

DECEMBER 2008 BLM OIL AND GAS LEASE PARCEL SALE  
INFORMATION SHEET

Spanish Valley/Cedar Hills Area  
Parcels: UT1108-225

**(Note: This parcel has been temporarily removed from the sale list. However, the BLM has full discretion to re-list the parcel at any time, and we encourage people to keep pressure on to get this parcel permanently removed from possible oil & gas leasing.)**

**Description:** Parcel comprises most of the Cedar Hills residential neighborhood to the northeast of Murphy Lane, including the Moab golf course. Privately-owned parcels are split-estate, so that property owners only own the surface rights, and the federal government holds ownership of the subsurface mineral rights.

**Resource Concerns:**

River and water resources: Though not properly addressed in the BLM's RPM (Resource Management Plan), the parcel lies atop Moab's sole-source aquifer and watershed which provides the bulk of its potable water. BLM stipulations do not mitigate possible drilling-related irrevocable damage to this vital municipal water source.

Recreational Resources: Parcel has established recreational and scenic values. Developed recreational sites exist with federal recreational facilities, established recreational use, and recreation-related view shed.

Private Homes: Parcel contains private homes and critical view shed for residents.

**Other considerations:**

The BLM has attempted in its RMP (Resource Management Plan) to mitigate the above concerns by placing stipulations intended for protection of habitat, watershed, and prohibition or limitation of surface occupancy. However, these stipulations are not a replacement for a more protective "no lease" option. Each stipulation provides an "exception," allowing lessee a potential loophole around the intended protections. Only a handful of the 21 pages of stipulations expressly prohibit oil & gas from these exceptions. In addition, the BLM's provided stipulations fail to address cumulative effects of oil & gas leasing and the bigger picture of regional environmental protection.

Also keep in mind that if a parcel contains NSO (No Surface Occupancy) stipulations, the parcel must be drilled at from an *adjacent* parcel. The RMP does not adequately address the implications of this need, or the logistics of facilitating this type of drilling while upholding needed environmental protections.

For more information on stipulations or explanations of the new Visual Resource Management stipulations, please refer to a downloadable copy of the BLM's RMP (Resource Management Plan) found online at:

[http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/planning/final\\_rmp\\_eis.html](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/planning/final_rmp_eis.html)



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For more information: [www.redrockforests.org/blm\\_dec\\_2008\\_oil\\_and\\_gas\\_lease.htm](http://www.redrockforests.org/blm_dec_2008_oil_and_gas_lease.htm)