



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Dillon Field Office

1005 Selway Drive

Dillon, Montana 59725

<http://www.blm.gov/montana-dakotas>



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In Reply Refer To:

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September 29, 2021

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED – 7016-1370-0000-0853-2056

Madison County Commissioners
PO Box 278
Virginia City, MT 59755

Dear Madison County Commissioners:

I am writing in response to concerns about public access to Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands found about 3-1/2 miles west of Virginia City, south and west of Adobetown, in Township 6 South, Range 3 West, sections 18, 19, 20 and 29. Public access to these parcels of BLM land is provided by the Adobe Road, a Madison County road, that leaves Highway 287 near the historic Adobe townsite in section 16, traveling about 1-1/2 miles southwest, through private lands, to BLM lands in section 19. From section 19, the public can access adjacent BLM lands in sections 18, 20 and 29.

The Bureau of Land Management manages public land under its jurisdiction under a multiple use mandate for the public. Some of the programs that represent this multiple use mission include dispersed and developed recreation, wildlife and fisheries habitat, mining, cultural resources, forestry and fuels/fire, range, lands and realty, abandoned mine cleanup, sensitive plants, noxious and invasive species, and soil water and air quality. The Adobe Road has provided legal access necessary for the BLM to carry out its mission for the public good.

In the event that the Adobe Road would cease to be a public road, thereby restricting public access and affecting the ability of the Bureau to carry out its multiple use mission, the BLM would seek to replace that access via an alternate route. The BLM Dillon Field Office enjoys a productive relationship with Madison County, working together for the betterment of the public good and so would look forward to working with the County to identify opportunities to restore public access through alternate routes, should that become necessary.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Amanda James
Field Manager
BLM/Dillon Field Office

Cc: Mark Davis, COO, Heroes and Horses

STANDARD FORM 299 (REV. 3/2020)

APPLICATION FOR TRANSPORTATION, UTILITY SYSTEMS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND FACILITIES ON FEDERAL LANDS AND PROPERTY

FORM APPROVED
OMB Control Number: 0596-0249
Expiration Date: 2/28/2023

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

NOTE: Before completing and filing the application for an authorization (easement, right-of-way, lease, license or permit), the applicant should completely review this package, including instructions, and schedule a pre-application meeting with representatives of the agency responsible for processing the application. Each agency may have specific and unique requirements to be met in preparing and processing the application. Many times, with the help of the agency representative, the application can be completed at the pre-application meeting.

Application Number

Date Filed

1. Name and address of applicant
Madison County
103 Wallace St
Virginia City, MT 59755

2. Name and address of authorized agent if different from item 1

3. Applicant telephone number and email:

Authorized agent telephone number and email:

4. As applicant are you? (check one)

- a. Individual
- b. Corporation*
- c. Partnership/Association*
- d. State Government/State Agency
- e. Local Government
- f. Federal Agency

* If checked, complete supplemental page

5. Specify what application is for: (check one)

- a. New authorization
- b. Renewing existing authorization number
- c. Amend existing authorization number
- d. Assign existing authorization number
- e. Existing use for which no authorization has been received *
- f. Other*

* If checked, provide details under item 7

6. If an individual, or partnership, are you a citizen(s) of the United States? Yes No

7. Project description (describe in detail): (a) Type of use or occupancy, (e.g., canal, pipeline, road, telecommunications); (b) related structures and facilities; (c) physical specifications (Length, width, grading, etc.); (d) term of days/years needed; (e) time of year of use or operation; (f) Volume or amount of product to be transported; (g) duration and timing of construction; and (h) temporary work areas needed for activity/construction (Attach additional sheets, if additional space is needed.)

The county wishes to abandon a current county road running through BLM land and establish this requested ROW as an alternate route for public access which will provide substantially the same access to the public land in accordance with MCA 7-14-2615(2). The current road is a narrow dirt two-track trail approximately 10 feet wide and the county wishes the requested ROW to be similar in size and type. The road to be abandoned is approximately 1.2 miles long on BLM property and this requested ROW would be approximately 0.9 miles long, decreasing the allowable miles for motorized traffic on this BLM parcel. Although motorized traffic is not currently allowed over the route of the proposed ROW, the public has been using it and a dirt two-track exists now so no further construction or environmental impact would be required. This request is for a permanent ROW grant from the federal government to Madison County.

The attached map shows the requested ROW in blue and the road to be abandoned in red.

8. Attach a map covering area and show location of project proposal.

9. State or Local government approval: Attached Applied for Not Required

10. Nonrefundable application fee: Attached Not required To be determined by agency

11. Does project cross international boundary or affect international waterways? Yes No (if "yes," indicate on map)

12. Give statement of your technical and financial capability to construct, operate, maintain, and terminate system for which authorization is being requested.

The proposed ROW is already established in its desired size and type as a result of frequent public use so no further construction or financial expenditure is required. The only step needed would be the removal of an existing "No Motorized Vehicles" sign.

13a. Describe other alternative locations considered.

The county considered not requesting this ROW and only allowing the public to use the current primary access along the length of Williams Creek Road on BLM land.

b. Why were these alternatives not selected?

The requested ROW provides access deeper into the BLM land and is closer to the route of the abandoned road.

c. Give explanation as to why it is necessary to use or occupy Federal assets (lands or buildings).

The county wishes to continue to provide open access to the BLM land and this ROW will provide an alternate to the abandoned road, which will provide substantially the same access to the public land in accordance with MCA 7-14-2615(2).

14. List authorizations and pending applications filed for similar projects which may provide information to the authorizing agency. (Specify number, date, code, or name)

15. Provide statement of need for project, including the economic feasibility and items such as: (a) cost of proposal (construction, operation, and maintenance); (b) estimated cost of next best alternative; and (c) expected public benefits.

Through current public use the requested ROW already exists in the same state as the road to be abandoned so no expenditure, construction, or environmental disturbance is required. The establishment of this ROW would give the public legal motorized access into the BLM land to a location close to the route of the road that will be abandoned.

16. Describe probable effects on the population in the area, including the social and economic aspects, and the rural lifestyles.

The establishment of this ROW for motorized public use will have no material effect on the population in this area. The route is almost entirely on public land and the adjoining landowner has consented to give the county easements for those small portions of the ROW that cross its land.

17. Describe likely environmental effects that the proposed project will have on: (a) air quality; (b) visual impact; (c) surface and ground water quality and quantity; (d) the control or structural change on any stream or other body of water; (e) existing noise levels; and (f) the surface of the land, including vegetation, permafrost, soil, and soil stability; and, (g) historic or archaeological resources or properties.

The current state of this ROW strongly suggests that the public has been using it for motorized access into the BLM land so while legitimizing that use may increase use somewhat it should have no material environmental or structural impact.

18. Describe the probable effects that the proposed project will have on (a) populations of fish, plant life, wildlife, and marine life, including threatened and endangered species; and (b) marine mammals, including hunting, capturing, collecting, or killing these animals.

The current state of this ROW strongly suggests that the public has been using it for motorized access into the BLM land so while legitimizing that use may increase use somewhat it should have no material impact on wildlife, marine life, or plant life.

19. State whether any hazardous material, as defined in this paragraph, would be used, produced, transported or stored on or in a federal building or federal lands or would be used in connection with the proposed use or occupancy. "Hazardous material" shall mean (a) any hazardous substance under section 101(14) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14); (b) any pollutant or contaminant under section 101(33) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(33); (c) any petroleum product or its derivative, including fuel oil, and waste oils; and (d) any hazardous substance, extremely hazardous substance, toxic substance, hazardous waste, ignitable, reactive or corrosive materials, pollutant, contaminant, element, compound, mixture, solution or substance that may pose a present or potential hazard to human health or the environment under any applicable environmental laws. The holder shall not store any hazardous materials at the site without prior written approval from the authorized officer. This approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. If the authorized officer provides approval, this permit shall include (or in the case of approval provided after this permit is issued, shall be amended to include) specific terms addressing the storage of hazardous materials, including the specific type of materials to be stored, the volume, the type of storage, and a spill plan. Such terms shall be proposed by the holder and are subject to approval by the authorized officer.

Hazardous material would move along this ROW only in the fuel tanks of motorized vehicles. The ROW would not be used for the purpose of storing or transporting hazardous materials.

20. Name all the Federal Department(s)/Agency(ies) where this application is being filed.

Bureau of Land Management

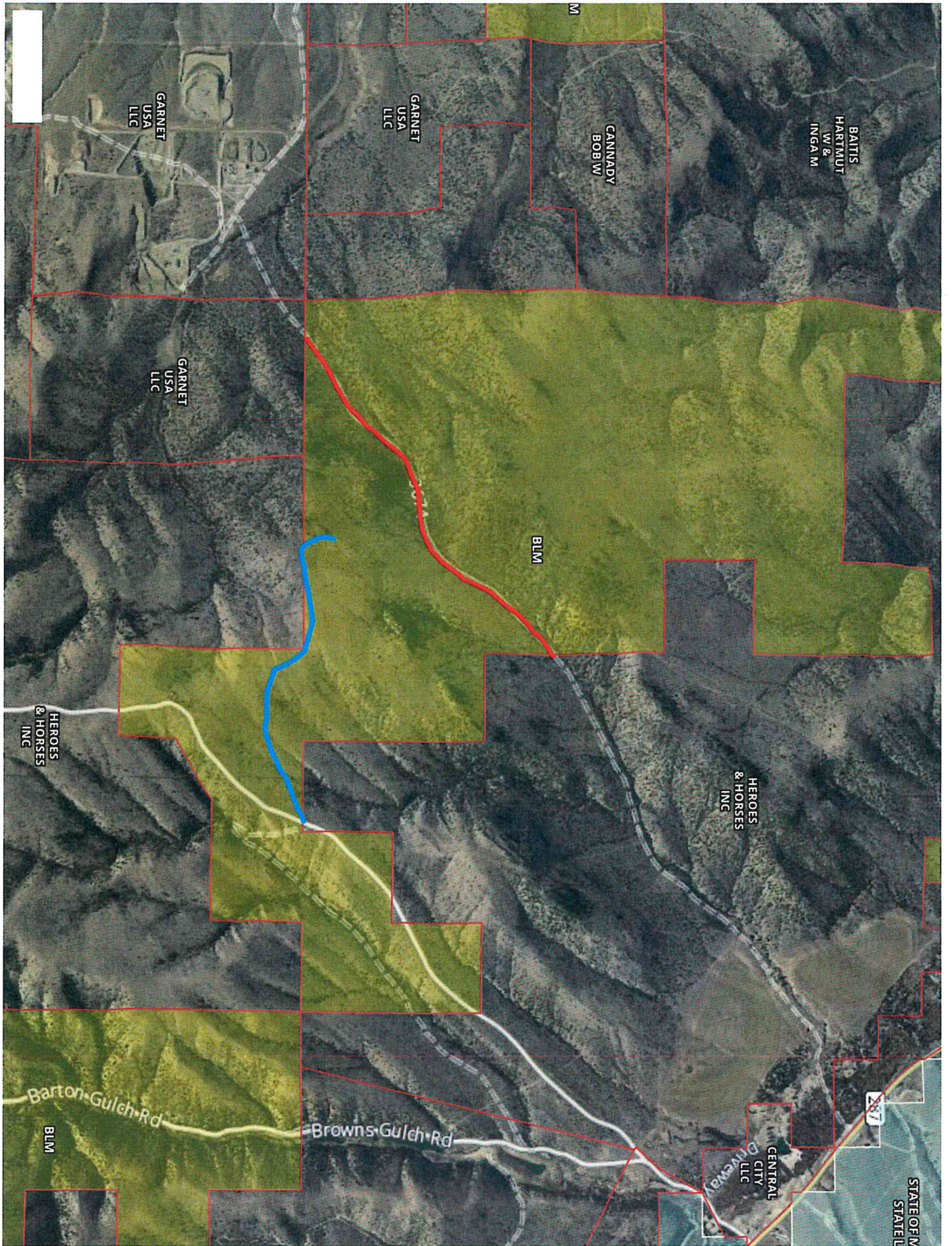
I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I am of legal age and authorized to do business in the State and that I have personally examined the information contained in the application and believe that the information submitted is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant

Date

De W. Allred Chairman Madison County Commission | *10-12-2021*

Title 18, U.S.C. Section 1001, makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.



GENERAL INFORMATION
ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS

This application will be used when applying for a right-of-way, permit, license, lease, or certificate for the use of Federal lands which lie within conservation system units and National Recreation or Conservation Areas as defined in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. Conservation system units include the National Park System, National Wildlife Refuge System, National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, National Trails System, National Wilderness Preservation System, and National Forest Monuments.

Transportation utility systems telecommunication installations facility uses for which the application may be used are:

1. Canals, ditches, flumes, laterals, pipes, pipelines, tunnels, and other systems for the transportation of water.
2. Pipelines and other systems for the transportation of liquids other than water, including oil, natural gas, synthetic liquid and gaseous fuels, and any refined product produced therefrom.
3. Pipelines, slurry and emulsion systems, and conveyor belts for transportation of solid materials.
4. Systems for the transmission and distribution of electric energy.
5. Wired and wireless systems for transmission or reception of radio, television, telephone, telegraph, and other electronic signals, and other means of communications.
6. Improved right-of-way for snow machines, air cushion vehicles, and all-terrain vehicles.
7. Roads, highways, railroads, tunnels, tramways, airports, landing strips, docks, and other systems of general transportation.

This application must be filed simultaneously with each Federal department or agency requiring authorization to establish and operate your proposal.

In Alaska, the following agencies will help the applicant file an application and identify the other agencies the applicant should contact and possibly file with:

Department of Agriculture
Regional Forester, Forest Service (USFS)
P.O. Box 21628
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1628
Telephone: (907) 586-7847
(or a local Forest Service Office)

Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
Alaska Regional Office
709 West 9th Street
Juneau, Alaska 99802
Telephone: (907) 586-7177

Department of the Interior
Alaska State Office
Bureau of Land Management
222 West 7th Avenue #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513
Public Room: 907-271-5960
FAX: 907-271-3684
(or a local BLM Office)

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS)
Office of the Regional Director
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Telephone: (907) 786-3440

National Park Service (NPS)
Alaska Regional Office
240 West 5th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Telephone: (907) 644-3510

Note - Filings with any Interior agency may be filed with any office noted above or with the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, Regional Environmental Officer, P.O. Box 120, 1675 C Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99513.

Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration
Alaska Region AAL-4, 222 West 7th Ave., Box 14
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7587
Telephone: (907) 271-5285

NOTE - The Department of Transportation has established the above central filing point for agencies within that Department. Affected agencies are: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Coast Guard (USCG), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

OTHER THAN ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS

Use of this form is not limited to National Interest Conservation Lands of Alaska.

Individual department/agencies may authorize the use of this form by applicants for transportation, utility systems, telecommunication installations and facilities on other Federal lands outside those areas described above.

For proposals located outside of Alaska, applications will be filed at the local agency office or at a location specified by the responsible Federal agency.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS
(Items not listed are self-explanatory)

- 7 Attach preliminary site and facility construction plans. The responsible agency will provide instructions whenever specific plans are required.
- 8 Generally, the map must show the section(s), township(s), and range(s) within which the project is to be located. Show the proposed location of the project on the map as accurately as possible. Some agencies require detailed survey maps. The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.
- 9, 10, and 12 The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.
- 13 Providing information on alternate locations in as much detail as possible, discussing why certain locations were rejected and why it is necessary to use Federal assets will assist the agency(ies) in processing your application and reaching a final decision. Include only reasonable alternate locations as related to current technology and economics.
- 14 The responsible agency will provide instructions.
- 15 Generally, a simple statement of the purpose of the proposal will be sufficient. However, major proposals located in critical or sensitive areas may require a full analysis with additional specific information. The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.
- 16 through 19 Providing this information with as much detail as possible will assist the Federal agency(ies) in processing the application and reaching a decision. When completing these items, you should use a sound judgment in furnishing relevant information. For example, if the project is not near a stream or other body of water, do not address this subject. The responsible agency will provide additional instructions.

Application must be signed by the applicant or applicant's authorized representative.

EFFECT OF NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION

Disclosure of the information is voluntary. If all the information is not provided, the proposal or application may be rejected.

DATA COLLECTION STATEMENT

The Federal agencies collect this information from proponents and applicants requesting a right-of-way, permit, license, lease, or certification for use of Federal assets. The Federal agencies use this information to evaluate a proponent's or applicant's proposal to use Federal assets.

BURDEN STATEMENT

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0249. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 8 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The authority to collect this information is derived from 47 U.S.C. 1455(c)(3) and 16 U.S.C. 3210.

USDA NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (voice). TDD users can contact USDA through local relay or the Federal relay at (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (relay voice). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) govern the confidentiality to be provided for information received by the Forest Service.

SUPPLEMENTAL

NOTE: The responsible agency(ies) will provide instructions	CHECK APPROPRIATE BLOCK	
I - PRIVATE CORPORATIONS	ATTACHED	FILED *
a. Articles of Incorporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Corporation Bylaws	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. A certification from the State showing the corporation is in good standing and is entitled to operate within the State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Copy of resolution authorizing filing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The name and address of each shareholder owning 3 percent or more of the shares, together with the number and percentage of any class of voting shares of the entity which such shareholder is authorized to vote and the name and address of each affiliate of the entity together with, in the case of an affiliate controlled by the entity, the number of shares and the percentage of any class of voting stock of that affiliate owned, directly or indirectly, by that entity, and in the case of an affiliate which controls that entity, the number of shares and the percentage of any class of voting stock of that entity owned, directly or indirectly, by the affiliate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, describe any related right-of-way or temporary use permit applications, and identify previous applications.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. If application is for an oil and gas pipeline, identify all Federal lands by agency impacted by proposal.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
II - PUBLIC CORPORATIONS		
a. Copy of law forming corporation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Proof of organization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Copy of Bylaws	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Copy of resolution authorizing filing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, provide information required by item "I - f" and "I - g" above.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
III - PARTNERSHIP OR OTHER UNINCORPORATED ENTITY		
a. Articles of association, if any	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. If one partner is authorized to sign, resolution authorizing action is	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Name and address of each participant, partner, association, or other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. If application is for an oil or gas pipeline, provide information required by item "I - f" and "I - g" above.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* If the required information is already filed with the agency processing this application and is current, check block entitled "Filed." Provide the file identification information (e.g., number, date, code, name). If not on file or current, attach the requested information.