Managing Oil and Natural Gas Development on U. S. Federal Lands and Federal Mineral Estate

Ground Water Protection Council

2012 UIC Conference

U. S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management – www.blm.gov
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Hydraulic Fracturing

- During the last 10 to 15 years, leasing and exploration activities on BLM managed public lands has focused mainly on development of natural gas resources

- 90% gas exploration and development

- 10% oil development
  - This percentage may increase with continued rapid development of the Bakken formation in North Dakota and Montana

- 90% of all new wells hydraulically fractured as part of the initial completion operations
Hydraulic Fracturing
Current BLM Regulations

43 CFR 3162.3–2 Subsequent Well Operations

43 CFR 3162.5-2 Control of Wells

43 CFR 3160 – Orders Number 1 and 2 - Well Integrity and Drilling Plan
Well Stimulation
BLM Regulatory Considerations

• Public disclosure of chemicals used in well stimulations (fracking)

• Improving assurances on well-bore integrity

• Water management plan for fluids that flow back to the surface