

Bureau of Land Management  
Department of Defense  
Wind Energy Protocol  
Overview

Michael R. Holbert

BLM Nevada  
Deputy State Director  
Natural Resources, Lands & Planning

# Protocol Purpose & Goal

## History

Protocol approved and signed July 2008

## Purpose

**Improve communication and coordination process** between BLM and DoD in review of proposed wind energy right-of-way (R/W) applications on BLM-administered public lands

## Goal

**Promote long-term wind energy development** on BLM-administered public lands in a manner **compatible with military activities**.

# BLM Commitments

- **Initiate consultation** with DoD when a R/W application is received in areas identified by DoD as **sensitive** from a military standpoint.
- In areas is identified as **critical** by DoD, the BLM District/Field office will **contact** the appropriate DoD **regional** point-of-contact (POC) within **30 days** from receipt of the R/W application and **request** a wind energy **project consultation**.

# DoD Commitments

- DoD Region

- Complete an evaluation of potential impacts to military activities
  - No significant impacts and no further consultation required;
  - Identify significant impacts which can be mitigated and what that mitigation should be; or,
  - Identify significant impacts which cannot be mitigated and recommend against development.

- DoD Headquarters

- Provide GIS mapping data to assist review of R/W applications
- Provide contact information for DoD Headquarters and regions

# BLM Commitments (cont)

- If DoD evaluation identifies **adverse effects** on military actions which **cannot be mitigated**, the following will occur:
  - The DoD evaluation will be **forwarded by District/Field office to BLM's Washington Office within 15 days of receipt.**
  - BLM's **Washington Office will contact DoD headquarters** to request a review of the DoD regional evaluation. DoD Headquarters response is required within 30 days.
  - If applicant doesn't modify or withdraw application, BLM will process the application per BLM protocols.