

*mkurtina@blm.gov*. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** BLM Colorado has received two ROW applications within two designated Solar Energy Zones (SEZs) serialized as COC-074761 (Los Mogotes East SEZ) and COC-074763 (De Tilla Gulch SEZ). Applications for solar energy development are processed as ROW authorizations under Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. The regulations at 43 CFR 2804.23 authorize the BLM to determine whether competition exists among ROW applications filed for the same facility or system. The regulations also allow the BLM to resolve any such competition by using competitive bidding procedures.

The BLM will review submissions from interested parties in response to this notice and determine whether competition exists to develop solar energy projects in the De Tilla Gulch and Los Mogotes East SEZs. If the BLM determines sufficient competition exists, the BLM may use a competitive bidding process, consistent with the regulations, to select a preferred applicant in one or both of the SEZs.

The first parcel is called De Tilla Gulch SEZ, and consists of approximately 1,064 acres of public land within sections 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33 of T. 45 N., R. 9 E., New Mexico Principal Meridian, Saguache County, Colorado. This parcel lies approximately seven miles east of the town of Saguache, Colorado. The second parcel is called Los Mogotes East SEZ, and consists of approximately 2,641 acres of public land within sections 1, 12, 13, 24, and 25 of T. 34N., R. 8 E., New Mexico Principal Meridian, Conejos County, Colorado. This parcel lies three miles west of the town of Romeo, Colorado. A map of both SEZs can be viewed and downloaded at: <http://solareis.anl.gov/maps/index.cfm>.

**Authority:** 43 CFR 2804.23.

**Helen M. Hankins,**

*BLM Colorado State Director.*

[FR Doc. 2013-06507 Filed 3-21-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-JB-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

**[CACA-049491, LLCAD01500 L51010000 FX0000 LVRWB12B4920]**

#### **Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the EDF Renewable Energy Desert Harvest Solar Field Project and California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment, Riverside County, California**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD)/Approved Amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan, for the Desert Harvest Solar Project (DHSP), in Riverside County, California. The Secretary of the Interior approved the ROD on March 13, 2013, which constitutes the final decision of the Department.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the ROD/ Approved Amendment to the CDCA Plan are available upon request from the BLM Field Manager, Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office, 1201 Bird Center Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262 and the BLM California Desert District Office, 22835 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, CA 92553, or via the Internet at the following Web site: [http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/Solar\\_Projects/Desert\\_Harvest\\_Solar\\_Project.html](http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/Solar_Projects/Desert_Harvest_Solar_Project.html).

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Frank McMenimen, BLM Project Manager, telephone 760-833-7150; mail 1201 Bird Center Drive, Palm Springs, California 92262; email [fmcmenimen@blm.gov](mailto:fmcmenimen@blm.gov).

Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** EDF Renewable Energy (formerly enXco Development Corporation) (Applicant) has requested right-of-way (ROW) grant authorization to construct, operate, maintain, and decommission an up to 150-megawatt (MW), nominal capacity, alternating current, solar photovoltaic (PV) energy generation facility and necessary ancillary facilities including an operations and maintenance (O&M)

facility, site security, on-site substation, switchyard, access road, and a 220-kilovolt (kV) generation interconnection line (gen-tie line). The project site is located approximately 6 miles north of Interstate 10 and the rural community of Desert Center and 3 miles north of Lake Tamarisk, between the cities of Coachella and Blythe.

The project site is in the California Desert District within the planning boundary of the CDCA Plan, which is the applicable Resource Management Plan for the project site and the surrounding areas. The CDCA Plan, while recognizing the potential compatibility of solar generation facilities on public lands, requires that all sites associated with power generation or transmission not already identified in the Plan be considered through the BLM's land use plan amendment process. As a result, prior to approval of a ROW grant to the DHSP, the BLM must amend the CDCA Plan to allow the solar generating project on that site. Additionally, the CDCA Plan also requires that transmission lines above 161 kV be placed within a federally designated utility corridor or that the transmission line be specifically allowed outside a corridor through a plan amendment process. Since there is no designated corridor from DHSP generation tie-in transmission line, the CDCA Plan must also be amended to allow that line outside of a designated corridor. The approved Amendment to the CDCA Plan specifically revises the CDCA Plan to allow for the development of the DHSP and ancillary facilities on land managed by the BLM. The BLM selected alternative would result in construction of a solar farm, capable of generating up to 150 MW of electricity, and is within the range of alternatives analyzed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Notice of Availability of the Final EIS for the DHSP and proposed CDCA Plan Amendment was published in the **Federal Register** on November 2, 2012 (77 FR 66183).

Publication of the Notice of Availability for the Final EIS and Proposed CDCA Plan Amendment initiated a 30-day protest period for the proposed amendment to the CDCA Plan. At the close of the 30-day protest period, six protests were received and resolved. Their resolution is summarized in the Director's Protest Summary Report, available online at [http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/content/wo/en/prog/planning/planning\\_overview/protest\\_resolution.html](http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/content/wo/en/prog/planning/planning_overview/protest_resolution.html). The proposed amendment to the CDCA Plan was not modified as a result of the protest resolution, however, the BLM did

provide some clarifications and modifications to project mitigation measures. These clarifications and modifications were minor and do not warrant supplementation of the Final EIS. Simultaneously with the protest period, the Governor of California conducted a consistency review for the proposed CDCA Plan Amendment to identify any inconsistencies with State or local plans, policies, or programs. No inconsistencies were identified.

Because the decisions described in the ROD are approved by the Secretary of the Interior, they are not subject to administrative appeal (43 CFR 4.410(a)(3)).

**Authority:** 40 CFR 1506.6.

**Jamie Connell,**

*Acting Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management.*

[FR Doc. 2013-06672 Filed 3-21-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-40-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LLNVS03100 L51010000 ER0000  
LVRWF12F8740.241A; 13-08807; MO#  
4500048381; TAS: 14X5017]

#### Notice of Availability of a Record of Decision for the Searchlight Wind Energy Project, Clark County, NV

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Searchlight Wind Energy Project. The Department of the Interior Secretary signed the ROD on March 13, 2013, which constitutes the final decision of the Department.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the ROD are available upon request and for public inspection at the Southern Nevada District Office, Bureau of Land Management, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV, 89130 or on the internet at [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo/blm\\_programs/energy/searchlight\\_wind\\_energy.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo/blm_programs/energy/searchlight_wind_energy.html).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gregory Helseth, Renewable Energy Project Manager, telephone 702-515-5173; address 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130; email [ghelseth@blm.gov](mailto:ghelseth@blm.gov). Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is

available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Searchlight Wind Energy, LLC, (SWE) a wholly-owned subsidiary of Duke Energy, applied to the BLM for a right-of-way (ROW) grant on public lands to develop a 200-megawatt (MW) wind energy facility. The ROW application area encompasses approximately 18,949 acres of BLM-administered public lands adjacent to Searchlight, Nevada, about 60 miles southeast of Las Vegas, in Clark County, Nevada. An updated inventory of lands with wilderness characteristics was completed and no lands with wilderness characteristics were found within the project area. The area was segregated from mineral entry in the Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Searchlight Wind Energy Project. In connection with the SWE proposal, Western Area Power Administration (Western) submitted a ROW application to the BLM for construction and operation of an electrical interconnection facility/switchyard adjacent to the existing Davis-Mead transmission line that would interconnect the power generated from the wind facility to Western's electrical grid system. The Western application was also analyzed as part of the Searchlight Wind Energy Project Environmental Impact Statement. The proposed project is in conformance with the 1998 Las Vegas Resource Management Plan, pages 2-26 and 2-27 and the Record of Decision, October 5, 1998, pages 19 and 20.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the BLM published the Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement concurrently in the **Federal Register** (77 FR 2979 and 77 FR 2999) on January 20, 2012, starting a 60-day comment period on the Draft EIS.

The EPA published the Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement in the **Federal Register** (77 FR 74479) on December 14, 2012 and the BLM notice (77 FR 74865) was published on December 18, 2012. Printed and electronic copies of the Draft EIS and Final EIS are available at the Southern Nevada District Office and posted on the Internet at [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo/blm\\_programs/energy/searchlight\\_wind\\_energy.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo/blm_programs/energy/searchlight_wind_energy.html). Three alternatives were analyzed in the EIS—a 96 wind turbine layout, an 87 wind turbine layout, and a no-action alternative. The 87 wind turbine

alternative is the BLM's preferred alternative. The BLM received 6 comment submissions during the 30-day availability period following the release of the Final EIS. In response to those comments, the BLM incorporated 7 additional mitigation measures and made minor editorial changes to clarify language in the ROD.

The ROD approves, with all mitigation measures identified in the Final EIS and additional mitigation measures identified in the ROD, the 87 wind turbine alternative, including associated infrastructure, and the switching station proposed by Western.

Because this decision is approved by the Secretary of the Interior, it is not subject to administrative appeal (43 CFR 4.410(a)(3)).

**Authority:** 40 CFR 1506.6 and 40 CFR 1506.10.

**Jamie Connell,**

*Acting Deputy Director for Operations Bureau of Land Management.*

[FR Doc. 2013-06673 Filed 3-21-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-HC-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[CACA 048728, LLCAD06000,  
L51010000.LVRWB09B2510.FX0000]

#### Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for the McCoy Solar Energy Project, Riverside County, California

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) to grant a Right-of-Way (ROW) and amend the California Desert Conservation Area Plan (CDCA Plan) for the McCoy Solar Energy Project (MSEP), a photovoltaic solar electricity generation project. The Secretary of the Interior approved the ROD on March 13, 2013, which constitutes the final decision of the Department.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the ROD/ Approved Amendment to the CDCA Plan are available upon request from the Field Manager, Palm Springs/South Coast Field Office 1201 Bird Center Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262, and the California Desert District Office, 22835 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, CA 92553-9046, or via the Internet at the following Web site: [http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/Solar\\_Projects/McCoy.html](http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/Solar_Projects/McCoy.html).