APPENDIX B

SCOPING LETTER AND RESPONSE LETTERS FROM RECIPIENTS

Department of Energy
Golden Field Office
1617 Cole Boulevard
Golden, Colorado 80401-3393

April 10, 2002

DISTRIBUTION LIST

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PUBLIC AND AGENCY COMMENTS ON SITE-WIDE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE PROPOSED OPERATION AND IMPROVEMENTS AT THE NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY'S SOUTH TABLE MOUNTAIN SITE.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), will be preparing a site-wide environmental assessment (EA) of proposed operations and improvements at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL) South Table Mountain site near Golden, Colorado. NREL is a federally owned, contractor-operated research facility that supports renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. A detailed description of the site and the Proposed Action are included in the attachment to this letter. DOE is the lead agency for this EA, and other federal, state, and local agencies are invited to participate in the environmental documentation process. DOE is requesting public input on the proposed NEPA process, proposed actions and alternatives, and the environmental issues to be addressed in the EA.

DOE plans to distribute the draft EA for public review and comment by October 2002. This letter and the draft EA, when it is available, will be posted as it becomes available on the DOE Golden Field Office electronic reading room at www.golden.doe.gov.

Please direct your written and oral comments to:

Steve Blazek
NEPA Compliance Officer
DOE Golden Field Office
1617 Cole Boulevard
Golden, CO 80401-3393
(303) 275-4723
(303) 275- 4788 (fax)
steve_blazek@nrel.gov :

Please provide your input on or before May 15, 2002. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

John Kersten, Acting Manager

Attachment: As Stated

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PURPOSE AND NEED

A Site-Wide EA for the STM and the 3 buildings at the eastern end of the DWOP was prepared in 1993. In accordance with DOE NEPA implementing regulations (10 CFR section 1021.330), DOE is required to evaluate existing Site-Wide EAs periodically to determine whether they adequately address current agency plans, functions, programs and resource utilization. Based on current program priorities, applicable regulatory processes, and new research and development proposals, DOE has determined that a new comprehensive EA should be prepared for these sites at this time.

This Site-Wide EA will provide an opportunity to review the collective potential effects of existing and proposed facilities and operations at the STM and DWOP sites. The purpose and need for the Proposed Action is to operate the sites with new and improved capability to support DOE's mission to research and develop renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies.

PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

The following presents a summary of the current Proposed Action and No Action alternative descriptions. Other alternatives raised during the scoping period will be considered and may be addressed in the EA if they are consistent with the Proposed Action purpose and need.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is to continue operation of the STM and DWOP sites for alternative energy research with new and improved capability. New construction would include permanent physical improvements to the sites that involve buildings and equipment, utilities and other infrastructure. The Proposed Action also consists of expanded activities not requiring new permanent facilities or infrastructure, including research programs, facility operations, management practices and maintenance activities.

The components of the Proposed Action are addressed according to two implementation periods:

Short-Term (2003-2007)
Long-Term (2008-2022)

Federal budgeting decisions and fluctuating priorities will determine which components of the proposed actions are selected for funding and implementation. Thus, the specific physical requirements and locations of proposed facilities as well as their actual construction schedules are uncertain for most short-term and long-term components. In many cases, the descriptions of the improvements will be in general terms and the locations and schedules for components will be estimated based on currently available information. If implemented, these potential scenarios could change to involve more or less development. Therefore, the EA will use a "bounding analysis" approach to consider the full range of possible development scenarios.

Short-Term Components (2003-2007)

The Short-Term improvement program includes components for both the STM site and the DWOP site, but most of the physical improvements will occur at the STM site. The following improvements define the short-term components of the Proposed Action:

ENVIRONMENTAL TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED

The proposed EA will address primary, direct, indirect, secondary and cumulative impacts of the Proposed Action and alternatives. Beneficial and adverse, on-site and off-site, construction, demolition, and operation and maintenance impacts will be discussed, as appropriate. The environmental topics to be discussed in the EA include:

Land Use, Planning, Socioeconomics and Public Policy
Traffic and Circulation
Air Quality and Noise
Visual Quality/Aesthetics
Water Resources
Soils and Geology
Biological Resources
Cultural Resources
Waste Management
Public Facilities, Services and Utilities
Energy

SCHEDULE

The schedule for key milestones to complete the NEPA review process is:

Close of Scoping Period	May 15, 2002
Public Distribution of the Draft EA	October 2002

No formal public scoping meeting is currently planned for this project. This letter and the draft EA, when it is available, will be posted on the Golden Field Office electronic reading room at http://www.golden.doe.gov.

Please direct written and oral comments to:

Steve Blazek
NEPA Compliance Officer
DOE Golden Field Office
1617 Cole Boulevard
Golden, CO 80401-3393
(303) 275-4723
(303) 275- 4788 (fax)
steve_blazek@nrel.gov

FIGURES:

Figure 1 Regional Location Map, South Table Mountain Site
Figure 2 Local Setting Map, South Table Mountain Site
Figure 3 Site Plan, South Table Mountain Site

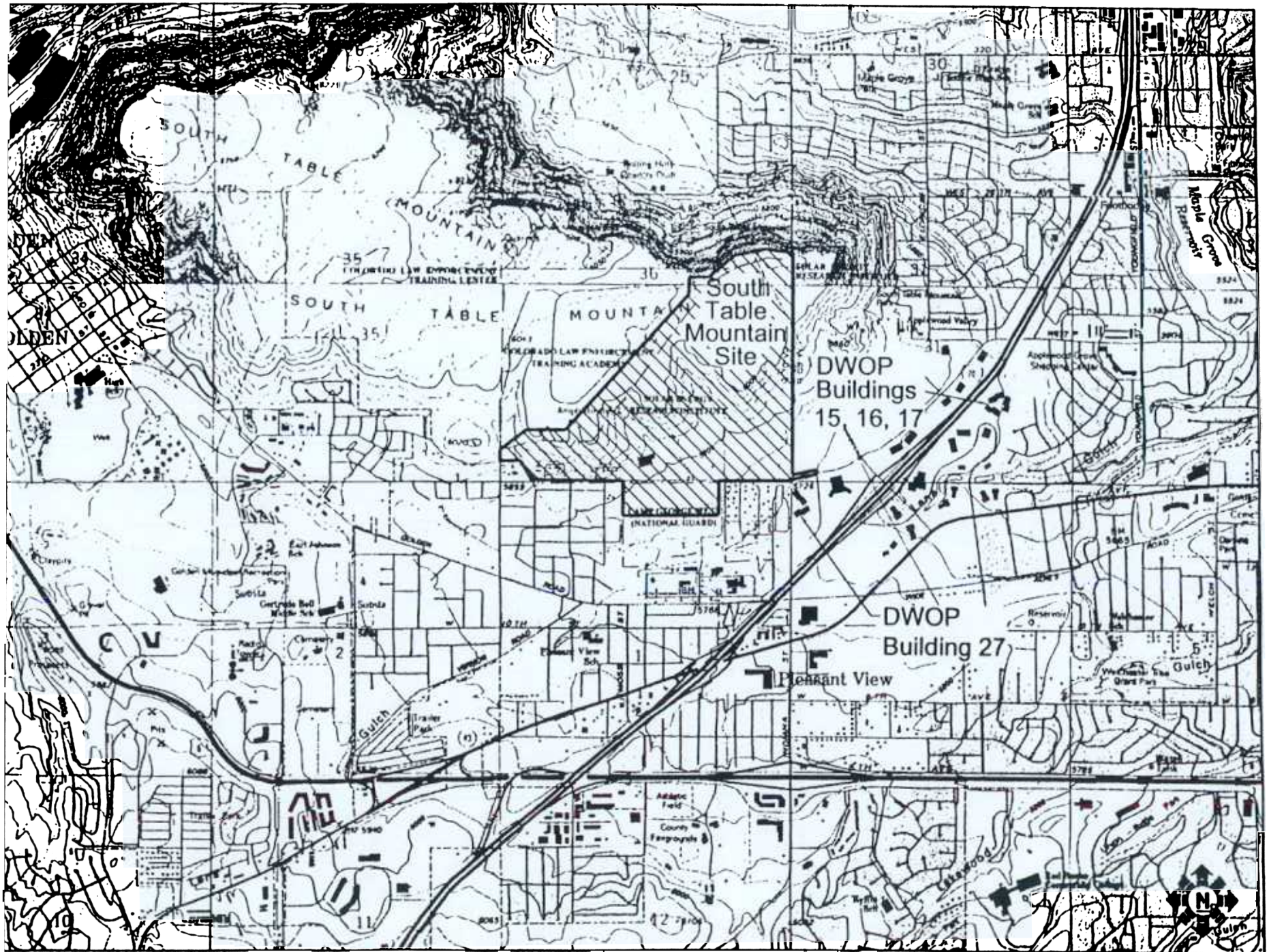

Figure 2. Local Setting Map, South Table Mountain Site

Board of County Commissioners

Michelle Lawrence
District No. 1
Patricia B. Holloway
District No. 2
Richard M. Sheehan
District No. 3

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May 14, 2002

Steve Blazek
NEPA Compliance Officer
1617 Cole Boulevard
Golden, CO 80401-3393

Re: Proposed Operation and Improvements at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's South Table Mountain Site.
Case Number 020150510RP1

Review of the materials provided yielded the following comments:

Current Planning:
Development in this area should be compatible with the goals and objectives outlined in the *Jefferson County General Land Use Plan* and the *Jefferson County Zoning Resolution.* We would like to have the opportunity to review the Environmental Assessment in draft format. County planning staff review proposals against the appropriate community plan, applicable zoning requirements, and county policy. This review will be much more helpful when specific sites and structures are identified. Please contact Michael Smyth at 303.271.8719 with any questions.

Engineering Geologist:
The scope listed the soils and geology that will be considered in the EA, therefore, the potential for swelling soils and slope failure complex should be addressed. Please call Pat O'Connell at 303.271.8707 with any questions on geology.

Planning Engineering:
Planning Engineering has reviewed the proposal and has no comments at this time. We would like to provide further comment with the site expansion design when available. Please call Brad Sheehan at 303.271.8488 with any planning engineering questions.

Zoning Administrator:
I have reviewed the referral for the scope of the Environmental Assessment for the NREL facility. I don't find any immediate issues with the proposed short term

and long term proposed actions, The area in question is zoned A-2 and falls within the jurisdiction of Jefferson County. Any development may be subject to a Site Approval process, and the applicable permits obtained for any projects undertaken. Please contact Michael Chadwick at 303.271.8704 with any questions.

Jefferson County Health Department:
The scope of the proposed Environmental Assessment for this property appears to be appropriate. We would expect that the air quality component would include a discussion on odors.

Mindi Ramig, REHS
Environmental Health Services Division
Department of Health and Environment
mramig@co.jefferson.co.us
303.271.5736
303.271.5760

Long Range Planning:
Current Zoning and Land Use of Surrounding Properties: The property is currently zoned A2 and is in the Camp George West area.

Community Plan Recommendations:
It appears that the Denver West Office Park sites are within the incorporated boundaries of the City of Lakewood.

The South Table Mountain Site is subject to the recommendations in *The General Land Use Plan.* It is in the Camp George West Area. Although no specific recommendations are provided for this area, combined access, buffering from adjacent residential should be considered.

Recommendations and Comments:

- This referral should be sent to the City of Lakewood for comment on the Denver West Office Park.
- Specific comments can be provided once a site plan is submitted.
- Community/public input should be obtained. A site plan showing specific improvements should be provided for the public.

Please contact Kate Newman at 303.271.8735 with any questions on Long Range comments.

Open Space:
Open Space was concerned that the contractual and use issues expressed in the Conservation Easement agreements are protected.
Please contact Mark Hearon at 303.271.8772 with any questions on open space.

I am acting as the case manager for this review. Please call me at 303.271.8719 with any questions you have regards the process or county documents.

Sincerely,

Michael Smyth, AICP
Planner
Planning and Zoning Department
100 Jefferson County Parkway, Suite 3550
Golden, CO 80419

cc: Preston Gibson
Current Planning Administrator
Planning and Zoning
100 Jefferson Parkway, Suite 3550
Golden, CO 80419-3550

Nanette Neelan
Special Projects Coordinator
County Administrator's Office
100 Jefferson Parkway, Suite 3550
Golden, CO 80419-3550

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Ecological Services
Colorado Field Office
755 Parfet Street, Suite 361
Lakewood, Colorado 80215

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IN REPLY REFER TO:
ES/CO: Species List
Mail Stop 65412

APR 1 9 2002

John Kersten
Department of Energy
1617 Cole Boulevard
Golden, Colorado 80401

RE: Proposed operation and improvements at the national renewable energy laboratory's south table mountain site near Golden, Colorado

Dear Mr. Kersten

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received your letter dated April 10, 2002, regarding the proposed operation and improvements at the national renewable energy laboratory's south table mountain site near Golden, Colorado

For your convenience, we have enclosed a list of Colorado's threatened and endangered species, as well as the counties in which they are known to occur. We cannot provide site-specific details.

If questions regarding the presence of an endangered species, the extent of its habitat, or the effects of a particular action need to be resolved, the Service recommends that a knowledgeable consultant be contacted to conduct habitat assessments, trapping studies, or to provide recommendations regarding options under the Endangered Species Act. Due to staffing constraints, the Colorado Field Office cannot provide you with these services.

If you have any further questions, please call my office at (303) 275-2370.

Sincerely,

LeRoy W. Carlson
Colorado Field Supervisor

Enclosure: Species List

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
Colorado Field Office

(Effective August 21, 2001)

FEDERALLY LISTED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES & THEIR STATUS IN COLORADO

COUNTIES→	ADAMS	ALAMOSA	ARAPAHOE	ARCHULETA	BACA	BENT	BOULDER	CHAFFEE	CHEYENNE	CLEAR CREEK	CONEJOS	COSTILLA	CROWLEY	CUSTER	DELTA
Bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, Listed Threatened	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eskimo curlew, *Numenius borealis*, Listed Endangered	✓				✓		✓							✓	
Gunnison sage-grouse, *Centrocercus minimus*, Candidate for Listing		✓		✓				✓			✓	✓			✓
Least tern (interior population), *Sterna antillarum*, Listed Endangered					✓	✓									
Lesser prairie chicken, *Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*, Candidate for Listing					✓	✓			✓				✓		
Mexican spotted owl, *Strix occidentalis lucida*, Listed Threatened	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus*, Proposed Threatened	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓				✓		
Piping plover, *Charadrius melodus*, Listed Threatened					✓	✓									
Southwestern willow flycatcher, *Empidonax trailli extimus*, Listed Endangered		✓		✓							✓	✓			✓
Whooping crane, *Grus americana*, Listed Endangered	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓							✓	
Yellow-billed cuckoo, *Coccyzus americanus*, Candidate for Listing		✓		✓							✓	✓			✓
Black-footed ferret, *Mustela nigripes*, Listed Endangered	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓
Black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus*, Candidate for Listing	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓				✓		
Canada lynx, *Lynx canadensis*, Listed Threatened		✓		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Preble's meadow jumping mouse, *Zapus hudsonius preblei*, Listed Threatened	✓		✓				✓								
Boreal toad, *Bufo boreas boreas*, Candidate for Listing				✓			✓	✓		✓	✓				✓

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
Colorado Field Office

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FEDERALLY LISTED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES & THEIR STATUS IN COLORADO
1

COUNTIES→	ADAMS	ALAMOSA	ARAPAHOE	ARCHULETA	BACA	BENT	BOULDER	CHAFFEE	CHEYENNE	CLEAR CREEK	CONEJOS	COSTILLA	CROWLEY	CUSTER	DELTA	I E N V I
Arkansas darter, *Etheostoma cragini*, Candidate for Listing					✓	✓			✓				✓			
Bonytail, *Gila elegans*, (presumed-historical) Listed Endangered															✓	
Colorado pikeminnow, *Ptychocheilus lucius*, Listed Endangered				*											⊙	
Greenback cutthroat trout, *Oncorhynchus clarki stomias*, Listed Threatened							✓			✓				✓		
Humpback Chub, *Gila cypha*, Listed Endangered															✓	
Pallid sturgeon, *Scaphirhynchus albus*, Listed Threatened	*		*				*			*						
Razorback sucker, *Xyrauchen texanus*, Listed Endangered				*											⊙	
Clay-loving wild buckwheat, *Eriogonum pelinophilum*, Listed Endangered															✓	
Colorado butterfly plant, *Gaura neomexicana* ssp. *coloradensis*, Listed Threatened	✓		✓				✓									
Uinta Basin hookless cactus, *Sclerocactus glaucus*, Listed Threatened															✓	
Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly, *Boloria acrocnema*, Listed Endangered								✓								
Ute ladies'-tresses, *Spiranthes diluvialis*, Listed Threatened	✓		✓				✓									

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Ecological Services
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FEDERALLY LISTED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES & THEIR STATUS IN COLORADO

COUNTIES →	DOLORES	DOUGLAS	EAGLE	ELBERT	EL PASO	FREMONT	GARFIELD	GILPIN	GRAND	GUNNISON	HINSDALE	HUERFANO	JACKSON	JEFFERSON	KIOWA	KIT CARSON
Bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, Listed Threatened	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eskimo curlew, *Numenius borealis*, Listed Endangered				✓			✓							✓	✓	✓
Gunnison sage-grouse, *Centrocercus minimus*, Candidate for Listing	✓		✓				✓			✓						
Least tern (interior population), *Sterna antillarum*, Listed Endangered															✓	
Lesser prairie chicken, *Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*, Candidate for List															✓	
Mexican spotted owl, *Strix occidentalis lucida*, Listed Threatened	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓		
Mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus*, Proposed Threatened		✓		✓	✓							✓	✓		✓	✓
Piping plover, *Charadrius melodus*, Listed Threatened															✓	✓
Southwestern willow flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii extimus*, Listed Endangered	✓						✓			✓						
Whooping crane, *Grus americana*, Listed Endangered				✓								✓				
Yellow-billed cuckoo, *Coccyzus americanus*, Candidate for Listing	✓		✓				✓		✓	✓	✓					
Black-footed ferret, *Mustela nigripes*, Listed Endangered	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus*, Candidate for Listing		✓		✓	✓	✓						✓		✓	✓	✓
Canada lynx, *Lynx canadensis*, Threatened	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Preble's meadow jumping mouse, *Zapus hudsonius preblei*, Listed Threatened		✓		✓	✓									✓		
Arkansas darter, *Etheostoma cragini*, Candidate for Listing				✓	✓	✓						✓			✓	
Bonytail, *Gila elegans*, (presumed-historical) Listed Endangered	*		*				✓		*	*	*					
Colorado pikeminnow, *Ptychocheilus lucius*, Listed Endangered	*		*				o		*	*	*					
Greenback cutthroat trout, *Oncorhynchus clarki stomias*, Listed Threatened		✓			✓							✓				

Humpback Chub, *Gila cypha*, Listed Endangered	*		*				✓		*	*	*					

COUNTIES→

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
Colorado Field Office

(Effective August 21, 2001)

FEDERALLY LISTED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES & THEIR STATUS IN COLORADO

	DOLORES	DOUGLAS	EAGLE	ELBERT	EL PASO	FREMONT	GARFIELD	GILPIN	GRAND	GUNNISON	HINSDALE	HUERFANO	JACKSON	JEFFERSON	KIOWA	K
Pallid sturgeon, *Scaphirhynchus albus*, Listed Threatened		*											*	*		
Razorback sucker, *Xyrauchen texanus*, Listed Endangered	*		*				●		*	*	*					
Pawnee montane skipper, *Hesperia leonardus montana*, Listed Threatened		✓												✓		
Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly, *Boloria acrocnema*, Listed Endangered	✓		✓							✓	✓					
Boreal toad, *Bufo boreas boreas*, Candidate for Listing	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Colorado butterfly plant, *Gaura neomexicana* ssp. *coloradensis*, Listed Threatened		✓			✓									✓		
De Beque phacelia, *Phacelia submutica*, Candidate for Listing							✓									
North Park phacelia, *Phacelia formosula*, Listed Endangered													✓			
Osterhout milkvetch, *Astragalus osterhoutii*, Listed Endangered									✓							
Parachute beardtongue, *Penstemon debilis*, Candidate for Listing							✓									
Penland beardtongue, *Penstemon penlandii*, Listed Endangered									✓							
Slender moonwort, *Botrychium lineare*, Candidate for Listing					✓											
Uinta Basin hookless cactus, *Sclerocactus glaucus*, Listed Threatened							✓									
Ute ladies'-tresses, *Spiranthes diluvialis*, Listed Threatened		✓			✓									✓		

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FEDERALLY LISTED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES & THEIR STATUS IN COLORADO

COUNTIES →	LAKE	LA PLATA	LARIMER	LAS ANIMAS	LINCOLN	LOGAN	MESA	MINERAL	MOFFAT	MONTEZUMA	MONTROSE	MORGAN	OTERO	OURAY	PARK
Bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, isted Threatened	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eskimo curlew, *Numenius borealis*, Listed Endangered		✓	✓	✓		✓						✓			
Gunnison sage-grouse, *Centrocercus minimus*, Candidate for Listing		✓					✓			✓	✓			✓	
Least tern (interior population), *Sterna antillarum*, Listed Endangered				✓								✓			
Lesser prairie chicken, *Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*, Candidate for Listing					✓										
Mexican spotted owl, *Strix occidentalis lucida*, Listed Threatened		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓				✓
Mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus*, Proposed Threatened			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓		✓
Piping plover, *Charadrius melodus*, Listed Threatened				✓								✓			
Southwestern willow flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii extimus*, Listed Endangered		✓					✓			✓	✓			✓	
Yellow-billed cuckoo, *Coccyzus americanus*, Candidate for Listing		✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
Whooping crane, *Grus americana*, Listed Endangered			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			
Black-footed ferret, *Mustela nigripes*, Listed Endangered		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus*, Candidate for Listing			✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓		
Canada lynx, *Lynx canadensis*, Listed Threatened	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Preble's meadow jumping mouse, *Zapus hudsonius preblei*, Listed Threatened			✓									✓			
Arkansas darter, *Etheostoma cragini*, Candidate for Listing				✓	✓								✓		
Bonytail, *Gila elegans*, (presumed-historical) Listed Endangered							●		●		*			*	
Colorado pikeminnow, *Ptychocheilus lucius*, Listed Endangered		*					●	*	●	*	*			*	
Greenback cutthroat trout, *Oncorhynchus clarki stomias*, Listed Threatened	✓		✓												✓

Humpback chub, *Gila cypha*, Listed Endangered							●		●		*			*	

COUNTIES →

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
Colorado Field Office

(Effective August 21, 2001)

FEDERALLY LISTED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES & THEIR STATUS IN COLORADO

	LAKE	LA PLATA	LARIMER	LAS ANIMAS	LINCOLN	LOGAN	MESA	MINERAL	MOFFAT	MONTEZUMA	MONTROSE	MORGAN	OTERO	OURAY	PARK
Pallid sturgeon, *Scaphirhynchus albus*, Listed Threatened			*			*						*			*
Razorback sucker, *Xyrauchen texanus*, Listed Endangered		*					●	*	●	*	*			*	
Boreal toad, *Bufo boreas boreas*, Candidate for Listing	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
Pawnee montane skipper, *Hesperia leonardus montana*, Listed Threatened															✓
Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly, *Boloria acrocnema*, Listed Endangered	✓	✓						✓						✓	✓
Clay-loving wild buckwheat, *Eriogonum pelinophilum*, Listed Endangered											✓				
Colorado butterfly plant, *Gaura neomexicana* ssp. *coloradensis*, Listed Threatened			✓												
De Beque phacelia, *Phacelia submutica*, Candidate for Listing							✓								
Knowlton's cactus, *Pediocactus knowltonii*, Listed Endangered		✓													
Mancos milkvetch, *Astragalus humillimus*, Listed Endangered										✓					
Mesa Verde cactus, *Sclerocactus mesae-verdae*, Listed Threatened										✓					
Penland alpine fen mustard, *Eutrema penlandii*, Listed Threatened	✓														✓
Sleeping Ute milk-vetch, *Astragalus tortipes*, Candidate for Listing										✓					
Slender moonwort, *Botrychium lineare*, Candidate for Listing	✓														
Uinta Basin hookless cactus, *Sclerocactus glaucus*, Listed Threatened							✓				✓				
Ute ladies'-tresses, *Spiranthes diluvialis*, Listed Threatened			✓									✓			

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
Colorado Field Office

FEDERALLY LISTED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES & THEIR STATUS IN COLORADO

	COUNTIES →	PITKIN	PROWERS	PUEBLO	RIO BLANCO	RIO GRANDE	ROUTT	SAGUACHE	SAN JUAN	SAN MIGUEL	SEDGWICK	SUMMIT	TELLER	WASHINGTON	WELD
Bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, Listed Threatened		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eskimo curlew, *Numenius borealis*, Listed Endangered			✓			✓					✓			✓	✓
Gunnison sage-grouse, *Centrocercus minimus*, Candidate for Listing		✓				✓		✓		✓					
Least tern (interior population), *Sterna antillarum*, Listed Endangered			✓								✓			✓	✓
Lesser prairie chicken, *Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*, Candidate for Listing			✓												
Mexican spotted owl, *Strix occidentalis lucida*, Listed Threatened		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓		✓
Mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus*, Proposed Threatened			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						✓	✓
Piping plover, *Charadrius melodus*, Listed Threatened			✓								✓			✓	✓
Southwestern willow flycatcher, *Empidonax trailli extimus*, Listed Endangered						✓		✓		✓					
Whooping crane, *Grus americana*, Listed Endangered			✓	✓				✓			✓			✓	✓
Yellow-billed cuckoo, *Coccyzus americanus*, Candidate for Listing		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Black-footed ferret, *Mustela nigripes*, Listed Endangered			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓
Black-tailed prairie dog, *Cynomys ludovicianus*, Candidate for Listing			✓	✓							✓		✓	✓	✓
Canada lynx, *Lynx canadensis*, Listed Threatened		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Preble's meadow jumping mouse, *Zapus hudsonius preblei*, Listed Threatened				✓											✓
Pawnee montane skipper, *Hesperia leonardus montana*, Listed Threatened													✓		
Uncompahgre fritillary butterfly, *Boloria acrocnema*, Listed Endangered		✓				✓		✓	✓	✓		✓			
Arkansas darter, *Etheostoma cragini*, Candidate for Listing			✓	✓											
Bonytail, *Gila elegans*, (presumed-historical) Listed Endangered		*			*		*	*		*		*			

COUNTIES →

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecological Services
Colorado Field Office

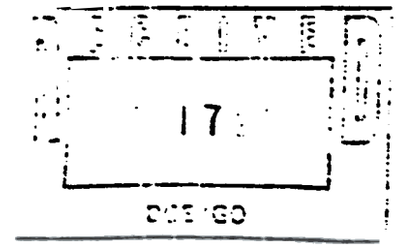
(Effective August 21, 2001)

FEDERALLY LISTED AND CANDIDATE SPECIES & THEIR STATUS IN COLORADO

	PITKIN	PROWERS	PUEBLO	RIO BLANCO	RIO GRANDE	ROUTT	SAGUACHE	SAN JUAN	SAN MIGUEL	SEDGWICK	SUMMIT	TELLER	WASHINGTON	WELD	YUMA
Colorado pikeminnow, *Ptychocheilus lucius*, Listed Endangered	*			©	*	*	*	*	*		*				
Greenback cutthroat trout, *Oncorhynchus clarki stomias*, Listed Threatened			✓												
Humpback Chub, *Gila cypha*, Listed Endangered	*			*		*	*		*		*				
Pallid sturgeon, *Scaphirhynchus albus*, Listed Threatened										*				*	
Razorback sucker, *Xyrauchen texanus*, Listed Endangered	*			*	*	*	*	*	*		*				
Boreal toad, *Bufo boreas boreas*, Candidate for Listing	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
Colorado butterfly plant, *Gaura neomexicana* spp. *coloradensis*, Listed Threatened			✓											✓	
Dudley Bluffs (Piceance) twinpod, *Physaria obcordata*, Listed Threatened				✓											
Dudley Bluffs bladderpod, *Lesquerella congesta*, Listed Threatened				✓											
Graham beardtongue, *Penstemon grahamii*, Candidate for Listing				✓											
Penland alpine fen mustard, *Eutrema penlandii*, Listed Threatened											✓				
Ute ladies'-tresses, *Spiranthes diluvialis*, Listed Threatened														✓	
White River beardtongue (penstemon), *Penstemon scariosus* var. *albifluvis*, Candidate for Listing				✓											

TABLE TERMINOLOGY

✓	The check mark indicates that the species is present in that county or that the county is within the historical range of the species
	Water depletions in these counties may affect these species
✓	This sign means that the species is present in the county and there is designated critical habitat for the species within the county
Candidate	Means there is sufficient information indicating that formal listing under the ESA may be appropriate
Proposed	Means the species is proposed for possible addition to the Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants under the ESA
Endangered	Means the species could become extinct
Threatened	Means the species could become endangered



Save the Mesas
c/o Don Parker, President
305 Lookout View Dr.
Golden, CO 80401
303-279-4549
stm@donparker.org

May 14, 2002

Steve Blazek
NEPA Compliance Officer
DOE Golden Field Office
1617 Cole Blvd.
Golden, CO 80401

Sent by email to - steveblazek@nrel.gov

Subject:: Save the Mesas comments on DOE Golden Field Office request for public comments on site-wide environmental issues related to the proposed operation and improvements at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's South Table Mountain Site

Dear Mr. Blazek:

The Board of Save the Mesas met to discuss your request for public comments and we offer the following:

1. Save the Mesas, a citizens group committed to preserving North and South Table Mountains, fully supports the mission, activities, and goals of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory. We are pleased that NREL chose to locate in Golden and we support the upgrading and enhancement of facilities at the South Table Mountain Site that further the mission, activities, and goals of NREL. We support the continued 2-3% annual growth of the facilities as considered likely in the request for public comments.
2. Save the Mesas is committed to keeping all development off the top and the presently undeveloped portions of the slopes of South Table Mountain and we oppose the addition of any new developments on the Mesa Top portion of the NREL South Table Mountain Site, and we oppose any new developments that would be located any higher on the slopes than the present facilities, with the exception that we would support restoration of the amphitheater.
3. We support the removal of any and all "semi-permanent" facilities on the Mesa Top when those facilities are no longer needed.

4. We support NREL's current efforts to minimize the impact of lighting at the Mesa Top facility by use of lights triggered by motion detectors, and the use of methods to direct the light to only those areas needing light.
5. We propose that to minimize impacts, any new facilities be located to the extent possible in land no higher in elevation than the current main building on the slope of the South Table Mountain Site. To minimize the environmental impacts of new facilities, we propose NREL use the newly acquired Camp George West land and other flatter lower lands to the maximum extent possible before placing any further developments on upper slopes or on the top.
6. We propose that the Environmental Assessment (EA) particularly consider the land use and planning impacts, including cumulative impacts. Current local land use plans, visions and authorities disfavor developments on the top or upper slopes of the Table Mountains. Developments on the higher slopes and on the top are contrary to local City and County land use visions and plans. Any further developments high on the slopes and on the mesa top may set land use precedents that could lead to further developments on the higher slopes and top by other land owners. This result would be a significant adverse impact. We recommend soliciting comments from the City Of Golden and from Jefferson County on this matter.
7. We propose that the EA particularly the visual quality and aesthetics of placement of any new facilities, in that where options are available, using lands lower in elevation can be used to minimize visual quality and aesthetics impacts.
8. We propose that the EA particularly consider the benefits of locating facilities on the lower lands to minimize impacts to traffic and circulation (by both workers and visitors), air quality and noise, and biological resources, and energy use.
9. With regard to lighting we propose that the EA particularly consider the impacts of lighting on visual quality and aesthetics, and cumulative impacts on land use, planning, light pollution, biological resources and energy consumption.
10. We propose that the EA particularly consider the impacts of all its activities by the examples it sets. NREL is looked to as an expert so it has environmental impacts, both favorable and unfavorable, far beyond its own activities. Examples set by NREL can have significant indirect environmental impacts. Some examples to set would be minimizing visual impacts and maximizing aesthetics, using lighting that minimizes energy use, minimizing impacts to traffic and automobile use, promoting land use compatible with local desires and standards, recycling, minimizing adverse impacts to biological, cultural, water, and other natural resources and enhancing the environment in ways that are apparent.
11. The outdoor theater could be characterized as historically, culturally and socially significant to Golden. It is possible NREL expansion on the South Table Mesa could encroach on the theater. One way to ameliorate this

impact would be to revitalize and preserve the theater, for example by working with local historical groups.

12. One great way to minimize impacts on land use, planning, visual quality, aesthetics, biological resources, and various cumulative impacts resulting from the Mesa Top facility and any further developments would be to buy all or portions of South Table Mountain and dedicate the use to conservation. This would also protect the 180-degree access to the sun afforded by the natural mesa top to those facilities and experiments. In the scheme of things that cost might be reasonable and the positive impact would be huge.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to comment at this stage in the process of the development of your plans and your new EA. Please put us on your mailing and emailing lists.

We remember and much appreciate the previous dedication of most of NREL's Mesa Top land to conservation.

Very sincerely,

Don Parker, President
Save the Mesas

Jordan, Maureen

From: Blazek, Steve
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2002 8:07 AM
To: Jordan, Maureen
Subject: FW: lights on STM

Steve Blazek
NEPA Compliance Officer
U.S. DOE Golden Field Office
Golden, CO 80401

303-275-4723
303-275-4788 (FAX)

----Original Message----
From: John Lahr [mailto:johnjan@lahr.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2002 10:30 PM
To: steve_blazek@nrel.gov
Cc: Steve_Sargent@nrel.gov
Subject: lights on STM

Steve Blazek
NREL

Hi Steve,
You might want to check out http://www.darksky.org/
and this one:
http://search1.npr.org/opt/collections/torched/me/data_me/seg_140490.htm
Cheers,
John

What's with the bright lights on the top of South Table Mountain?
You are quoted as saying:
"We would entertain reasonable suggestions as to how we might further reduce the visibility of our lights to the community." [steve_blazek@nrel.gov]
Why not have them connected to motion sensors? This would provide the same amount of security lighting but they would only be turned on when necessary. In fact this would enhance security because the police could see from a distance if the lights are on and drive up for a quick check. This would also reduce energy consumption and it seems NREL should lead by example in this area.
Cheers,
John

John C. Lahr
1925 Foothills Road
Golden, CO 80402
Phone: (303) 215-9913
john@lahr.org
http://lahr.org/john-jan/

Jordan, Maureen

From: Blazek, Steve
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2002 7:34 AM
To: Jordan, Maureen
Subject: FW: NREL expansion

FYI - Note the water storage tank comment-

Steve Blazek
NEPA Compliance Officer
U.S. DOE Golden Field Office
Golden, CO 80401

303-275-4723
303-275-4788 (FAX)

----Original Message----
From: J White [mailto:jwh1te@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2002 7:50 AM
To: steve_blazek@nrel.gov
Subject: NREL expansion

Dear Mr. Blazek,

As a Golden resident, Colorado native and member of the GoldenCO@yahoogroups listserv, I have a few comments regarding NREL's proposed expansion on the top of South Table Mountain.
Like others, I support the alternative energy research NREL is involved in. You have been extremely cooperative about the lighting situation there and that has not gone unnoticed. I understand why you would want to put water storage at the highest point available to you.
However, I oppose any development that encroaches farther up the mesa than your primary buildings are today. (And they are quite high.) I oppose any and all development on the top of South Table Mesa proper.

You have a reasonably sized campus with plenty of extra space. You are scientists involved with alternative energy research. Please, put your teams together and come up with a more creative solution. I understand no compelling and convincing reasons for you to expand further up the mesa.
Thank you,

Jen White
17301 Rimrock Dr
Golden, CO 80401
jwh1te@yahoo.com

Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Shopping - Mother's Day is May 12th!
http://shopping.yahoo.com

Jordan, Maureen

From: Mary & Don Parker [maryndon@attbi.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2002 2:20 PM
To: goldenco; Judy Denison
Subject: [Fwd: Growth]

Growth

Dear Mr. Blazek,

As Al Bartlet - CU physics Prof point out below, 2-3% growth results in some pretty extensive increases if taken out a few decades. My comments on Save the Mesas' supporting NREL's 2-3% growth rate is only for 10-20 years at most. A 3% growth would result in a doubling of the size of NREL in about 25 years and 2% in about 35 years so that growth rate can't continue for too many decades before NREL would outgrow its current facilities and/or do a lot more development on its South Table Mountain site.

Please add growth and growth rate to the scope of the EA.

Don Parker

May 15, 2002

TO: Steve Blazek
NEPA Compliance Officer
DOE Golden Field Office
FAX # (303) 275-4788

RE: REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SITE-WIDE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE PROPOSED OPERATION AND IMPROVEMENT AT THE NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY'S (NREL) SOUTH TABLE MOUNTAIN (STM) SITE.

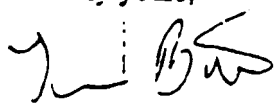
Dear Mr. Blazek:

I support the proposed plan to continue operation of the STM and Denver West Office Park (DWOP) with new and improved capability. I have used the educational resources, including tours and workshops, at NREL several times. I plan to incorporate the knowledge I've gained into a new house I will be building in the next few years and in the business I own. My business will be purchasing a new building this year and we will use the NREL resources during the planning and tenant finish of the new commercial property.

I have found the staff to be very helpful and informative. The resource materials that are available have been useful. I strongly support increased research into renewable energy and would support any improvements made in NREL's ability to do research and educate the public.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely yours,



Teresa Bath
P. O. Box 255
Golden, Colorado 80402
(303) 271-0488

FROM : PHONE NO. : 3032710512 2002 03:54PM P1

Kennedy, Brian P.

From: Karl Buchholz [KarBuc@lakewood.org]
Sent: Friday, July 05, 2002 10:23 AM
To: Brian Kennedy (E-mail)
Cc: Maureen Jordan (E-mail); David Baskett; Karl Buchholz; Jerry Goldman; Karen Lind (E-mail); John Mullins (E-mail)
Subject: NREL EA

Karl Buchholz (E-mail).vcf

Brian,
Thank you for taking the time to meet with Dave Baskett and me last week. I've had a chance to review the information you provided for NREL's long-term growth scenario at South Table Mountain.

After reviewing the data you provided, I believe your traffic projections are a little too conservative (high). The Institute of Transportation Engineers publishes trip generation data for various land uses. The ITE Trip Generation Manual (6th Ed) provides trip data for Research and Development Centers based on number of employees. The ITE data estimates the number of daily trips for such a facility to be 2.77 trips per employee. For the worst case growth scenario of 1461 new employees at STM in 2022, the number of new daily trips would be 4,047. ITE also provides data for the AM and PM peak hours for outbound and inbound trips. During the AM peak hour, ITE data suggests the number of new trips would be 540 inbound and 88 outbound. For the PM peak hour, the number of new trips would be 60 inbound and the 539 outbound. Using this data, the number of new trips during the AM and PM peak hours are about one-half of what you've estimated.

Using the ITE data, I added the new NREL STM trips to the 2020 traffic volumes presented in the Mills Traffic Study for the intersections along Denver West Marriot Blvd. from Denver West Parkway to Cole Blvd. I did not do a detailed traffic analysis of the intersection capacities, but upon inspection of the new volumes, I believe the I-70 interchange ramp intersections and the Cole intersection should be able to absorb the additional traffic without significant impacts. The Denver West Parkway/Denver West Marriot Blvd. intersection will see a large increase in the volume of traffic turning left (NB to WB) during the AM peak period and, correspondingly, a large increase in right turns (EB to SB) during the PM peak period. Based on a preliminary analysis during the AM peak period it appears this intersection has the capacity to handle the added NREL traffic during the 2022 scenario. During the PM peak period, however, the intersection will likely be over-capacity due to the high volume of EB right-turns from DWP to DWMB. Under the PM 2022 scenario, a double right-turn lane will probably be needed to mitigate the increase in right turning traffic (estimated at approximately 440 additional right-turns during the PM peak hour). As a result, the City of Lakewood would like to see this impact addressed as part of the EA process.

I hope this information is helpful for evaluating the environmental impacts of this EA. Please keep us informed as the EA process moves forward and let me know if you have any questions regarding the above.

Sincerely,
Karl Buchholz, PE
Principal Traffic Engineer
City of Lakewood

<<Karl Buchholz (E-mail vcf>>

LANTZ ASSOCIATES
13335 W. 72nd Cir.
Arvada, CO 80005
(303) 887-3714
(303) 423-4949 fax

July 12, 2002

Brian Kennedy
SAIC
405 Urban Street, Suite 400
Lakewood, CO 80228

RE: Scoping for NREL Environmental Assessment

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input for the scoping process for the EA you are preparing for NREL. We have reviewed the information concerning the EA process and I am sending the following comments on behalf of Denver West.

- We agree with the trip generation estimates that Karl Buchholz at the City of Lakewood provided to you (4,047 daily, 628 AM Peak, 599 PM Peak).

- Even though Karl stated that he thought the roadway system can accommodate the additional traffic, we would like to see a Traffic Impact Study prepared. That study will provide detailed analysis of the various turning movements at the intersections along Denver West Marriott Boulevard. The study will also identify any turn lanes that might be too short or will be over capacity due to the additional traffic.

- The Traffic Impact Study should look at the intersections along Denver West Marriott Boulevard from Denver West Parkway to Colfax Boulevard.

- The Traffic Impact Study could either be done on a conceptual basis with the EA, and then refined as specific developments are proposed, or it could be delayed until the specific developments are known. There are advantages and disadvantages to both approaches. A Traffic Impact Study completed with the EA will identify potential problem areas now, which would then be addressed in more detail in the future as specific developments are proposed. A Traffic Impact Study prepared in the future is more accurate as more details are known about the development, however, potential problems are not identified until that time.