

Dated: January 31, 2006.

Michael D. Olsen,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. 06–1292 Filed 2–10–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–W7–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Fee-to-Trust Conveyance of Property for the Cayuga Indian Nation of New York, Cayuga and Seneca Counties, New York

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), as lead agency, with the cooperation of the Cayuga Indian Nation (Nation), intends to gather the information necessary for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the conveyance into trust of 125± acres of land currently held in fee by the Nation. The purpose of the proposed action is to create a tribal land base and to help meet the Nation's socio-economic needs. This notice also announces a public scoping meeting to identify potential issues, alternatives and content for inclusion in the EIS.

DATES: Written comments on the scope of the EIS or implementation of the proposal must arrive by March 15, 2006.

The public scoping meeting will be held March 1, 2006, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., or until the last public comment is received.

ADDRESSES: You may mail, hand carry or telefax written comments to Franklin Keel, Regional Director, Eastern Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 545 Marriott Drive, Suite 700, Nashville, Tennessee 37214, Telefax (615) 564–6701. Please include your name, return address and the caption, “DEIS Scoping Comments, Cayuga Indian Nation of New York Trust Acquisition Project,” on the first page of your written comments.

The public scoping meeting will be held at the New York Chiropractic College, 2360 State Route 89, Seneca Falls, NY 13148.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kurt G. Chandler, (615) 564–6832.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed action is BIA approval of the conveyance of 125± acres currently held in fee by the Nation into trust status for the benefit of the Nation. The property

is in seven (7) separate parcels located in the Village of Union Springs and the Towns of Springport and Montezuma in Cayuga County, and in the Town of Seneca Falls in Seneca County, New York. The Nation wishes to use this property as a land base and for commercial purposes, including the operation of existing convenience store, gas station and Class II gaming facilities. No new development is currently planned for the subject properties.

Areas so far identified for analysis in the EIS include land and water resources, traffic, air quality, cultural and archaeological resources, socio-economic conditions and public services. Alternatives to be analyzed include the proposed action, no action and any other reasonable alternatives that may be identified through the scoping process. The range of issues to be addressed in the EIS may also be expanded, based on comments received in response to this notice and at the public scoping meeting.

Public Comment Availability

Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at all of the mailing address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section (except those for the public meetings) during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (unless otherwise shown), Monday through Friday, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. We will not, however, consider anonymous comments. 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.

Authority

This notice is published in accordance with section 1503.1 of the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508) implementing the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), and the Department of Interior Manual (516 DM 1–6), and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Dated: February 3, 2006.

Michael D. Olsen,

Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. E6–1938 Filed 2–10–06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Public Scoping Meeting on Congressionally Mandated Study of Energy Rights-of-Way on Tribal Lands

AGENCY: Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, Department of the Interior; Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: Section 1813 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109–58) requires the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Energy to jointly conduct a study of issues regarding energy rights-of-way on tribal land and provide a report to Congress on the findings of the study. The report is due to Congress by August 7, 2006. The Department of the Interior and the Department of Energy are interested in receiving comments from the public about how to proceed with the implementation of section 1813.

DATES: A 2-day meeting will be held on March 7 and 8, 2006, in Denver, Colorado, at the Adams Mark Hotel, 1550 Court Place, Denver, CO 80202; Telephone (303) 893–3333. A block of rooms has been reserved at the hotel for the meeting on a first-come first-served basis. Please inform the hotel that you are attending the “Energy Policy Act Section 1813 Nation-wide Scoping Meeting.”

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent by regular mail to Mr. Darryl Francois, Attention: Section 1813 ROW Study, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, 1849 C St., NW., Mail Stop 2749-MIB, Washington, DC 20240 or by e-mail to IEED@bia.edu. A duplicate copy of the comments should be sent to Mr. David Meyer, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Department of the Interior—Mr. Darryl Francois, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, 1849 C Street, NW., Mail Stop 2749-MIB, Washington, DC 20240. He can also be reached by telephone at (202) 219–0740 or by electronic mail at IEED@bia.edu.

Department of Energy—Ms. Janelle Schmidt, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585. She can also be reached by telephone at (202) 586-6415 or by electronic mail at Janelle.Schmidt@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 1813 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109-58) requires the Secretaries of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Energy (Departments) to conduct a study of energy related rights-of-way on tribal lands. The Act requires that the study address four subjects:

1. An analysis of historical rates of compensation;
2. Recommendations for appropriate standards to determine fair and appropriate compensation;
3. An assessment of tribal self-determination and sovereignty interests implicated by applications for energy rights-of-way on tribal land; and
4. An analysis of relevant national energy transportation policies.

The Departments will consider Tribal and interested party's comments in preparing a final report for delivery to Congress by August 7, 2006. A proposed work plan was presented for comment in the **Federal Register** on December 29, 2005 (70 FR 77178).

To help develop the report to Congress, the Departments will conduct a 2-day scoping and kick-off meeting on March 7 and 8, 2006. The Departments will solicit input on how to proceed with this work in a fair and timely manner. At this meeting, the Departments propose to establish several working groups to solicit and further develop information on each of these subjects. We propose to convene these working groups on the second day of the meeting and will solicit initial substantive comments on study issues at that time.

If a Tribe, group, or organization would like to be considered to make a formal presentation at the meeting, please send a written request that includes a subject topic by regular mail or e-mail to the addresses provided above by February 22, 2006.

Dated: February 3, 2006.

Michael D. Olsen,

Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

[FR Doc. E6-1967 Filed 2-10-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-96-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-410-1610-DQ-006D]

Notice of Public Meeting, Coeur d'Alene District Resource Advisory Council Meeting; Idaho

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Public Meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Coeur d'Alene District Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will meet as indicated below.

DATES: March 9, 2006. The meeting will start at 10:30 a.m. and end by 4 p.m. The public comment period will be from 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. The meeting will be held in the conference room at the Idaho Commerce and Labor Career Center office located at 1350 Troy Road in Moscow, Idaho.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Snook, RAC Coordinator, BLM Coeur d'Alene District, 1808 N. Third Street, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814 or telephone (208) 769-5004.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 15-member Council advises the Secretary of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in Idaho. The agenda will include the following topics: Reviewing and providing comments on the Draft Coeur d'Alene RMP/EIS and the Draft Eastside Township Fuels EIS; status of the Cottonwood RMP; proposed vegetation treatment projects, and RAC Nomination period.

All meetings are open to the public. The public may present written comments to the Council in advance of or at the meeting. Each formal Council meeting will also have time allocated for receiving public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM as provided above.

Dated: February 7, 2006.

Lewis M. Brown,

District Manager.

[FR Doc. E6-1946 Filed 2-10-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service (MMS)

Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Central Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Oil and Gas Lease Sale 198

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Final Notice of Sale (NOS) 198.

SUMMARY: On March 15, 2006, the MMS will open and publicly announce bids received for blocks offered in Central GOM Oil and Gas Lease Sale 198, pursuant to the OCS Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331-1356, as amended), and the regulations issued thereunder (30 CFR part 256).

The Final Notice of Sale 198 Package (FNOS 198 Package) contains information essential to bidders, and bidders are charged with the knowledge of the documents contained in the Package.

DATES: Public bid reading will begin at 9 a.m., Wednesday, March 15, 2006, in the Napoleon Ballroom of the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel, Two Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. All times referred to in this document are local New Orleans times, unless otherwise specified.

ADDRESSES: Bidders can obtain a FNOS 198 Package containing this Notice of Sale and several supporting and essential documents referenced herein from the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region Public Information Unit, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, (504) 736-2519 or (800) 200-GULF, or via the MMS Internet Web site at <http://www.mms.gov>.

Filing of Bids: Bidders must submit sealed bids to the Regional Director (RD), MMS Gulf of Mexico Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on normal working days, and from 8 a.m. to the Bid Submission Deadline of 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2006. If the bids are mailed, please address the envelope containing all of the sealed bids as follows: Attention: Supervisor, Sales and Support Unit (MS 5422), Leasing Activities Section, MMS Gulf of Mexico Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123-2394.

Contains Sealed Bids for Oil and Gas Lease Sale 198

Please Deliver to Ms. Jane Burrell Johnson, Room 311, Immediately.

Please note: Bidders mailing their bid(s) are advised to call Ms. Jane Burrell Johnson (504) 736-2811 immediately after putting their bid(s) in the mail.