



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Carson City District – Stillwater Field Office
5665 Morgan Mill Road
Carson City, Nevada 89701-1448

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field.html

In Reply Refer To:
NVN-85168X
3200/1792

February 27, 2012

Dear Reader:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Carson City District, Stillwater Field Office, has completed an environmental assessment (EA) for the *Patua II Geothermal Exploration and Utilization Project* proposed by Gradient Resources, Inc. The EA is available for review for a 30-day public comment period, ending on March 28, 2012.

The proposed geothermal exploration project is located just east of Fernley, and approximately 15 miles west of Fallon, Nevada. The proposed project and associated access roads are on lands managed by the BLM and the Bureau of Reclamation. This EA analyzes potential impacts from the proposed exploration and utilization activities proposed by Gradient. The primary objective of the project is to further evaluate the characteristics of the geothermal resources in the Patua II Project area and develop a geothermal power plant. The proposed activities include:

- Constructing new access roads,
- Upgrading existing access roads,
- Constructing up to 19 well pads,
- Drilling and completing slim wells and/or exploration wells, flow testing exploration wells to determine commercial potential,
- Construction of a new nominal 60 MW net power plant

A copy of this EA is available at:

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field/blm_information/nepa.html

Please send written comments to: Steve Kramer, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, Stillwater Field Office, 5565 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, NV 89701. Comments may also be received via email at skramer@blm.gov and should include "Patua II" in the subject line. A hardcopy can be provided upon request. A copy of the EA is also available in the Carson City District BLM office during the comment period.

Public comments submitted for this proposed project, including names and addresses of those who commented will be available for public review at the Carson City District BLM office during regular business hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment-including your personal information- may be publicly available at any time. While you ask us in your comment to withhold personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. After the public review period has ended, comments will be analyzed and considered part of the decision-making process. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Kramer at (775) 885-6005 or at the above address.

Sincerely,


Teresa J. Knutson
Manager, Stillwater Field Office