June 8, 2016

The Honorable Neil Kornze
Director
Bureau of Land Management
1849 C St NW, Rm. 5665
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Kornze,

I write today regarding the numerous requests submitted to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to coordinate on the Resource Management Planning Rules, 81 Fed. Reg. 8674 (Feb. 25, 2016), also known as the BLM’s ‘Planning 2.0’ initiative. To date, I understand that you have received coordination requests from Kane County, Utah; Garfield County, Colorado; Chaves County, New Mexico; Big Horn County, Wyoming; Custer County, Idaho; Modoc County, California; Winkelman Natural Resource Conservation District, Arizona; Hereford Natural Resource Conservation District, Arizona; and Dona Ana Soil and Water Conservation District, New Mexico.

Additionally, it is my understanding that under Section 202(c)(9) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), the BLM is required to “coordinate the land use inventory, planning, and management activities of or for such lands with the land use planning and management programs of other Federal departments and agencies and of the States and local governments within which the lands are located.” As a result, I urge you to examine these requests and ask for a written response clarifying whether or not you intend to fulfill them with an explanation on your decision.

As you know, the BLM manages over 250 million acres of land, most of which is located in the West. The way that these lands are managed has substantial economic impacts on counties and local governments. For this reason, it is extremely important that strong communication and coordination exists between the BLM and counties and local governments.

I look forward to your prompt response on this issue.

Sincerely,

Steve Pearce
Member of Congress