

**THE ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION ACT (EPCA)
CUMULATIVE PHASE II INVENTORY: SOUND SCIENCE TO SUPPORT ENERGY POLICY**

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The Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA) inventory is now in its second phase and will be released during the summer of 2005. The Phase II inventory is a cumulative, comprehensive review of Federal oil and gas resources and constraints on their development in major basins (Northern Alaska, Uinta/Piceance Basin, Paradox/San Juan Basins, Montana Thrust Belt, Powder River Basin, Wyoming Thrust Belt, Greater Green River Basin, Denver Basin, Florida Peninsula, Black Warrior Basin, and Appalachian Basin) across the U.S. These basins contain most (an estimated 88 percent) of the onshore natural gas and oil under Federal ownership or regulation. For the Federal public-land managing agencies the inventory will serve primarily as a planning tool, helping them to develop management plans for the lands under their jurisdiction. The inventory is a critical step in evaluating whether existing rules are appropriate or need to be changed, either to promote appropriate resource development or to provide greater protection to the environment.

The methodology and results for the EPCA Phase II Inventory will be presented. The EPCA requires that all onshore Federal lands be inventoried. The inventory will be expanded in the future to encompass all Federal lands and resources.