steering BLM's every move;

**WHEREAS**, the alternative adopted in the ROD of the 2008 OSTTS PEIS is now the No Action Alternative of the 2012 OSTTS DPEIS; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2008 OSTTS PEIS chosen alternative is consistent with the multiple use, sustained yield mandate of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) ; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2008 OSTTS PEIS chosen alternative is consistent with county general plans and policies which call for responsible development of available energy resources, but in stark contrast the 2012 OSTTS DPEIS is plainly inconsistent with State and Local plans and policies, including the Uintah Basin Energy Zone legislation passed in the 2012 Utah Legislature (Senate Bill 83 - SEE UTAH CODE 63J-8-102 & 105.5) and passed by the Uintah County Commission (amendment 8.16 of the Uintah County General Plan), and should the BLM continue with the 2012 OSTTS DPEIS it will need to adequately explain why consistency is not achievable; and

**WHEREAS**, Uintah County has adopted the following into its general plan:

“Further, additional lands in Uintah County should also be approved for full oil shale and/or oil sands leasing and development if they either have a minimum resource thickness of 15 feet, or are estimated to produce a minimum yield of 15/gal of oil per ton of ore. Lands with these minimum resource thicknesses and gallonage yield estimates were approved for oil shale and/or oil sands development in Wyoming within the Green River Formation. Similarly situated resources should be subjected to the same approval process.”

Should the BLM continue with the 2012 OSTTS DPEIS it will need to be to the maximum extent possible consistent with this general plan or adequately explain why consistency is not achievable; and

**WHEREAS**, even prior to 2008, the development and production of oil from oil shale has been proven beyond a doubt to be technologically and economically feasible; and

**WHEREAS**, even prior to 2008, this same technology to extract oil from the oil shale rock is not only economically feasible, but it requires little to no consumption of water, contrary to the myths which falsely claim that oil shale extraction requires large consumption of water resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the energy captured in the extract of oil from shale (natural gas capture, etc.) more than makes up for energy consumed in that extraction process, thus dispelling the myth that the oil shale extraction process consumes more energy than it produces;

**WHEREAS**, the rising price of gasoline, coupled with ever increasing loss of good paying jobs due to the Administration's policies against energy development on western public lands, result in increasing hardships for families and the local economy, to the point where some fear the window of opportunity is about to close for a civil, lawful and orderly response as citizens feel more and more pressured and desperate financially; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS improperly limits technology testing to strictly in situ efforts and does not allow for development of other technologies; and

**WHEREAS**, the BLM has left insufficient time for the public and cooperators to meaningfully comment on the public 2012 OSTIS DPEIS by the present comment deadline of May 4, 2012, because a highly relevant commercial oil shale BLM regulation is not due to be published until May 15, 2012 and the public should have the right to view that regulation first and then submit comments on the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS in light of the regulation; and

**WHEREAS**, the same problems with lack of consistency with local plans and policies and failure to honor the input of cooperators and all stakeholders, also besets many public lands EIS projects, in addition to the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS. The cooperators from Utah and Wyoming have already unanimously requested for the No-Action alternative in the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS become the preferred alternative.

## **RESOLUTION**

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY UINTAH COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH AS FOLLOWS:

1. Uintah County declares the BLM's continuing to administer and carry out the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS, and updating any inventory of lands having wilderness characteristics, to be an open contempt and flaunting of the Congressional Spending Moratorium first imposed in the 2011 Continuing Resolution and carried forward in all subsequent Congressional spending resolutions up to and including the present;
2. Uintah County calls upon the BLM to cease all further activities with respect to administering and carrying out the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS, because doing so constitutes an open contempt and violation of the Congressional Spending Moratorium against implementing, administering and/or enforcing Secretarial Order 3310, which Spending Moratorium was first imposed in the 2011 Continuing Resolution and carried forward in all subsequent Congressional spending resolutions up to and including the present;
3. Uintah County calls upon the BLM to immediately cease and desist all activities related to the 2012 OSTIS DPEIS and immediately publish a revised notice in the Federal Register signifying its cessation of all work on the Programmatic EIS in obedience to the above-quoted Spending Moratorium. Otherwise, the BLM would be in contempt of Congress;

4. Should BLM continue to go forward with the 2012 OSTs DPEIS regardless of these grievances, the only legally, viable alternative would be if the BLM adopted the NO-Action Alternative, which is identical to the Alternative chosen in the ROD of the 2008 OSTs PEIS;

5. Should BLM decide to flagrantly defy Congress and proceed with the 2012 OSTs DPEIS, it is still obligated under FLPMA to be consistent with State and Local plans to the maximum extent possible;

6. The BLM must cease and desist all activities related to the 2012 OSTs DPEIS because even within its own document the Purpose and Need is unsupportable, arbitrary and a blatant show of conformity to a friendly-lawsuit settlement agreement, which falls out of the public process followed in developing the 2008 OSTs PEIS, and the 2012 OSTs DPEIS omits full and proper analysis of economically viable and technologically advanced extraction methods;

7. Should BLM decide to ignore all of the above and proceed, the BLM should extend the May 4, 2012 deadline for public comment on the 2012 OSTs DPEIS at least 30 days after publication of the expected oil shale regulation due to be published on or around May 15, 2012.

8. The BLM should honor the input of cooperators, particularly if they are local governments, as required by Section 202(c)(9) of FLPMA and the relevant terms of the BLM-Cooperator MOUs, in all matters, not just with respect to the 2012 OSTs DPEIS.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Board of County Commissioners of Uintah County Commissioners of Uintah County this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2012.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
UINTAH COUNTY, UTAH

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Darlene Burns, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael W. Wilkins, Clerk/Auditor

**Kent Borchard**

---

**From:** Ken Parsons  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 01, 2012 4:39 PM  
**To:** Kent Borchard  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up Oil Shale/Sage grouse meeting in Vernal, UT

Fifth email. Ken P.

---

**From:** Tammie Lucero [mailto:tlucero@uintah.utah.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2012 8:40 AM  
**To:** Ken Parsons  
**Subject:** Re: Follow-up Oil Shale/Sage grouse meeting in Vernal, UT

Thanks Ken.

How did it go yesterday? I was going to try to make it for support, but I had too many other commitments.

I look forward to seeing you next week.

Have a goo day.

Tammie

On Tue, Apr 17, 2012 at 8:04 AM, Ken Parsons <[KParsons@co.rio-blanco.co.us](mailto:KParsons@co.rio-blanco.co.us)> wrote:  
Tammie:

Just an update from Rio Blanco County. I'm attaching the final, pre-signature copy of our resolution. Although it doesn't have signatures, it is the one we passed yesterday, April 16.

Also, I still plan on attending the Tuesday press conference & meeting but there may be just me or possibly one other commissioner from our county.

Thanks again, Ken P.

---

**From:** Tammie Lucero [mailto:tlucero@uintah.utah.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2012 4:51 PM  
**To:** Tammie Lucero  
**Subject:** Follow-up Oil Shale/Sage grouse meeting in Vernal, UT

Hello everyone.

Uintah County would like to thank you for participating in the oil shale meeting held on March 27, 2012. Because of the hard work and energy of the group, we accomplished great things in passing our united resolutions.

I have attached the most recent copy of the Resolution that was adopted by Uintah County, Utah on April 9th, 2012 in Commission meeting for your review and am requesting that you send me a copy of each of your resolutions that have been passed or will be passed soon.



We will be having a joint press release at 10:00 am to show our unity for the resolutions we have passed and for our support of oil shale in our areas. We would like to use the press to our advantage and feel it is crucial that everyone attend and be prepared to discuss our united position on this issue.

We would like to remind each of you that we will be having a follow-up meeting to discuss sage grouse on April 24, 2012 at 11:00 am.

Below is the schedule for our meetings on April 24th.

10:00am - 10:30 am	Press Release	Uintah County Building, 147 Main Street, Vernal, UT
10:30am - 11:00 am	Break - Drive to mtg.	
11:00am - 3:00 pm	Meeting	Sunset room/Golden Age Center - 333 S. Aggie Blvd
(2000 west), Vernal, UT (Lunch will be served)		

--

We anticipate radio, newspaper and television coverage. If any of you have anyone from the press in your areas that you would like to invite, please feel free to do so.

Please RSVP to Tammie Lucero at [tlucero@uintah.utah.gov](mailto:tlucero@uintah.utah.gov)<<mailto:tlucero@uintah.utah.gov>> as soon as possible if you will be attending this meeting.

Tammie Lucero  
Uintah County Economic Development  
Executive Director  
152 E 100 N  
Vernal, UT 84078  
[435.781.6767](tel:435.781.6767)<<tel:435.781.6767>> (office)  
[435-790.0016](tel:435-790.0016)<<tel:435-790.0016>> (cell)  
[435.781.6766](tel:435.781.6766)<<tel:435.781.6766>> (fax)

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*Tammie Lucero*  
Uintah County Economic Development  
Executive Director  
152 E 100 N  
Vernal, UT 84078  
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435-790.0016 (cell)  
435.781.6766 (fax)

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Kent Borchard

---

**From:** Ken Parsons  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 01, 2012 4:40 PM  
**To:** Kent Borchard  
**Subject:** FW: Follow-up to Sage grouse meeting  
**Attachments:** 2012 OSTC Comment Period Request (2).pdf

Sixth email. Ken P.

---

**From:** Tammie Lucero [mailto:tlucero@uintah.utah.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2012 10:01 AM  
**To:** Irene Hansen; Kirk Wood; Mike Hyde; Rikki Lauren Hrenko; Gary Aho; Diane Coltharp; Darlene Burns; Mark Raymond; Kevin VanTassell; Jonathan Stearmer; J. Mark Ward; Tom Jankovsky; chad@thecountyseat.tv; Laura Nelson; Bonnie Petersen; Rex Sacco; john.jones@carbon.utah.gov; lincoln@thelincolnbrownshow.com; John Nowoslawski; David Allison; Audrey Danner; Kathleen Clarke; Jeff Comstock; tgray@moffatcounty.net; Tom Mathers; Ken Parsons; Kai Turner; Mike McKee  
**Subject:** Follow-up to Sage grouse meeting

Hello everyone,

I just wanted to thank each of you for your participation in our "press conference" followed by our meeting on sage grouse yesterday. I am amazed and happy that we have been able to collaborate so effectively for the good of our states! You are truly wonderful, hardworking people who want to do the right things for the right reasons!! I also wanted to thank each of you for getting me your "Resolutions" so promptly! I believe I am just waiting for one more and then I will have them all. Please let me know if you want copies of all the signed resolutions and I am happy to email them to you.

Below is a copy of an interesting email that Bonnie Petersen sent me. I have also attached a copy of the letter that Club 20 sent to the BLM. Ken Salazar and Bob Abbey asking for an extension of the comment period for the PEIS.

One last thing, as per our discussion yesterday, will all of you please provide input for the sage grouse resolution that Mark Ward will be drafting by Tuesday, May 1st. Any information you submit will be very valuable in moving forward with this endeavor.

I appreciate each of you for taking the time to come to our meetings and look forward to seeing you all soon.

Have a wonderful week!

Tammie

ECCOS Friends,

As you are all no doubt aware ECCOS (Environmentally Conscious Consumers for Oil Shale) is a non-profit grassroots organization with members in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming.

We are not an advocacy group. Instead, our primary goal is educating the public and government officials about both the challenges and vast potential of oil shale. ECCOS believes that given an opportunity Oil Shale development could have a positive impact on our job markets, economy (locally, regionally and nationally) and be a lead path to national energy security and energy independence. We believe that using honesty and facts, not rhetoric and misguided emotional arguments is the key to bringing industry and government together in order to create and regulatory environment that is consistent and positive for all stakeholders.

Unfortunately, not all those with a voice in this debate share our vision.

Please look below. This is an example of what the oil shale industry and those that support it are up against.

P.S.

The mass email below is correct in that comments to the BLM are necessary and due by May 4, 2012.

If you are considering making comments on the PEIS on Tars Sands and Oil Shale please remember to be specific and clear in your comments.

Comments may be submitted by going to <http://ostseis.anl.gov/> and following the links.

For more information please follow/LIKE us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/OilShale> or visit [www.eccos.us](http://www.eccos.us) .

Brad McCloud

Executive Director

Environmentally Conscious Consumers for Oil Shale

1055 Main Street

Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

(970) 241-3008 (office)

(970) 241-3032 (fax)

(970) 250-7988 (cell)

[eccos.oil.shale@gmail.com](mailto:eccos.oil.shale@gmail.com)



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**From:** Tim Wagner, Sierra Club [<mailto:tim.wagner@sierraclub.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 24, 2012 10:05 AM  
**Subject:** Melt the Rockies?

[View a web version of this email.](#)

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Dear

.....

**Big Oil and our local officials are hatching a dirty, dangerous plan to melt the Rocky Mountains.**

As westerners, we all treasure the vastness

**Don't Let Big Oil and Local Officials Melt the Rockies for profit!**

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*Image courtesy of Ecoflight*

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and beauty of the Rocky Mountains. But proponents of oil shale see our public lands, owned by you and me, as nothing more than a cash machine. **It is up to us to stop them!**

Right now, the Bureau of Land Management is considering dramatically reducing the amount of public land available for these dirty fuels. **But Big Oil and our local officials are fighting back.**

**We need to collect 5,000 comments by May 4 to show support for our public lands. We've beaten oil corporations before, and we can do it again -- submit your comment opposing oil shale and tar sands today!**

Producing oil shale requires the strip mining of pristine wildlife habitat and the consumption of millions of gallons of water -- a scarce resource in the American West. Dangerous, experimental technology is used to extract the oil, heating rocks to nearly 1000 degrees to squeeze out tiny amounts. **When we say they want to melt the Rockies, we mean it.**

**Despite these dangers, behind closed doors our county officials in Utah, Wyoming, and Colorado, have been turning up the pro oil shale rhetoric.<sup>1</sup>**

Officials have attacked the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) responsible approach towards development of oil shale and tar sands. They've also been spreading mistruths about the benefits and dangers of oil shale by claiming that it is plentiful, safe and easy to extract, and will create jobs, and strengthen our economy.<sup>2</sup>

**Tell the BLM "Don't let Big Oil melt public land for private profit!"**

**This decision will determine the fate of the West for decades to**

**come, so we can't stand by while local officials hand over millions of acres to speculators and developers.**

The rhetoric is coming fast and furious from county officials and their friends in Big Oil, but together we can make a final push to **prevent our wild lands from becoming industrial wastelands.**

**Send your comments by May 4!**

Thanks for all you do to protect our wild places!

Tim Wagner  
Sierra Club

P.S. We need as many people as possible to take a stand and protect our public lands by May 4. Please share this alert with your friends and family. You can also spread the word on your social networks.

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not specified.**

[1] Resolution Opposing the BLM's Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.

[2] "E. Utah Counties Call On Obama to free up more oil shale lands" The Salt Lake Tribune, April 18, 2012

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Sierra Club  
85 Second St.  
San Francisco, CA 94105

--  
Tammie Lucero  
Uintah County Economic Development  
Executive Director  
152 E 100 N



Vernal, UT 84078  
435.781.6767 (office)  
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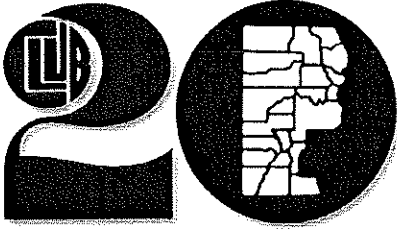
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***“Voice of the Western Slope Since 1953”***  
*A coalition of individuals, businesses and local governments*

www.club20.org  
(970) 242-3264 ★ FAX (970) 245-8300  
P.O. Box 550 ★ Grand Junction, CO 81502-0550

April 13, 2012

BLM Oil Shale and Tar Sands Draft Programmatic EIS  
Argonne National Laboratory  
9700 S. Cass Ave.  
Argonne IL 60439

Ken Salazar, Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington DC 20240

Robert Abbey, Director  
Bureau of Land Management  
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 5665  
Washington DC 20240

**RE: 2012 OSTTS PEIS Comment Period**

Sent via email: Secty. Salazar [scheduling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:scheduling@ios.doi.gov) ; Robert Abbey [Claudia\\_walker@blm.gov](mailto:Claudia_walker@blm.gov)

Dear Secretary Salazar, Director Abbey, et al:

CLUB 20 members are in the process of reviewing the recently published 2012 OSTTS PEIS in order to provide comments on that voluminous document. It is our understanding that the highly relevant commercial Draft BLM Oil Shale Regulation document is not expected to be published until May 15, 2012, well after comments are due on the 2012 OSTTS PEIS.

These two documents outlining impacted areas and development regulations are inextricably tied to one another and our members believe that making comments on one without the benefit of knowing the contents of the other may result in inconsistent and confusing responses, undermine the NEPA process, and interfere with the formation of well-considered public policy. It makes sense that comments should be considered simultaneously on these two important documents. In that light, CLUB 20 respectfully requests that the comment period on the 2012 OSTTS PEIS be extended to at least 90 days past the publication of the Draft BLM Oil Shale Regulations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Petersen  
Executive Director

**Kent Borchard**

---

**From:** Ken Parsons  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 01, 2012 4:40 PM  
**To:** Kent Borchard  
**Subject:** FW: Letter requesting extension  
**Attachments:** 20120426 Letter Requesting Extension to Comment Period on DPEIS.docx

Seventh and final email. Ken P.

---

**From:** Tammie Lucero [<mailto:tlucero@uintah.utah.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2012 2:28 PM  
**To:** Irene Hansen; Kirk Wood; Mike Hyde; Rikki Lauren Hrenko; Gary Aho; Diane Coltharp; Darlene Burns; Mark Raymond; Kevin VanTassell; Jonathan Stearmer; J. Mark Ward; Tom Jankovsky; [chad@thecountyseat.tv](mailto:chad@thecountyseat.tv); Laura Nelson; Bonnie Petersen; Rex Sacco; [john.jones@carbon.utah.gov](mailto:john.jones@carbon.utah.gov); [lincoln@thelincolnbrownshow.com](mailto:lincoln@thelincolnbrownshow.com); John Nowoslawski; David Allison; Audrey Danner; Kathleen Clarke; Jeff Comstock; [tgray@moftatcounty.net](mailto:tgray@moftatcounty.net); Tom Mathers; Ken Parsons; Kai Turner; Mike McKee  
**Subject:** Letter requesting extension

Hello everyone,

Attached is our draft letter requesting an extension period for the DPEIS. It was written through the lens of a cooperating entity so some of you may need to change the language if you do not fall under that category.

We are going to include our approved resolution and any others that have been provided to me. We will be getting ours sent today and I suggest that everyone get their letters in as soon as possible.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

--  
*Tammie Lucero*  
Uintah County Economic Development  
Executive Director  
152 E 100 N  
Vernal, UT 84078  
[435.781.6767](tel:435.781.6767) (office)  
[435-790.0016](tel:435-790.0016) (cell)  
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April 26, 2012

BLM Oil Shale & Tar Sands PEIS  
Argonne National Laboratory  
EVS Division, Building 240  
9700 South Cass Avenue  
Argonne, IL 60439

Ken Salazar, Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington DC 20240

Bob Abbey, Director  
Bureau of Land Management  
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 5665

RE: Request for Extension to Comment Period on Draft BLM Oil Shale & Tar Sands PEIS

Sent via First Class Mail and email: Secretary Ken Salazar [exsec@ios.doi.gov](mailto:exsec@ios.doi.gov);  
Robert Abbey [Director@blm.gov](mailto:Director@blm.gov)

Dear Secretary Salazar, Director Abbey, et all:

On April 9, 2012, Uintah County, Utah passed a resolution opposing the BLM's 2012 Oil Shale and Tar Sands Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (attached hereto with other resolutions from counties in the Tri-State area). As a cooperating agency in this environmental review we respectfully request an extension to the comment period, currently set to expire May 4, 2012. It is our understanding that this request for an extension has also been made, by resolution, by eight other counties, also acting under their cooperator status. Three distinct justifications necessitate this extension.

First, under the friendly-lawsuit settlement agreement the BLM agreed to develop new oil shale regulations. We understand the draft regulations are due to be published on or around May 15, 2012. As a cooperator it is impossible for us to make clear concise comments on the PDEIS until we have the opportunity to understand at least in some detail the scope of these new regulations. Indeed, cooperators run a substantial risk in proffering inconsistent and confusing responses to the DPEIS and any draft regulations; thus, undermining the integrity of NEPA process. Consequently an extension should be granted to at least 30 days after publication of this new oil shale regulation.

Second, the sheer volume of the DPEIS necessitates a time consuming review. As a cooperator, Uintah County requests additional time to vet and analyze the DPEIS. This need becomes even more prominent based on the anticipation of new draft regulations pending publication, for it is extremely difficult to adequately comment on a four volume DPEIS if we do not have all relevant information.

Third, as detailed in the attached Resolution, Uintah County has raised numerous legal challenges to the very process of the BLM taking a "fresh look" at lands available for oil shale and oil sands. Granting an extension will allow the BLM to thoughtfully consider the consequences of continuing down this tenuous political road and give time for the BLM to make the correct decision to cease and desist all actions related to the DPEIS.

We look forward to seeing the requested extension granted. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact Jonathan Stearmer, [jonathan@uintahcountyattorney.org](mailto:jonathan@uintahcountyattorney.org) by email or at 435-781-5432.

Sincerely,

UINTAH COUNTY COMMISSION

cc: Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W.,  
Washington DC 20250  
Tomas Tidwell, Chief US Forest Service, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W.,  
Washington DC 20250  
Harv Forsgren, Regional Forester US Forest Service, 324 25th Street, Ogden, Utah 84401  
Juan Palma, BLM State Director, P.O. Box 45155, Salt Lake City, Utah 84145  
Mark Ward, Utah Assoc. of Counties, 5397 So. Vine Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84107  
Kathleen Clarke, PLPCO, 5110 St. Office Bldg, Box 141107, Salt Lake City, UT 84114