

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management****[WY-920-1320-EL, WYW162764]****Coal Lease Exploration License, WY****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of invitation for coal exploration license.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 2(b) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended by section 4 of the Federal Coal Leasing Amendments Act of 1976, 90 Stat. 1083, 30 U.S.A. 201(b), and to the regulations adopted at 43 CFR 3410, all interested parties are hereby invited to participate with Powder River Coal Company on a pro rata cost sharing basis in its program for the exploration of coal deposits owned by the United States of America in the following described lands in Campbell County, WY.

T. 51 N., R. 72 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming  
Sec. 8: Lot 13;  
Sec. 17: Lots 1-4, 7-9.

Containing 315.18 acres, more or less.

All of the coal in the above-described land consists of unleased Federal coal within the Powder River Basin Known Recoverable Coal Resource Area. The purpose of the exploration program is to obtain data for the purpose of obtaining structural and quality information needed to identify coal reserves that may be used in the Gold Mine Draw Alluvial Valley Floor (AVF) Exchange application that was filed August 15, 2003, by Powder River Coal Company.

**ADDRESSES:** The proposed exploration program is fully described and will be conducted pursuant to an exploration plan to be approved by the Bureau of Land Management. Copies of the exploration plan, serialized under number WYW162764, are available for review during normal business hours in the following offices: Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, WY 82003, and Bureau of Land Management, Casper Field Office, 2987 Prospector Drive, Casper, WY 82604.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice of invitation will be published in *The News-Record* of Gillette, WY, once each week for two consecutive weeks beginning the week of April 18, 2005, and in the **Federal Register**. Any party electing to participate in this exploration program must send written notice to both the Bureau of Land Management and Powder River Coal Company no later than thirty days after

publication of this invitation in the **Federal Register**. The written notice should be sent to the following addresses: Powder River Coal Company, Attn: Les Petersen, P.O. Box 3034, Gillette, WY 82717, and the Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, Branch of Solid Minerals, Attn: Mavis Love, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, WY 82003.

The foregoing is published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to 43 CFR 3410.2-1(c)(1).

**Robert A. Bennett,***State Director.*

[FR Doc. 05-7037 Filed 4-8-05; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-22-P****DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Land Management****[CA-360-1430-EU]****Notice of Intent for Amendment of Redding Resource Management Plan (RMP)****AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Redding Field Office intends to amend the Redding Resource Management Plan (RMP), changing the existing language of the RMP which specifies that the primary means for land tenure adjustment will be through land exchanges. At present land sales are allowed only for small-acreage, low-value parcels. The proposed change would enable disposal of lands by sales or exchanges, or by legislative transfer. This amendment would not change the status of lands presently identified for retention or for disposal in the RMP. Sale proceeds will be used in the same manner as exchange properties, for the acquisition of lands in those areas identified for acquisition in the RMP, pursuant to the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA), dated July 25, 2000.

**DATES:** The Bureau of Land Management must receive your written scoping comments on or before May 11, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** Please send your written scoping comments to the Bureau of Land Management, Redding Field Office, 355 Hemsted Drive, Redding, CA 96002, attention Ilene Emry. All submissions from organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety. Individuals may request confidentiality with respect to their name, address, and phone number. If you wish to have your

name or street address withheld from public review, or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, the first line of the comment should start with the words "CONFIDENTIALITY REQUEST" in uppercase letters in order for BLM to comply with your request. Such request will be honored to the extent allowed by law. Comment contents will not be kept confidential.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Ilene Emry, Redding Field Office, 355 Hemsted Drive, Redding, CA, 96002; 530-224-2100 or by e-mail to [iemry@ca.blm.gov](mailto:iemry@ca.blm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Redding Resource Management Plan (RMP) was approved on July 27, 1993. One of the goals of the RMP is to consolidate approximately 1000 scattered public parcels into more manageable units. The primary tool for consolidation has been the land exchange process. Prior to the passage of Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) July 25, 2000 there was no mechanism for proceeds from the sale of public land to be retained by the Redding Field Office to acquire inholdings and other lands needed to facilitate effective resource management. Sale of public land is only allowed for small uneconomical parcels in the current RMP. Since the completion of the RMP in 1993, the FLTFA was approved allowing sale proceeds to be used by the Redding Field Office for the goal as established in the RMP of acquiring lands with greater resource values. The initial focus of these acquisitions will be in the Sacramento Bend Area of Critical Environmental Concern. Secondary areas where additional acquisitions will be completed include the Trinity River corridor and Interlakes Special Recreation Management Area.

BLM will notify the public through local news media and BLM website when the draft plan amendment and environmental assessment will be available for public comment. Preliminary issues and concerns have been identified by BLM personnel, other agencies, and individuals. Disciplines involved in the planning process will include specialists with expertise in wildlife management, minerals and geology, outdoor recreation, archaeology, lands and realty, and botany. The alternative to the proposed action will be the No Action Alternative (continue present management actions).

Dated: February 23, 2005.

**Steven W. Anderson,**

*Field Manager.*

[FR Doc. 05-7109 Filed 4-8-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-050-1430-ER; N-79203]

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Virgin and Muddy Rivers Surface Water Development Project

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

*Cooperating Agency:* Cooperating agencies will be identified in the notice of availability when published.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Las Vegas Field Office, will be directing the preparation of an EIS for the Virgin and Muddy Rivers Surface Water Development pipeline and associated facilities and initiate the public scoping process.

**DATES:** The scoping comment period will commence on April 11, 2005, and will end on June 10, 2005. Comments on the scope of the EIS, including concerns, issues, or proposed alternatives that should be considered should be submitted in writing to the address below, and will be accepted throughout the scoping period. This scoping notice will be distributed by mail on or about the date of this notice. All scoping meetings will be announced 15 days in advance through the local news media, newsletters, and the BLM Web site at <http://nv.blm.gov>.

**ADDRESSES:** Please mail written comments to the BLM, Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89130-2301, (fax (702) 515-5023). Comments submitted, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Las Vegas Field Office during regular business hours from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name and address from public review or disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or

businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information or to have your name added to the EIS mailing list, contact Michael N. Johnson at the Las Vegas Field Office (see address above), telephone (702) 515-5117; e-mail [Michael\\_Johnson@nv.blm.gov](mailto:Michael_Johnson@nv.blm.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Virgin and Muddy Rivers Surface Water Development Project is proposed by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), and would be located in northeastern Clark County, Nevada. The proposed project would develop and convey existing surface water rights owned by the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) from the Virgin and Muddy Rivers to the Las Vegas Valley. SNWA holds permits for an average annual diversion of 113,000 acre-feet per year from the Virgin River, with a permitted point of diversion at Halfway Wash and a diversion period of October through May of each year. SNWA also owns and continues to purchase shares of the Muddy Valley Irrigation Company, which equate to permitted rights on the Muddy River.

The proposed facilities include a diversion structure on the Virgin River near the confluence with Halfway Wash, radial wells in the Virgin River channel, a storage reservoir in Halfway Wash, approximately 60 miles of water conveyance pipelines, pumping stations, water treatment facility, brine evaporation ponds, overhead power lines, and other appurtenances. The facilities would be generally located within and/or across the following public lands:

Diversion Structure/Radial Wells—Townships 14 and 15 South, Range 69 East, various sections;

Halfway Wash Reservoir—Township 14 South, Ranges 68 and 69 East, various sections;

Pipelines—Townships 14-19 South, Ranges 62-70 East, various sections;

Pumping Stations—Townships 13-15 South, Ranges 67-69 and 71, various sections;

Water Treatment/Evaporation Ponds—Township 17 South, Ranges 63 and 64 East, various sections;

Power Lines—Townships 14 and 15 South, Ranges 67-69 East, various sections.

A map of the proposed project is available for viewing at the Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130-2301.

Dated: March 1, 2005.

**Angie Lara,**

*Acting Las Vegas Field Manager.*

[FR Doc. 05-7118 Filed 4-8-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CO-921-05-1320-EL; COC 67232]

#### Notice of Public Hearing and Request for Comments on the Environmental Impact Statement, Maximum Economic Recovery Report, and Fair Market Value; Application for Competitive Coal Lease COC 67232; Colorado

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of public hearing.

**SUMMARY:** Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Office, Lakewood, Colorado, hereby gives notice that a public hearing will be held to receive comments on the environmental impact statement, maximum economic recovery, and fair market value of federal coal to be offered. An application for coal lease was filed by Ark Land Company. The Bureau of Land Management offers for competitive lease 1,517.13 acres of Federal coal in Gunnison County, Colorado, Gunnison National Forest.

**DATES:** The public hearing will be held at 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 27, 2005. Written comments should be received no later than May 17, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** The public hearing will be held in the Paonia Town Hall located at 214 Grand Avenue, Paonia, Colorado. Written comments should be addressed to the Uncompahgre Field Office Manager, Uncompahgre Field Office, 2505 South Townsend Avenue, Montrose, Colorado 81401.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Field Office Manager, Uncompahgre Field Office at the address above, or by telephone at 970-240-5300.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Office, Lakewood, Colorado, hereby gives notice that a public hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2005, at 7 p.m., at the Paonia Town Hall at the address given above.

An application for coal lease was filed by Ark Land Company. The Bureau of Land Management offers for competitive lease federal coal in the lands outside established coal production regions described as:

T. 13 S., R. 90 W., 6th P.M.