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*Final*

# **DeWitt Pipeline Rehabilitation Environmental Assessment Scoping Report – Content Analysis**

Prepared for  
**U.S. Forest Service  
Logan Ranger District**

December 15, 2006

**CH2MHILL**

215 South State Street  
Suite 1000  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

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# DeWitt Pipeline Rehabilitation EA Scoping Report—Content Analysis

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## Introduction

The Wasatch-Cache National Forest (W-CNF), Logan Ranger District (RD), is proposing to evaluate and disclose the environmental effects of alternatives to rehabilitate the DeWitt water pipeline in Logan Canyon in order to issue a Special Use Permit for the project. The evaluation document is expected to be an Environmental Assessment (EA). The DeWitt water pipeline is located along the lower five miles of Logan Canyon and adjacent to the Logan River. The existing DeWitt water pipeline is critical to the City of Logan as it supplies 70 percent of the City's potable water, including nearly all of the City's winter supply and half of its summer supply. The DeWitt facilities provide the City its lowest cost water, and have been operated continuously with only minor shutdowns for essential repairs since their construction in 1934. The existing pipeline is 5 miles long with steel pipe segments that were constructed in 1934, and upgraded with Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) in 1949. The existing steel sections of pipe are known to leak, under normal operating conditions, raising concerns about the future reliability of this valuable water supply.

The purpose of this project is to design and install replacement pipe for the leaking steel sections of pipeline, and to rehabilitate the existing appurtenances on the RCP segments to provide blowoffs (that is, relief valves) and pipe access to facilitate future inspections and repairs.

The DeWitt pipeline rehabilitation and replacement is intended to increase water yield from the spring, and deliver reliable source culinary quality water to Logan City's existing reservoirs, through rehabilitated and new pipelines.

The portion of the DeWitt pipeline to be rehabilitated or replaced would begin approximately 600 feet upstream of what is locally known as "Red Bridge" and run along the existing pipeline route towards the mouth of the canyon (that is, southwest) and then up the hill to the City's reservoir site.

Two alternatives are being considered. For the first alternative, the new pipeline segment would cross the Logan River in two places - just west of Red Bridge and to the south of Second Bridge. The pipeline would remain within Utah Department of Transportation's (UDOT) US-89 Special Use Permit Easement along the entire route to the City's Canyon Mouth Hydro Plant and First Bridge. From that point, the pipeline would turn to the north, cross under Highway 89 and the Logan River, climb a steep rocky slope, enter the south end of Logan City's reservoir site, and terminate at the new flow control/turbine vault to be located northwest of tank GC-4.

The second alternative was developed in response to suggestions made at the public scoping meeting. For this alternative, the pipeline segment would cross the Logan River just west of Red Bridge as in the first alternative. The pipeline would remain within UDOT's

US-89 Special Use Permit Easement along the entire route until Second Bridge. At Second Bridge, the pipeline would cross out of the UDOT easement on to W-CNF administered land by going under a bank of the Logan River just north of Second Bridge. The pipeline would cross along a steeply sloped area north of the Logan River. The alignment would then run within an existing canal access road until it passes by the City's Canyon Mouth Hydro Plant. The pipeline would run between two of the buildings on the hydro plant site and cross behind the buildings headed toward a steep rocky slope. It would then climb a steep rocky slope and enter the south end of Logan City's reservoir site, and would terminate at the new flow control/turbine vault to be located northwest of tank GC-4.

## Scoping

Public scoping for the DeWitt pipeline replacement project began with the distribution of an initial scoping letter, describing the proposed project in Logan Canyon and requesting comments from the public on the proposed project (Appendix A). The letter was sent to the Logan RD mailing list on October 23, 2006. This mailing list was compiled from previous project scoping lists from the Logan RD. The list of 135 individuals, groups, organizations, and agencies notified is in the project file. A news release was placed in the Herald Journal on October 12, 2006 (Appendix B). Public Service announcements were aired on KVNU, KLGK, and KUSU starting on October 25, 2006. The Public Meeting notice was posted in the Logan City Hall reception area, in the Logan City Library, in the Logan City Utility Billing Office, on the Public Works Office counter, and on the Logan City Building Permit Office counter. Comments were requested on the proposal by November 10, 2006.

A public scoping meeting was held on November 2, 2006 at the Logan City Justice Center in Logan, Utah. Logan RD staff, City of Logan staff, and CH2M HILL staff (consultants to the City of Logan) were in attendance. Five members of the public were in attendance. Appendix C contains the list of attendees. A total of three comment letters were received and are contained in Appendix D.

Meetings with individual agencies to discuss the proposed project were also held. The City of Logan met with the following agencies:

- USFS, Logan Ranger District staff at the District Office on October 3, 2006
- Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water Rights, SLC, October 6, 2006
- Utah Department of Transportation, Region 1 Headquarters, October 10, 2006, for a 30 percent plan review
- USFS, Logan Ranger District staff at the District Office on October 10, 2006, for a project walk-through
- Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Drinking Water, SLC, August 9, 2006.

## Initial Scoping and Comment Status

As of November 11, 2006, a total of three letters have been received. A total of 7 individuals or organizations have responded with 25 written or verbal comments to be analyzed for consideration in the EA.

## Content Analysis and Summary of Specific Comments

Appendix D contains copies of the letters received during the public scoping process. Comments that specifically address the merits of the alternatives were identified and are bracketed in the margins of the letters. Table 1 summarizes this information and includes a summary of each comment. Each comment was placed into one (or more) of 9 categories based on the subject matter, context, content, and intent. Table 1 also contains comment disposition, as described in the next section.

Table 1 displays the category in which each comment was placed. Not all of the seven respondents provided comments in every category. These nine categories of comments have been summarized and recorded, as follows, for tracking purposes:

- C-1 **Trails:** The comments within this category are related to the addition, connectivity, and construction of trails in the analysis area.
- C-2 **Safety:** These comments reflected concerns about the safety of individuals recreating in the analysis area and emergency services continuity.
- C-3 **Alternatives:** Comments in this category addressed the need to explore additional alternative pipeline alignments.
- C-4 **Environmental effects:** Comments in this category concern project effects on environmental resources including water quality, threatened and endangered species, wetlands, fisheries, and the Logan River.
- C-5 **Monitoring, mitigation and BMPs:** This category addresses comments and concerns directing the City to develop monitoring plans or they provided specific monitoring plan suggestions. Mitigation is suggested for certain resources or activities and the use, role, and type of BMPs are presented.
- C-6 **Data requests:** Comments in this category requested that the commenter be sent data, information, or reports.
- C-7 **Design:** Comments in this category concern positive or negative aspects of the construction design.
- C-8 **Coordination/Permitting.** These comments concerned obtaining permits for the project or requested coordination with local, state, or federal resource management or regulatory agencies.
- C-9 **Alternatives analysis:** Comments in this category suggested alternative analysis measures.

**TABLE 1**  
 Summary of Public Scoping Comments (letters, public meetings, comment cards, e-mails) for the DeWitt Pipeline Replacement EA

<b>Comment Type</b>		<b>Summary of Comments</b>	<b>Comment Category +</b>	<b>Comment Disposition ++</b>
<b>Written</b>	<b>Verbal</b>			
	X	Provide a trail over the new pipeline that connects the city and the river trail (2 comments). It needs to be 2-way and there will be snow removal issues.	C-1	OS
	X	Safety issues are associated with hikers and bikers parking on the north and south sides of the highway by the Stokes Nature Center.	C-2	PI
	X	Explore an alternative that follows on the north side of the river and removes the need for 2 river crossings and 2 road crossings.	C-3	I
	X	Need to ensure that emergency vehicles can move through the project area during construction periods.	C-2	PI
	X	Continue to provide access to recreational facilities during construction.	C-4	PI
X		Use Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect water quality.	C-4	A
X		Suggest monitoring Logan River water quality during construction to evaluate BMP effectiveness	C-5	A
X		Minimize creation of impervious surfaces	C-7	A
X		Do not concentrate storm water runoff into a few locations	C-7	A
X		Notify Utah Division of Water Quality (UDWQ) if construction results in an increase in adjacent surface water turbidity by 10 NTUs	C-5	PI
X		Do not use fill that leaches organic chemical or nutrients	C-7	A
X		Protect fish spawning areas	C-4	SI
X		Need to obtain an UPDES Permit	C-8	A
X		Need to develop a storm water pollution prevention plan	C-5	A
X		May need a UPDES General Permit for Construction Dewatering	C-8	A
X		Submit Plan Elements to UDWQ for storm water runoff control and treatment	C-8	A
X		Revegetate disturbed areas	C-5	A
X		Support development of a trail corridor above the future pipeline corridor	C-1	OS
X		Prefer locating pipeline and trail north of Highway 89 up to the new bridge.	C-3	I
X		Construct an underpass to connect a new trail to the existing trail.	C-1	OS

TABLE 1  
Summary of Public Scoping Comments (letters, public meetings, comment cards, e-mails) for the DeWitt Pipeline Replacement EA

Comment Type		Summary of Comments	Comment Category +	Comment Disposition ++
Written	Verbal			
X		A trail from first dam to the existing trail near the Stokes Nature Center would be an excellent addition to the Cache Valley Trails System.	C-1	O
X		Add UEC to mailing list for all documents	C-6	S
X		Proposed project appears to be a major federal action with significant environmental impacts on wetlands, T&E species, and the river	C-4	SI
X		Prepare an EIS not an EA	C-9	S
X		Mail all NEPA documents and analyses to UEC	C-6	S

+ Comment Category: During “content analysis” the various comments were placed in one of several categories based on their subject matter, context, content, and intent. These categories are indicated by codes with the following descriptions:

C = Comment Category; these comments may or may not be considered an ‘issue’ in regards to being a ‘point of discussion, debate, or dispute about the environmental effects regarding the Proposed Action’ but the analysis team believed they needed to be, at least temporarily, tracked for their content. Many sub-categories were developed to aid in this tracking, as follows:

- C-1 = Trails
- C-2 = Safety
- C-3 = Alternatives
- C-4 = Environmental effects
- C-5 = Monitoring, mitigation, and BMPs
- C-6 = Data requests
- C-7 = Design
- C-8 = Coordination/Permitting
- C-9 = Alternatives analysis

++ Comment Disposition:

- PI = Preliminary issue – addressed in an alternative or was considered during development of alternatives, including the Proposed Action
- SI = Significant issue to the Proposed Action – point of discussion, debate, or dispute about the environmental effects pertaining to the Proposed Action
- I = An issue that is a point of discussion, debate, or dispute about environmental effects regarding the Proposed Action that is not considered a significant issue for alternative development but will be developed and tracked through the document
- OS = Comments outside the scope of the Proposed Action
- A = Comments already decided by law, regulation, Forest Plan direction, etc.
- O = Opinion, conjecture
- S = Statement

## Content Analysis and Issue Disposition

The Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) reviewed the 9 categories of comments to determine the disposition of comments and whether or not they represent issues that will be addressed in the EA. Comments that will be addressed in the EA include the following categories of issue disposition:

- PI—Preliminary issue that is addressed in an alternative or was considered during development of alternatives, including the Proposed Action
- SI—A significant issue to the Proposed Action because it represents a point of discussion, debate, or dispute about the environmental effects pertaining to the Proposed Action
- I—An issue that is a point of discussion, debate, or dispute about environmental effects regarding the Proposed Action that is not considered a significant issue for alternative development but will be developed and tracked through the document

Comments that do not represent issues and will not be analyzed further or addressed in the EIS include the following:

- OS—Comments outside the scope of the Proposed Action
- A—Comments already decided by law, regulation, Forest Plan direction etc.
- O—Opinion, conjecture
- S—Statement

Table 1 lists the disposition of all 25 comments identified and analyzed by the IDT during public scoping for the DeWitt Pipeline Rehabilitation EA. Approximately 32 percent (8 comments) of the 25 total comments identified during public scoping represent issues that will be addressed in the EA. Of these, 4 comments are preliminary issues (PI) and are addressed or were considered in the development of the alternatives, including the Proposed Action; 2 are significant issues (SI); and 2 are issues (I) that will be developed and tracked through the EA. The significant issues identified in Table 1 cover the following four resource topics:

- **Fisheries:** Design and construction of the pipeline should protect fish spawning areas.
- **Threatened and Endangered Species:** The proposed project's effect on T&E species.
- **Wetlands:** The proposed project's effect on wetland resources.
- **Logan River:** The proposed project's effect on the Logan River.

As indicated in Table 1, approximately 68 percent of the identified pertinent comments received during public scoping were judged by the Forest Service to not represent issues. They are not issues because they were outside the scope of the Proposed Action; had already been decided by law, etc.; or represented an opinion, conjecture, or statement.

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## Scoping Document

## Dewitt Pipeline Rehabilitation/ Relocation Project

USDA Forest Service  
Wasatch-Cache National Forest  
Logan Ranger District  
Cache County, Utah

**Comments Due: Nov. 10, 2006**

### The Purpose of this Scoping Document

Public involvement is an important part of environmental analysis for the Forest Service. We ask for your input to help us determine the issues and the scope of the environmental analysis for this proposed project. We appreciate your comments and believe the information you share with us will lead to a better decision.

The Forest Service is seeking information, comments, and assistance from individuals, organizations, Tribal governments, and federal, state, and local agencies interested in or affected by this project. Public participation will be solicited through news releases, scoping meetings, and requests for written comments, such as this. The first opportunity to comment is to respond to this scoping announcement. Scoping includes: (1) identifying potential issues, (2) identifying significant issues, (3) exploring alternatives, and (4) identifying potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives. An opportunity to comment on the draft analysis will be provided at a later date.

### What is being proposed?

The City of Logan proposes to rehabilitate and replace a portion of the Dewitt water pipeline located in the lower five miles of Logan Canyon. Rehabilitation of the reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) would begin at the Dewitt Spring facility and continue to approximately 600 feet upstream of what is locally known as "Red Bridge". At this point the existing steel pipeline would be replaced with a new 36-inch welded steel pipe (WSP) and relocated, buried approximately 7 feet off the traveled lane, within the Utah Department of Transportation Right-of-Way, running towards the mouth of the canyon for about 3 miles. The new pipeline segment would cross under the highway and the Logan River in three places: (1) west of Red Bridge (where it would cross to the north side of the highway), (2) east and south of the Second Bridge (where it would cross to the south side of the highway) and (3) north and east of First Bridge (where it would again cross to the north side of the highway). Here the pipeline would climb a steep rocky slope and enter the south end of Logan City's reservoir site, terminating at the new flow control/turbine vault to be located northwest of tank GC-4.

### Why is it being proposed?

The purpose of this project is to design and install replacement pipe for the leaking steel sections of the Dewitt water pipeline, and to rehabilitate the existing appurtenances on existing segments to provide blowoff valves (that is, relief valves) and pipe access to facilitate future inspections and repairs.

The existing DeWitt water pipeline is critical to the City of Logan as it supplies 70 percent of the City's potable water, including nearly all of the City's winter supply and half of its summer supply. The DeWitt facilities provide the City its lowest cost water, and have been operated continuously with only minor shutdowns for essential repairs since its construction in 1934. The existing pipeline is 5 miles long with steel pipe segments that were constructed in 1934 and upgraded with Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) in 1949. The existing steel sections of pipe are known to leak, under normal operating conditions, raising concerns about the future reliability of this valuable water supply.

The DeWitt Spring pipeline rehabilitation and replacement is intended to increase water yield from the spring and deliver reliable source culinary quality water to Logan City's existing reservoirs, through rehabilitated and new pipelines, as described in this report.

### **Preliminary Alternatives**

In addition to the proposal presented above, a no action alternative will be considered. This alternative would continue current management without the actions of this proposal. Other alternatives may be developed in response to significant issues.

### **What is the Decision to be made?**

The decision to be made is whether or not to authorize the relocation of a portion of the Dewitt water pipeline on National Forest System lands under Special Use Permit to the Utah Department of Transportation.

### **Who will make the Decision?**

The Responsible Official is Logan District Ranger Rob Cruz.

You are invited to attend a meeting with members of the US Forest Service, the City of Logan, and the City's consultant CH2M HILL. CH2M HILL will be responsible for the environmental analysis. The meetings will be held November 2, 2006 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the City of Logan Justice Building located at 290 North 100 West, Logan, Utah 84321.

Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from the Logan Ranger District, (435) 755-3620.

Comments should be directed to:

Attn: Dewitt Pipeline Rehabilitation/Relocation  
Rob Cruz  
Logan Ranger District  
1500 East Highway 89  
Logan, Utah 84321

E-mail comments to: [comments-intermtn-wasatch-cache-logan@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-intermtn-wasatch-cache-logan@fs.fed.us)

Sincerely,

/s/ Robert A. Cruz  
ROBERT A. CRUZ

October 23, 2006  
DATE

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, political beliefs, and marital or familial status. (Not all prohibitions bases apply to all programs.) Person with disabilities who require alternative means of communication of program information should contact the USDA Office of Communications at (202) 720-2791 (voice) or (800) 855-1234 (TDD). To file a complaint, write the Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250 or call (800) 245-6340 (voice) or (800) 855-1234 (TDD). USDA is an equal employment opportunity employer.

Appendix B

**Public Scoping Notice**

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## NOTICE

The City of Logan will be holding a PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING on Thursday, November 2, 2006 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Justice Building to receive public input on a project to replace a two mile section of existing 20 inch diameter water line which is part of an existing five mile water line that carries water from DeWitt Springs in Logan Canyon to our Water Tank Storage Facility near the mouth of Logan Canyon directly east of the Logan Golf and County Club. This meeting is part of the Environmental Assessment process to get clearance for the project. This project will be funded by State Water Loan money and by City Capital Improvement Project money, and will not result in an increase in water service rates.

Available at the meeting will be displays showing various alignments that have been developed in a DeWitt Pipeline Rehabilitation/Replacement Study that was completed in August of 2005 by CH2MHill for the City of Logan. City officials and representatives from CH2MHill will be available to receive your comments and answer your questions.

Publication of this Notice begins a 30 day public input period where the public or organizations concerned with the project can comment on the scope or elements of the project.

Your attendance and participation will be very much appreciated.

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Appendix C

**Public Scoping Meeting Attendees**

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**DeWitt Pipeline Public Meeting Participants**  
**Justice Center**  
**Logan, Utah**  
**November 2, 2006**

Participants at the DeWitt Pipeline Public Meeting

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Dave Rayfield	740 E. 300 N, Hyde Park, UT	Cache Trails
Wendell Morse	333 Red Fox Trace, Logan, UT	Cache County
Sasha Morse	333 Red Fox Trace, Logan, UT	Mt. Logan Middle School Student
Mark Nielsen	912 W. 1000 S., Logan UT	Logan City
Richard Justis	199 N. Main, Logan UT	Logan Canyon Nat'l Scenic Byway
Scott Datwyler	707 Meadowlark Lane, Logan UT	Cache Trails
Russ Akina	255 N. Main, Logan, UT 84321	Logan City
Ron Johnson		Logan City
Rob Cruz	1500 E Hwy 89, Logan UT	USFS, Logan RD
Evelyn Sibbersen	1500 E Hwy 89, Logan UT	USFS, Logan RD
Than Jones	Salt Lake City	CH2M HILL
Kent Bienlien	Salt Lake City	CH2M HILL
Denny Mengel	Boise	CH2M HILL

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Appendix D

**Public Scoping Comment Letters**

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## State of Utah

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.  
*Governor*

GARY R. HERBERT  
*Lieutenant Governor*

## Office of the Governor

PUBLIC LANDS POLICY COORDINATION

LYNN H. STEVENS  
*Public Lands Policy Coordinator*

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
*Public Lands Section*

November 2, 2006

Rob Cruz  
Logan Ranger District  
1500 East Highway 89  
Logan, Utah 84321

SUBJECT: Dewitt Pipeline Rehabilitation/Relocation  
Project No. 06-7216

Dear Mr. Cruz:

The Resource Development Coordinating Committee (RDCC) has reviewed this proposal. The Department of Environmental Quality/Division of Water Quality comments:

The Utah Division of Water Quality staff has reviewed the referenced project. Applicable water quality standards may be violated unless appropriate Best Management Practices (BMPs) are incorporated to minimize the erosion-sediment load to any adjacent waters during project activities and operation of the facilities. The Logan River currently meets its beneficial uses for a cold water fishery, recreation and agriculture. We strongly recommend that appropriate water quality parameters of the Logan River be monitored for effectiveness of sediment control and other applicable BMPs.

Potential impacts from runoff during construction may include the degradation of water quality, increased quantities and intensities of peak flows, channel erosion, flooding, and geomorphologic deterioration that may directly or indirectly cause an inability of streams to achieve ecological balance and maintain their designated beneficial uses. Site designs should minimize the creation of additional impervious surfaces in watersheds that increase sheet runoff and promote better design that results in the infiltration of runoff. Emphasis in design should avoid concentration of storm water to fewer drainage locations. The intent should be to allow or mimic the natural flow patterns to the degree possible.

We request the following conditions be included in the environmental assessment's mitigation for impacts:

Whenever an applicant causes the water turbidity in an adjacent surface water to increase by 10 NTU's or more, the applicant shall notify the Division of Water Quality.

The applicant shall not use any fill material which may leach organic chemicals (e.g., discarded asphalt) or nutrients (e.g., phosphate rock) into the receiving water.

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Applicant shall protect any potentially affected fish spawning areas.

The following permits from our Division are required during the construction phase of the project:

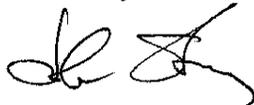
Construction activities that grade one acre or more per common plan are required to obtain coverage under the Utah Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (UPDES) Storm Water General Permit for Construction Activities, Permit No. UTR100000. The permit requires the development of a storm water pollution prevention plan to be implemented and updated from the commencement of any grading activities at the site until final stabilization of the project. A fact sheet describing the permit requirements and application procedures is located on our web site [waterquality.utah.gov](http://waterquality.utah.gov)

Dewatering activities during construction may require coverage under the UPDES General Permit for Construction Dewatering, Permit No. UTG070000. The permit requires water quality monitoring every two weeks to ensure that the pumped water is meeting permit effluent limitations.

In addition to these permitting requirements, the Division of Water Quality requires the submission of plan elements for permanent storm water runoff control and treatment. Revegetation of disturbed areas should include low flow, timed sprinklers or other materials that require little watering.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity to review this proposal. Please direct any other written questions regarding this correspondence to the Resource Development Coordinating Committee, Public Lands Section, at the above address or call Jonathan G. Jemming at (801) 537-9023 or Carolyn Wright at (801) 537-9230.

Sincerely,



John Harja  
Director  
Resource Development Coordinating Committee  
Public Lands Section



**COUNTYWIDE PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

179 North Main, Suite 305  
Logan, Utah 84321  
435/716-7154  
FAX 435/716-8355

November 8, 2006

Mark Nielsen  
Logan City Public Works Department  
255 North Main  
Logan, UT 84321

Subject: Dewitt Pipeline Replacement

Dear Mark:

Thank you for hosting the public meeting on the proposed Dewitt Pipeline replacement. On behalf of the Cache County-wide Planning and Development staff and the County Trails Coordinating Committee, we wish to express our interest and support for the potential inclusion of a trail corridor above the future Logan City water line in Logan Canyon.

We feel that some excellent options were discussed in the meeting. Our preferred option is locating the pipeline and trail north of Highway 89 up to the new bridge and constructing an underpass to connect to the existing trail at that location. Funding options for the underpass need to be explored as soon as possible. We would like to help with that effort.

The proposed trail from First Dam area to the existing trail near Stokes Nature Center will be an excellent addition to the Cache Valley Trails System. We look forward to working with you to identify funding sources for design and construction of this important safety and recreational feature. We hope to be of assistance to you, the Forest Service, UDOT and other agencies in working on making the trail a reality.

Please let us know of future meetings that we need to attend. Tim Watkins, 764-1787, Cache Trails Coordinator is our contact person.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be involved.

Sincerely,

Wendell Morse, Director  
Development Services, Cache County

Dave Rayfield  
Chairman, Trails Committee

cc: Tim Watkins, Cache Trails Coordinator  
✓ Robert Cruz, USDA Forest Service



*Providing a voice for the voiceless*

November 16, 2006

ATTN: Dewitt Pipeline Rehab./Relocation  
Rob Cruz  
Logan Ranger District  
1500 East Highway 89  
Logan, Utah 84321

Dear Rob,

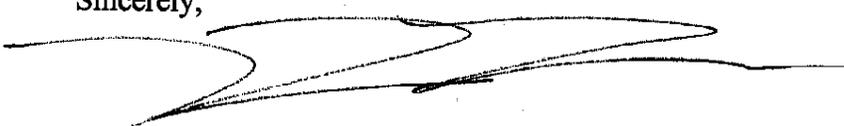
Utah Environmental Congress (UEC) appreciates your scoping solicitation letter of October 23, 2006 regarding the *Dewitt Pipeline Rehabilitation/Relocation Project* proposed action. UEC is an interested party, and would appreciate being added/maintained on all of the contact/ mailing lists associated with this proposed action.

We are aware that your scoping solicitation letter asked for scoping comments by November 10<sup>th</sup>, which provided for roughly a 2 ½ week comment period. Due to other priorities and the need to provide comments in response to projects as they arrive we were not able to provide scoping comments in that 2 ½ week time frame. In the future we respectfully ask you to consider offering a 30 day scoping period for projects such as this.

Having said the above we offer these brief comments. This proposed action would appear to constitute a major federal action with potentially significant impacts on wetlands, a river corridor and associated riparian zones and TES/MIS populations and habitats. We suggest proceeding now with a NOI to prepare an EIS due to the significance of the potential detrimental and beneficial impacts of the proposed pipeline relocation project.

Please mail notice of the official comment ARA and NEPA period to our office. Please mail a draft of the environmental document and/or associated environmental analysis to our office as well for review.

Sincerely,



Kevin Mueller,  
Executive Director

This letter was not received in time to be included in the scoping report's analysis.



*Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway*  
*199 North Main Street, Logan, Utah 84321*  
*435-755-1893 logancanyon.com*

December 21, 2006

Rob Cruz  
Logan Ranger District  
1500 East Highway 89  
Logan, Utah 84321

Re: Dewitt Pipeline Rehabilitation/Relocation

Dear Rob,

One function of the Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway Management Team is to identify projects that will enhance the experience of visitors to the Byway. Our objective is to make the Byway more appealing, more accessible, and more enjoyable. In addition, safety is always a primary and overriding concern.

One such project that has been discussed during our team meetings is the rehabilitation/relocation of the Dewitt Pipeline and the possible extension of the River Trail to the area of first dam. We strongly support the extension of the trail. It would appear that the benefits associated therewith are obvious. It would definitely enhance the experience of visitors to the Byway and also provide a much-needed safety improvement.

Further, we hope that ongoing studies will demonstrate the feasibility of extending the trail on the north side of the Logan River. We deem this to be a more desirable alternative than running the pipeline and the trail along the south side of the river.

Hiking and bicycling on the River Trail are significant recreation activities associated with the Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway. We are encouraged by the potential improvement to the trail that exists as part of the subject project. Please keep us informed as the project develops. Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Justis  
Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway Coordinator