

Thank you for your comment, Larry Vance.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is OSTSD00001.

Comment Date: February 25, 2008 00:00:00AM

Oil Shale and Tar Sands

Comment ID: OSTSD00001

First Name: Larry

Middle Initial:

Last Name: Vance

Organization: Earth Search Sciences

Address:

Address 2:

Address 3:

City:

State:

Zip:

Country:

Email:

Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Attachment: OSTSD_00001.pdf

Comment Submitted:

[See Attachment.](#)



To: Sherri Thompson
Bureau of Land Management
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield Street
Lakewood, CO 80215
Phone: (303) 239-3758

From: Larry Vance, CEO, Earth Search Sciences

Re: Oil Shale and Tar Sands Resources Leasing Programmatic EIS

Ms. Thompson,

I am very pleased to see the BLM undertaking this PEIS and pursuing additional fact finding in its wake. I firmly believe there is an opportunity to add significantly to our domestic oil reserves by tapping into our vast oil shale resources. What's more, Earth Search Sciences is on the cusp of offering a means of extracting those resources with the least possible impact on the environment.

During the past decade, we have seen and experienced stark challenges to energy policy and development. Foreign demand for oil has increased exponentially, placing unprecedented strain on the supply chain. At the same time, the U.S. has been forced to reevaluate long-standing relationships with its oil trading partners as a means of ensuring our national security.

Simultaneously, the emergence of an environmental consciousness in this country has gained traction beyond the "cause du jour" to become a well-established impetus behind America's pursuit of alternative energy sources.

However, one thing has not changed: America's need for a steady flow of oil resources. While alternative fuels present us with interesting options, further review of many new technologies renders them non-viable over time. More viable alternative sources are still years from becoming mainstream, both economically and technologically. In the short term, our dependence on traditional petroleum resources shows no signs of abating. As such, it will be necessary to strengthen America's domestic oil reserves until new technologies evolve and allow us to steadily transition into a more diverse and sustainable energy economy.

In my view, exploitation of domestic oil reserves will soon become an imperative. However, I also believe any identified domestic resource – no matter how vast or accessible – must be responsibly extracted with minimal environmental impact. Oil shale extraction has, in the past, produced dire environmental consequences. Those past forays into oil shale extraction have not been forgotten and continue influencing the reticence for pursuing this resource.

Petro Probe, Inc. – a subsidiary of Earth Search Sciences, Inc. – is an emerging technology petroleum company that focuses on the use of cost-effective and environmentally-responsible technology to search for and produce hydrocarbon products. Our processes produce the least possible environmental impact, use no water and release virtually no gas byproducts as a result of its extraction process. In short, we strive for a “zero footprint” standard, while being both efficient and cost-effective.

All extraction is performed in-situ, using super-heated air to bring hydrocarbons to the surface. Most importantly, this is a self-sustaining system: effluent gas is transferred into a condenser where it is allowed to expand and cool; gaseous fraction is separated from liquid fraction and scrubbed to provide an upgraded synthesis gas; a portion of this upgraded gas is recycled and combined with other recycled feed stocks to create continuous fueling within the combustor. In addition, four value-added products result from the process: hydrogen; 45 gravity condensate; 1000 BTU methane gas, and water. Finally, we ensure the process is environmentally sensitive: CO₂ produced during the process is compressed, then pumped back into the body of oil shale where it remains and all physical facilities necessary for extraction and collection are portable with post-extraction land reclamation factored into the entire process.

There are several other components of this process which set it apart from others on the market claiming an environmentally friendly point of difference, including our zero-impact method of identifying target extraction locations. For the purpose of this letter, however, I feel it is more important to highlight how Petro Probe can be invaluable in making oil shale extraction a reality without the traditional environmental side effects.

Again, let me congratulate the BLM on taking this step towards creating energy independence for America by engaging in this PEIS and for allowing us the opportunity to express our sincere interest in ensuring this resource contributes towards an energy-independent America, without sacrificing the natural splendor of our public lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry Vance". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Larry Vance
CEO and Founder
Earth Search Sciences

Contact: Larry Vance: (406) 751-5200; lvance@earthsearch.com