



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101

Reply to  
Attn Of: OWW-130

JAN 08 2007

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)**

To all interested government agencies,  
public groups, and individuals:

In accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) procedures for complying with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 40 CFR Part 6, Subpart F, EPA has completed an environmental review of the following proposed action:

**Granting Coverage under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Facilities Related to Oil and Gas Extraction on the North Slope of the Brooks Range, Alaska**  
**to Pioneer Natural Resources, Inc. Oooguruk Development Project,**  
**authorizing discharges of combined sanitary wastewater and graywater wastewater to open waters of the Beaufort Sea, off the North Slope of Alaska**

EPA's Proposed Action is to grant coverage, under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Facilities Related to Oil and Gas Extraction on the North Slope of Alaska, General Permit No. AKG -33-0000 (General Permit), to the above-referenced new source development and production project. The General Permit specified requirements, including effluent limitations, monitoring provisions and other conditions applicable to this operation.

This FONSI is based on information presented in the *Environmental Assessment for EPA's NPDES Coverage of the Oooguruk Development Project Discharging to Waters of the Beaufort Sea, Alaska* (EPA, January 2007) and the *NPDES General Permit for Facilities Related to Oil and Gas Extraction on the North Slope of the Brooks Range, Alaska* (EPA, January 2, 2004). The EPA Environmental Assessment (EA) includes supplemental information from the *Permit Evaluation and Decision Document, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District* and the *Environmental Evaluation Document for the Oooguruk Development Project and Project Updates, Oooguruk Development Project* prepared by Pioneer Natural Resources, Inc.

The EA presents information specific to the General Permit, EPA's proposed action, purpose and need, alternatives, project wastewater discharges, and mitigation measures. The EA, which incorporates by reference the Corps of Engineers *Permit Evaluation and Decision Document*, addresses the overall environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of the proposed project and conforms to the EPA's applicable NEPA regulatory guidelines.

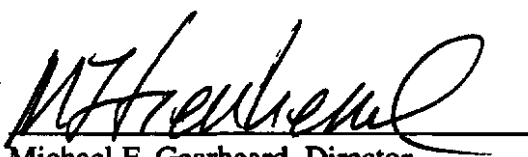
In accordance with the guidelines for determining the significance of proposed federal actions (40 CFR 1508.27) and EPA criteria for initiating an environmental impact statement (EIS) (40 CFR 6.509), EPA has concluded that the proposed action, coverage under the General Permit as described in the EA, will not result in a significant effect on the human environment. The action will not significantly affect endangered species, essential fish habitat, air quality, water quality, ecologically critical areas, nor will it conflict with local or state land use plans or policies. The proposal conforms with all applicable federal and state statutes and executive orders. Therefore, an EIS is not required and will not be prepared.

Comments supporting or disagreeing with this FONSI may be submitted, within 30 days of the date of the public notice of this FONSI, to the following address for consideration:

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Sixth Avenue, OWW-130  
Seattle, WA 98101  
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Additional copies of the EA and FONSI can be obtained by calling Hanh Shaw at (206) 553-0171 or sending an email to [shaw.hanh@epa.gov](mailto:shaw.hanh@epa.gov). The documents are also available from the EPA Alaska Operations Office, Room 537, 222 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in Anchorage, or are available for public review on EPA's website at [www.epa.gov/r10earth/water/npdes.htm](http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/water/npdes.htm).

No administrative action will be taken for at least 30 days after the release of this FONSI. EPA will fully consider all comments before taking final action.

  
Michael F. Gearheard, Director  
Office of Water and Watersheds