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Black Tail Ridge 12-Well Exploratory Drilling Project Environmental Assessment

DUCHESNE - Bill Barrett Corporation has requested to develop 12 exploratory and development wells on lands owned by the United States and managed by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission (Commission), which is initiating an Environmental Assessment to analyze environmental impacts of the proposal.

The subject lands are located approximately eight miles east of Fruitland, and approximately two miles north of Highway 40. The Commission, a Federal agency created by the Central Utah Project Completion Act of 1992, acquired the lands as mitigation for wildlife impacts caused by construction and operation of the Central Utah Project. Bill Barrett Corporation proposes to construct, operate, and/or maintain supporting infrastructure for the 12 wells, including access roads and production supporting gathering pipelines and power lines within linear development corridors on both Commission and private lands.

The Commission is initiating an Environmental Assessment pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, which requires all Federal agencies to, among other things, assess environmental impacts of actions on Federal lands, consider the environmental impacts in making decisions, and disclose identified impacts to the public. The Commission is soliciting public comments on the proposal from now until January 4, 2013. A Scoping Notice with project description is available through the Commission’s website at www.mitigationcommission.gov, and by request at (801) 524-3168.

