



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



MAY 10 2016

In Reply Refer To:
8300 (WO200)

Ms. Margaret Byfield
Executive Director, American Stewards of Liberty
624 South Austin Avenue, Ste. 101
Georgetown, Texas 78626

Dear Ms. Byfield:

Thank you for your recent letters regarding the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) proposed planning rule. You requested to schedule a meeting with the BLM and local government representatives 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, New Mexico; and Dona Ana Soil and Water Conservation District, New Mexico.

The BLM takes seriously our responsibility under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to provide for meaningful public involvement of State and local government officials in the development of land use regulations. To this end, the BLM has provided multiple opportunities for local government officials and other members of the public to engage in the development of the planning rule. In the fall of 2014, the BLM hosted two public listening sessions and accepted written input on the Planning 2.0 initiative for more than six months. The listening sessions and written input informed the development of the proposed planning rule. Since the release of the proposed rule, the BLM has provided two interactive public webinars and hosted a public meeting in Denver to share information on the proposed rule and respond to questions. The BLM recently extended the public comment period on the proposed rule by 30 days in response to requests from local government officials and other members of the public.

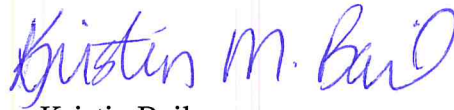
Through the National Association of Counties (NACo), the BLM has presented to local government officials on Planning 2.0 and the proposed planning rule on multiple occasions. The BLM will be attending NACo's western interstate region conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming on May 25th – 27th, 2016, and we look forward to engaging in dialogue at this meeting.

The BLM highly values the input we continue to receive from our State and local partners and we look forward to receiving formal public comments on the proposed rule. In order to provide your group the additional opportunity to provide input, I would like to extend an offer to set up a

conference call or webinar with representatives from the counties and groups listed above to listen to their concerns and answer any questions regarding the proposed rule.

Please provide us some desired dates and I will work to schedule a session for you with our project team. If you have additional questions, please contact Leah Baker, Division Chief, Decision support, Planning and NEPA at (202) 912-7282.

Sincerely,



Kristin Bail
Acting Assistant Director
Resources and Planning