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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R2-ES-2015-N054; FXES11130200000-156-FF02ENEH00]

Receipt of Incidental Take Permit Applications for Participation in the Oil and Gas **Industry Conservation Plan for the American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma** 

**AGENCY**: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION**: Notice of availability; request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** Under the Endangered Species Act, as amended (Act), we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on incidental take permit applications for take of the federally listed American burying beetle resulting from activities associated with the geophysical exploration (seismic) and construction, maintenance, operation, repair, and decommissioning of oil and gas well field infrastructure within Oklahoma. If approved, the permits would be issued under the approved Oil and Gas

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Industry Conservation Plan Associated with Issuance of Endangered Species Act Section 10(a)(1)(B) Permits for the American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma (ICP).

**DATES**: To ensure consideration, written comments must be received on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES**: You may obtain copies of all documents and submit comments on the applicant's ITP applications by one of the following methods. Please refer to the specific permit number when requesting documents or submitting comments.

- U.S. Mail: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Endangered Species—
  HCP Permits, P.O. Box 1306, Room 6034, Albuquerque, NM 87103.
- o *Electronically:* fw2\_hcp\_permits@fws.gov.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**: Marty Tuegel, Branch Chief, by U.S. mail at Environmental Review, P.O. Box 1306, Room 6034, Albuquerque, NM 87103; or by telephone at 505–248–6651.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### Introduction

Under the Endangered Species Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*; Act), we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on incidental take permit (ITP) applications for take of the federally listed American burying beetle (*Nicrophorus* 

americanus) resulting from activities associated with geophysical exploration (seismic) and construction, maintenance, operation, repair, and decommissioning of oil and gas well field infrastructure within Oklahoma. If approved, the permits would be issued to the applicants under the *Oil and Gas Industry Conservation Plan Associated with Issuance of Endangered Species Act Section 10(a)(1)(B) Permits for the American Burying Beetle in Oklahoma* (ICP). The ICP was made available for comment on April 16, 2014 (79 FR 21480), and approved on May 21, 2014 (publication of the FONSI notice was on July 25, 2014; 79 FR 43504). The ICP and the associated environmental assessment/finding of no significant impact are available on the website at http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/oklahoma/ABBICP. However, we are no longer taking comments on these documents.

# **Applications Available for Review and Comment**

We invite local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies, and the public to comment on the following applications under the ICP, for incidental take of the federally listed ABB. Please refer to the appropriate permit number (e.g., TE–123456), listed below, when requesting application documents and when submitting comments. Documents and other information the applicants have submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

## Permit TE-60265B

Applicant: American Energy-Woodford, LLC, Oklahoma City, OK.

Applicant requests a new permit for oil and gas upstream and midstream production, including geophysical exploration (seismic) and construction, maintenance, operation, repair, and decommissioning of oil and gas well field infrastructure, as well as construction, maintenance, operation, repair, decommissioning, reclamation of oil and gas gathering, transmission, and distribution pipeline infrastructure within Oklahoma.

# Permit TE-60264B

Applicant: Phillips 66 Pipeline Company, Houston, TX.

Applicant requests a new permit for oil and gas upstream and midstream production, including geophysical exploration (seismic) and construction, maintenance, operation, repair, and decommissioning of oil and gas well field infrastructure, as well as construction, maintenance, operation, repair, decommissioning, reclamation of oil and gas gathering, transmission, and distribution pipeline infrastructure within Oklahoma.

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**Public Availability of Comments** 

Written comments we receive become part of the public record associated with

this action. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other

personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire

comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly

available at any time. While you can request in your comment that we withhold your

personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be

able to do so. We will not consider anonymous comments. All submissions from

organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as

representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for

public disclosure in their entirety.

**Authority** 

We provide this notice under section 10(c) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and

its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.22) and the National Environmental Policy Act

(42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: March 17, 2015

Benjamin N. Tuggle

Regional Director, Southwest Region

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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