

requesting comments on the collection. The comment period ended November 4, 1996. No comments were received. Copies of the proposed collection of information may be obtained by contacting the Bureau's Clearance Office at the phone number listed below.

OMB is required to respond to this request within 60 days but may respond after 30 days. For maximum consideration, your comments and suggestions on the requirement should be made within 30 days directly to the Office of Management and Budget, Interior Department Desk Officer (1004-0074), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20503, telephone (202) 395-7340. Please provide a copy of your comments to the Bureau Clearance Officer (WO-630) 1849 C St., N.W., Mail Stop 401 LS, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Nature of Comments:

We specifically request your comments on the following:

1. Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper functioning of the Bureau of Land Management, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. The accuracy of BLM's estimate of the burden of collecting the information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. The quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. How to minimize the burden of collecting the information on those who are to respond, including the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology.

Title: Oil and Gas and Geothermal Resources Leasing (43 CFR 3120, 3209 and 3220).

OMB Approval Number: 1004-0074.

Abstract: Respondents supply information that will be used to determine the highest qualified bonus bid submitted for a competitive oil and gas or geothermal resources parcel on Federal land and to enable the BLM to complete reviews in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The BLM needs the information to determine the eligibility of an applicant to hold, explore for, develop, and produce oil and gas and geothermal resources on Federal lands.

Form Numbers: 3000-2 and 3200-9.

Frequency: On occasion.

Description of Respondents:

Individuals, small businesses, large corporations.

Estimated Completion Time: 2 hours each form.

Annual Responses: 443.

Annual Burden Hours: 886.

Bureau Clearance Officer: Carole Smith (202) 452-0367.

Dated: February 27, 1997.

Frank P. Bruno,

Acting Manager, Regulatory Affairs Group.

[FR Doc. 97-5556 Filed 3-5-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-P

[MT-921-07-1320-01; NDM 85515]

Coal Lease Offering

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of coal lease offering by sealed bid NDM 85515, NDM 85517, NDM 85537 (Acq.)—The Coteau Properties Company, and NDM 85516—The Falkirk Mining Company.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the coal resources in the tracts described below in Mercer and McLean Counties, North Dakota, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid, in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of February 25, 1920, as amended (41 Stat. 437; 30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.), and The Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands of August 7, 1947, as amended (30 U.S.C. 351-359 et seq.). This offering is being made as a result of applications filed by The Coteau Properties Company and The Falkirk Mining Company.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Environmental Assessments of the proposed coal developments and related requirements for consultation, public involvement and hearings have been completed in accordance with 43 CFR 3425. The results of these activities were a finding of no significant environmental impact.

Each tract will be leased to the qualified bidder of the highest cash amount provided that the high bid meets the fair market value of the coal resource. The minimum bid for each tract is \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof. No bid that is less than \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof, will be considered. The minimum bid is not intended to represent fair market value. The fair market value will be determined by the authorized officer after the sale.

All tracts in this lease offering contain split estate lands. Regulations at 43 CFR 3427 set out the protection that shall be afforded qualified surface owners of split estate lands (as defined at 43 CFR 3400.0-5).

Coal Tracts Offered

The recoverable coal reserves of the tracts NDM 85515, NDM 85517, and NDM 85537 (Acquired) are contained in the Beulah-Zap lignite seam of the

Sentinel Butte Formation of the Fort Union Group. The recoverable coal reserve of NDM 85516 is contained in the Hagel lignite seam of the Sentinel Butte Formation of the Fort Union Group.

NDM 85515

The coal resource to be offered consists of all recoverable reserves in the following-described lands located in Mercer County, North Dakota:

T. 145 N., R. 87 W., 5th P.M.

Sec. 2: Lot 3, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

The 79.470-acre tract contains an estimated 2.00 million tons of recoverable coal reserves. For NDM 85515, the Beulah-Zap seam averages 15.5 feet in thickness with an average overburden depth of 125 feet, 6,690 BTU/lb. in heating value, and 1.43% sulphur content.

NDM 85516

The coal resource to be offered consists of all recoverable reserves in the following-described lands located in McLean County, North Dakota:

T. 146 N., R. 81 W., 5th P.M.

Sec. 30: Lot 4, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

The recoverable coal reserve in this 158.75-acre tract is contained in the Hagel lignite seam. The Hagel seam of the Sentinel Butte Formation of the Fort Union Group is split into two benches throughout the area. The upper bench, the Hagel A, ranges from 0 to 10.6 feet over the Falkirk Mine area and averages 8.6 feet in thickness, 6,082 BTU/lb. in heating value, and 0.55% sulphur content. Separating the upper and lower benches of the Hagel seam is an interburden layer ranging from 8 to 32 feet in thickness and consisting of clays, silts, and carbonaceous matter. The lower bench, the Hagel B, ranges from 0 to 4.4 feet over the mine area and averages 3.5 feet in thickness, 6,012 BTU/lb. in heating value, and 0.62% sulphur content. An estimated 1.75 million tons of recoverable lignite are present in the Hagel A and Hagel B coal seams.

NDM 85517

The coal resource to be offered consists of all recoverable reserves in the following-described lands located in Mercer County, North Dakota:

T. 146 N., R. 87 W., 5th P.M.

Sec. 30: Lot 2

T. 146 N., R. 88 W., 5th P.M.

Sec. 26: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

Sec. 34: E $\frac{1}{2}$

The 398.790-acre tract contains an estimated 5.61 million tons of recoverable coal reserves. For NDM

85517, the Beulah-Zap averages 17.0 feet in thickness with an average overburden depth of 57 feet, 6,766 BTU/lb. in heating value, and 0.46% sulphur content.

NDM 85537 (Acquired)

The coal resource to be offered consists of all recoverable reserves in the following-described lands located in Mercer County, North Dakota. The United States owns 50 percent mineral interest in these lands.

T. 146 N., R. 87 W., 5th P.M.
Sec. 31: NE¼

The Federal interest in the 160.00-acre tract contains an estimated 0.51 million tons of recoverable coal reserves. For NDM 85537 (Acquired), the Beulah-Zap seam averages 16.0 feet in thickness with an average overburden depth of 70 feet, 6,766 BTU/lb. in heating value, and 0.46% sulphur content.

Rental and Royalty

Leases issued as a result of this offering will provide for payment of an annual rental of \$3 per acre, or fraction thereof; and a royalty payable to the United States of 12.5 percent of the value of coal mined by surface methods and 8.0 percent of the value of coal mined by underground methods. The value of the coal shall be determined in accordance with 30 CFR 206.

Date

The lease sale will be held at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 26, 1997, in the Conference Room on the Sixth Floor of the Granite Tower Building, Bureau of Land Management, 222 North 32nd Street, Billings, Montana 59101.

Bids

Sealed bids must be submitted on or before 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 26, 1997, to the cashier, Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, Second Floor, Granite Tower Building, 222 North 32nd Street, Post Office Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800. The bids should be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or be hand-delivered. The cashier will issue a receipt for each hand-delivered bid. Bids received after that time will not be considered.

If identical high sealed bids are received, the tying high bidders will be requested to submit follow-up sealed bids until a high bid is received. All tie-breaking sealed bids must be submitted within 15 minutes following the Sale Official's announcement at the sale that identical high bids have been received.

Notice of Availability

Bidding instructions for the offered tracts are included in the detailed statement of Lease Sale. Copies of the detailed statement and the proposed coal leases are available at the Montana State Office. Casefile documents are also available for public inspection at the Montana State Office.

Dated: February 26, 1997.
Thomas P. Lonnie,
Deputy State Director, Division of Resources.
[FR Doc. 97-5528 Filed 3-5-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

[NV-030-1992-02]

Notice of Availability for the Denton-Rawhide Mine Expansion Project Final Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability for the Denton-Rawhide Mine Expansion Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), Mineral County, Nevada.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 102 (2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act, 40 CFR 1500-1508 and 43 CFR 3809, notice is given that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared, with the assistance of a third-party consultant, a FEIS for Kennecott Rawhide Mining Company's proposed Denton-Rawhide Mine Expansion, located approximately 55 miles southeast of Fallon, Nevada. Copies of the document are available for public review.

DATES: Written comments on the FEIS will be accepted until close of business on April 7, 1997. No public meetings are scheduled. Following the 30-day availability period of this FEIS, a Record of Decision (ROD) will be issued.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the FEIS can be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Carson City District Office, Attn: Terri Knutson, Rawhide Project Manager, 1535 Hot Springs Road 89706.

The FEIS is available for inspection at the following locations: BLM State Office (Reno) and BLM Carson City District Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information, write to the above address or call Terri Knutson at (702) 885-6156.

Dated: February 24, 1997.
John O. Singlaub,
District Manager.
[FR Doc. 97-5476 Filed 3-5-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

[(NM-930-1310-01); (NMNM 92169)]

New Mexico: Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Lease

Under the provisions of Public Law 97-451, a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas lease NMNM 92169 for lands in Chaves County, New Mexico, was timely filed and was accompanied by all required rentals and royalties accruing from December 1, 1996, the date of termination.

No valid lease has been issued affecting the lands. The lessee has agreed to new lease terms of rentals and royalties at rates of \$10.00 per acre or fraction thereof and 16⅔ percent, respectively. The lessee has paid the required \$500 administrative fee and has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of this Federal Register notice.

The Lessee has met all the requirements for reinstatement of the lease as set out in Sections 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1930 (30 USC 188), and the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate the lease effective December 1, 1996, subject to the original terms and conditions of the lease and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

For further information contact: Lourdes B. Ortiz, BLM, New Mexico State Office, (505) 438-7586.

Dated: February 26, 1997.
Lourdes B. Ortiz,
Land Law Examiner
[FR Doc. 97-5473 Filed 3-5-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-FB-M

[(NM-070-1430-01; NMNM039649/
NMNM96454, NMNM22493/NMNM97415]

Notice of Realty Action; Recreation and Public Purpose (R&PP) Act

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: R&PP transfer of title and change of use located in San Juan County, New Mexico.

SUMMARY: The following described public land are classified (previously) as being suitable for lease/conveyance under the provisions of the R&PP Act, as amended (43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.). An assignment from the City of Farmington to the Farmington Municipal School District #5, with a change of use taking place for the following lands.

New Mexico Principal Meridian
T. 30 N., R. 13 W.,
Sec 25, S½SW¼NE¼SW¼,
SW¼SE¼NE¼SW¼,