

PUZZLES

THEME: GREETINGS

- ACROSS**
- Shapeless masses
 - German card game
 - RFK's brother
 - "The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing" author
 - Ancient Chinese dynasty
 - Top of a steeple
 - Ice house
 - Not outs
 - Gustatory sensation
 - "What's cooking, good ____?"
 - "Greeting aimed at a king"
 - Like a fox
 - Easy run
 - "Harper Valley ____"
 - Off-limits
 - Daryl Hannah/Tom Hanks movie
 - Snaky swimmers
 - Coal unit
 - Vigorous fight
 - Done before dealing
 - Walk leisurely
 - Like certain food trend
 - Raccoon's South American cousin
 - Dano or Rudd, e.g.
 - Deep-red variety of chalcodony
 - Straying, as in baseball
 - FBI agent, slangily
 - It's the limit?
 - Alex Honnold's "Free ____"
 - Long Island iced ____
 - "Military greeting"
 - ____ greetings, in December
 - Last test
 - Had a meal
 - Ilya Rozanov to Shane Hollander, e.g.
 - Take puppy from a pound
 - Hemingway's "____ Whom the Bell Tolls"
 - Bodily swelling
 - Hibernation stations
 - Pampering spot
 - Extend subscription

- DOWN**
- Leave without farewell, slangily
 - Kids' construction set
 - Capital of Norway
 - Amazon offerings, originally
 - Spoiled, in U.K.
 - Nest material
 - Even, poetically
 - 70s dance joint
 - Capone's shoe cover
 - "Twice-done greeting move, in Italy"
 - Creative
 - PGA peg
 - Bacterial throat infections
 - Spiral-horned antelope
 - FedEx competitor
 - Lower back pain, in the olden days
 - "Salaam, in English"
 - Operatic voice
 - Hitching post?
 - "Bro fist motion"
 - Smaller in amount
 - Road-tripping guide
 - Baby carrier?
 - "Cowboy's greeting"
 - Bristle
 - Little Jack Horner's treat
 - Fill with happy spirit
 - Injury's painful partner
 - Toddler
 - Closer
 - Toronto Maple ____
 - Comment to the audience
 - Fries, e.g.
 - At another time, to Romeo or Juliet
 - Swimming lengths
 - Doris Day's "Que ____"
 - Kitchen appliance
 - Given at birth
 - Cabbage dish
 - Temporary craze
 - "____ of the morning!"

CROSSWORD

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QUESTIONS? CALL THE HERALD OFFICE AT 970-878-4017

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Estate of Ralph E. Backes, Deceased
Case No.: 2026 PR 3
All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the Personal Representative or to the District Court of Rio Blanco County, Colorado on or before September 30, 2026, or said claims may be forever barred.
Troy Backes,
Personal Representative
290 Williams Way #68
Moab, Colorado 84532
Published: June 4, 11 and 18, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

BEFORE THE ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO
IN THE MATTER OF THE PROMULGATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF FIELD RULES TO GOVERN OPERATIONS FOR THE WILLIAMS FORK, OHIO CREEK, AND ILES FORMATIONS, PICEANCE CREEK FIELD, RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO
CAUSE NO. 579

DOCKET NO. 260200030
TYPE: OIL & GAS DEVELOPMENT PLAN
NOTICE OF HEARING
QB Energy Operating LLC (Operator No. 10844) ("QB" or "Applicant") filed an Application with the Commission for an order to establish an Oil & Gas Development Plan ("OGDP") on the lands identified below (the "Application Lands"). Generally, an OGDP is the process whereby an applicant obtains approval to develop oil or gas resources at one or more oil and gas locations by drilling a specific number of wells. Importantly, an OGDP is not a pooling application. This Notice was sent to you because the Applicant believes you may: 1) be an Owner of oil and/or gas ("mineral") interests to be developed by the proposed OGDP; 2) own, reside, or operate a first responder agency on property within 2,000 feet of a working pad surface included in the OGDP; or 3) be otherwise entitled to notice pursuant to Commission Rule 303.e.(1).
APPLICATION LANDS
Township 1 South, Range 97 West, 6th P.M.
Section 22: S½S½
Section 23: S½S½
Section 26: All

Section 27: E½
Section 34: N½NE¼
Section 35: N½N½
DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION OF HEARING
(Subject to change)
A Commission hearing on the above-referenced docket number is currently scheduled for the following date, time, and location:
Date: July 29, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Virtual Hearing with Remote Access via Zoom
To participate virtually navigate to https://ecmc.state.co.us/#/home and locate the Zoom meeting link on the left side of the webpage.
Energy and Carbon Management Commission
The Chancery Building
1120 Lincoln Street, Suite 801
Denver, CO 80203
Parties to this hearing will be notified if this date, time, or place changes. For the most up-to-date information regarding the Commission's hearing schedule, please visit https://ecmc.state.co.us/#/home, click on "Commission Hearings," and click on "Preliminary Agendas."
PUBLIC COMMENT

Any party may file a public comment for the review of Commission Staff related to the above-described OGDP. All public comments will be included in the administrative record for the OGDP proceeding. Parties wishing to file a public comment on the above-described OGDP may find the "eFiling Public Comment Portal" under "Hearings" on the ECMC homepage or use the eFiling system outlined below.
PETITIONS
DEADLINE FOR PETITIONS BY AFFECTED PARTIES: June 29, 2026
Any interested party who wishes to participate formally in this matter must file a written petition with the Commission no later than the deadline provided above. Please see Commission Rule 507 at https://ecmc.state.co.us/#/home, under "Regulation," then select "Rules." Please note that, under Commission Rule 510.1, the deadline for petitions may only be continued for good cause, even if the hearing is continued beyond the date that is stated above. Pursuant to Commission Rule 507, if you do not file a proper petition, the Hearing Officer will not know that you wish to formally participate in this matter and the date and time of the hearing may change without additional

notice to you. Parties wishing to file a petition must register online at https://oitco.hylandcloud.com/DNR/COExternalAccess/Account/Login.aspx and select "Request Access to Site." Please refer to our "eFiling Users Guidebook" at https://ecmc.state.co.us/documents/reg/Hearings/External_EFilingSystemGuidebook_2023_FINAL.pdf for more information.
Any Affected Person who files a petition must be able to participate in a virtual prehearing conference during the week of June 29, 2026, if a virtual prehearing conference is requested by the Applicant or by any person who has filed a petition.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
For more information, you may review the Application, which was sent to you with this Notice. You may also contact the Applicant at the phone number or email address listed below.
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if any party requires special accommodations as a result of a disability for this hearing, please contact Margaret Humecki at Dnr_ECMC_Hearings_Unit@state.co.us, prior to the hearing and arrangements will be made.
ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF

COLORADO
By: Elias J. Thomas, Commission Secretary
Dated: May 27, 2026
Applicant
QB Energy Operating LLC
ATTN: Doug Dennison
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Denver, CO 80202
ddennison@qb-energy.com
Attorneys for Applicant
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jost@jostenergylaw.com
kwasylenyk@jostenergylaw.com
Published: June 4, 2026
Rio Blanco Herald Times

NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID
Rio Blanco County is soliciting sealed bids for Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Projects located on County Road 33 and at the Old Meeker Landfill. The projects generally include drainage improvements, erosion protection, grading, culvert installation, debris removal, and related watershed protection work.
The complete Invitation to Bid (ITB),