

# U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management



## APPLICATION TO DRILL PROCESS

1. Submittal of a Notice of Staking (NOS) or Application for Permit to Drill (APD) to Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service.
2. Review of NOS or APD. Surface Use Plan of Operations (SUPO) is reviewed by the Forest Service (FS) and Engineering Plan is reviewed by BLM.
3. Forest Service performs NEPA analysis which includes consultation and public involvement. Engineering analysis is performed by BLM. Both agencies communicate how each analysis is progressing or has issues.
4. Forest Service approves Surface Use Plan of Operations. BLM approves permit after receiving Forest Service approval and their conditions/stipulations for drilling on Forest Service property. Operator will follow FS and BLM regulations and conditions/stipulations.

## LIFE OF A WELL PAD

When a well is being drilled, BLM Inspectors inspect the location to ensure Operator's compliance with conditions, stipulations, and regulations. On Forest Service wells, the FS inspects construction of well pad.

After drilling, interim reclamation will take place to reduce the well pad size that was needed for drilling. If the well was a dry hole, then final reclamation will take place.

BLM and FS inspect the well site throughout the life of the well for facility compliance and environmental compliance.

Once a well is deemed to be plugged, BLM inspects plugging procedures and FS inspects final reclamation on FS wells.

### References

[http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/parcels\\_available.html](http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/parcels_available.html)

[http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/nominated\\_parcels.html](http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/nominated_parcels.html)

<http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/0.html>

[http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/leasing\\_instructions.html#Presale](http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/minerals/leasing_instructions.html#Presale)

<http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en.html>