

Blue Diamond Gas Well

Visual Assessment

Project Introduction

Applicant is proposing to drill one exploratory well that would be converted to a production well if oil is located.

The Visual Assessment assumes the well is productive, and evaluates the visual effects of the associated facilities.

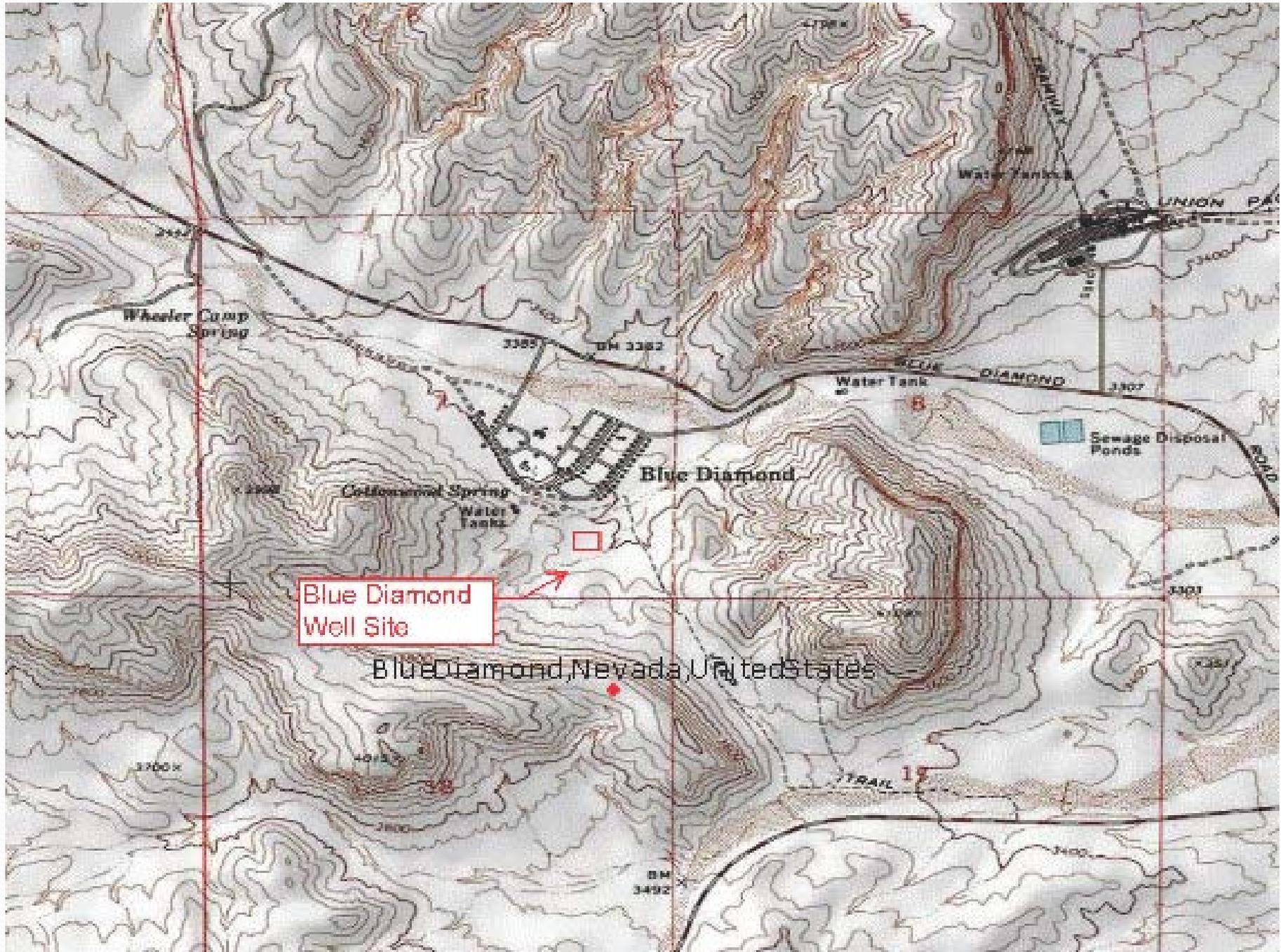
Project Introduction

Applicant is proposing to drill one exploratory well with the potential to convert it into a production well if feasible.

Project is located on BLM lands adjacent to the residential area of Blue Diamond, Nevada.

Blue Diamond
Well Site

Blue Diamond, Nevada, United States



Project Introduction

Applicant is proposing to drill one exploratory well with the potential to convert it into a production well if feasible.

Project is located on BLM lands adjacent to the residential area of Blue Diamond, Nevada.

Blue Diamond is a designated is National Historic District

Project Introduction

Applicant is proposing to drill one exploratory well with the potential to convert it into a production well if feasible.

Project is located on BLM lands adjacent to the residential area of Blue Diamond, Nevada.

Blue Diamond is a designated National Historic District

Proposed site is located approximately 200 ft from Spanish Trail Road

Project Introduction

Applicant is proposing to drill one exploratory well with the potential to convert it into a production well if feasible.

Project is located on BLM lands adjacent to the residential area of Blue Diamond, Nevada.

Blue Diamond is a designated National Historic District

Project site is within the Red Rock National Conservation Area

Proposed site is approximately 200 ft from Spanish Trail Road

Hiking and biking are popular recreational activities along the Spanish Trail

Proposed Facilities

- Production operations would require a 400' x 300' well pad
- Above ground production facilities include a pump, tank battery, heater treater, separator, circulation pump, and flare pit.
- Access road on BLM land will be on Spanish Road and on undisturbed land to well pad
- A 4" pipeline will be installed on the surface to connect the well to a buried line located under Spanish Trail Road

Management Responsibility

- BLM must evaluate all proposed projects to determine project consistency with Visual Resource Management objectives.
- The proposed project site is located on lands managed with VRM Class III objectives.

As defined in BLM Manual H 8410-1 the VRM Class III objective is to:

- Partially retain the existing character of the landscape
- Level of change of the landscape can be moderate
- Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer.
- Change should repeat the basic elements found in the natural landscape

Form-Line-Color-Texture

Key Observation Point

- Views of well site from town, Old Spanish Trail, Highway
- Key Observation Point selected to represent views that trail users would have from Old Spanish Trail
- KOP is at a higher elevation than well site, providing a superior viewpoint that overlooks site





UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: _____
 District/ Field Office: _____
 Resource Area: _____
 Activity (program): _____

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name Blue Diamond Gas Project	4. Location Township_____	5. Location Sketch
2. Key Observation Point Spanish Trail No.1	Range_____	
3. VRM Class Class III	Section_____	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

1. LAND/WATER		2. VEGETATION		3. STRUCTURES	
FORM	Enclosed	Sparse, stippled (Shrubs)	Cylindrical (tank), Rectangular (houses) Linear, vertical	LINE	Horizontal, linear
COLOR	Yellow, Light brown, Tans, Grey	Indistinct, non directional	Linear (poles) Horizontal (power lines) angular	TEXTURE	Moderately Course
TEXTURE	Moderately Course	Grey, yellow-green, medium and light greens	Brown, red, white	FORM	Flat, angular, bold, diagonal, contrasting
FORM	Enclosed	Prickly, scattered, patchy	Smooth, fine	LINE	Vertical Horizontal Linear/straight
LINE	Horizontal, linear	Smooth, fine		COLOR	Tan to light brown Gravel gray
COLOR	Yellow, Light brown, Tans, Grey	Smooth, fine		TEXTURE	Fine, smooth, continuous
TEXTURE	Moderately Course	Smooth, fine		FORM	Flat, angular, bold, diagonal, contrasting

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

1. LAND/WATER		2. VEGETATION		3. STRUCTURES	
FORM	Flat, angular, bold, diagonal, contrasting	Sparse, stippled	Cylindrical, square Angular, geometrical	LINE	Vertical Horizontal Linear/straight
COLOR	Tan to light brown Gravel gray	directional	Bold, irregular, horizontal Curving, complex broken	COLOR	Tan to light brown Gravel gray
TEXTURE	Fine, smooth, continuous	Greens and light green/yellow	Browns and tans, grays	TEXTURE	Fine, smooth, continuous
FORM	Flat, angular, bold, diagonal, contrasting	smooth	Smooth, fine	FORM	Flat, angular, bold, diagonal, contrasting
LINE	Vertical Horizontal Linear/straight	smooth		LINE	Vertical Horizontal Linear/straight
COLOR	Tan to light brown Gravel gray	smooth		COLOR	Tan to light brown Gravel gray
TEXTURE	Fine, smooth, continuous	smooth		TEXTURE	Fine, smooth, continuous

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM X LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST		FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <u> </u> Yes <u> X </u> No (Explain on reverses side) Can meet Class III with mitigation 3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <u> X </u> Yes <u> </u> No (Explain on reverses side)		
		LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)						
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE			
ELEMENTS	FORM	X				X					X				Evaluator's Names _____	Date _____
	LINE		X				X				X					
	COLOR		X				X					X				
	TEXTURE		X				X					X				





Suggested Mitigation To Meet VRM Class III

- Relocate road access
- Relocate pad to lower elevation for better buffer
- Reduce size of pad and eliminate straight edges
- Provide for interim reclamation of pad and road
- Use excavated spoils to create natural visual barriers
- Work with contractor on color of structures
- Stockpile topsoil for future revegetation
- Save vegetation in on-site nursery



Conclusion

- Proposed project would not meet VRM Class III without mitigation due to strong contrast from NHT.
- Concerns of residents and town board is a management concern but is addressed through visual mitigation as much as possible.
- This is a two phase project and requires interim mitigation plan for reclamation.