

information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Dated: April 22, 2013.

Lynn M. Lewis,

Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Midwest Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLNVS00530 L13300000.EP0000 241A; 13-08807; MO# 4500048244; TAS: 14X1109]

Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision for the Proposed Sloan Hills Competitive Mineral Material Sales, Clark County, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Proposed Sloan Hills Mineral Material Sales, Clark County, Nevada, and by this notice is announcing their availability.

DATES: The BLM will not act on a final decision on the proposal for a minimum of 30 days of the date that the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its notice in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Final EIS and ROD are available for public inspection at the following locations in Nevada:

- BLM Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno;
- BLM Southern Nevada District Office, 4701 North Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas;
- Paseo Verde Library, 280 South Green Valley Parkway, Henderson;
- James I Gibson Library, 100 West Lake Mead Parkway, Henderson; and
- Enterprise Library, 25 East Shelbourne Avenue, Las Vegas.

Interested persons may also review the Final EIS and ROD at <http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/lvfo.html> or request a printed copy or a compact disc from the BLM Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130, phone: 702-515-5000, or email to: sloanhillseis@blm.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shonna Dooman, Las Vegas Field Office

Assistant Field Manager, telephone: 702-515-5174; address Las Vegas Field Office, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130; or email: sloanhillseis@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: After environmental analysis, consideration of public comments, and application of pertinent Federal laws, it is the decision of the BLM to not authorize the competitive sale of mineral materials in the Sloan Hills area in southern Las Vegas Valley, Nevada. The selected No Action Alternative reflects the BLM's intent to continue the current management of public lands within the Sloan Hills. The BLM prepared a Final EIS and ROD to fulfill responsibilities under the Act of July 31, 1947, as amended (30 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), commonly referred to as the Materials Act, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*). The purpose of this analysis was for the BLM to respond to applications from two mining companies (CEMEX and Service Rock Products Corporation) to mine and process limestone and dolomite minerals in the Sloan Hills area of southern Nevada. Two settlement agreements obligate the BLM to process the mineral material sales applications submitted by CEMEX and Service Rock Products Corporation. The BLM's decision to select the No Action Alternative is in conformance with the Las Vegas Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement, approved on October 5, 1998. The BLM's decision is consistent with the Materials Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

Alternatives analyzed in the Final EIS include: Alternative 1, at 640 acres, includes the sale of mineral materials in the North Site and the South Site to two mining companies that would operate independently and results in a single open pit mine; Alternative 2, at 320 acres, includes the sale of mineral materials in the North Site only; Alternative 3, at 320 acres, includes the sale of mineral materials in the South Site only; Alternative 4, at 640 acres, includes the sale of mineral materials in both the North Site and the South Site to a single mining company and

Alternative 5, the No Action Alternative.

On August 5, 2011, a Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS for this project was published in the **Federal Register** (76 FR 47607). The BLM held three public meetings and accepted public comments for 120 days through email, fax, mail, and public meetings. A total of 82 comments from individuals and 26 comments from governmental entities were received. Additionally, the BLM received one petition signed by 3,420 individuals. The majority of the comments received addressed impacts on air quality, water use, noise and vibration, visual resources, transportation and traffic, socioeconomics, and special management areas. Cooperating agencies in the development of the EIS include: Las Vegas Valley Water District, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Clark County Department of Air Quality, Clark County Department of Aviation, and City of Henderson.

Comments received from the public on the Draft EIS and internal BLM review were considered and incorporated as appropriate into the Final EIS following the standards of 40 CFR 1503.4(c).

Filing an Appeal:

The decision by the BLM to select the No Action Alternative as the agency's Preferred Alternative is appealable subject to 43 CFR part 4, subpart E—Special Rules Applicable to Public Land Hearings and Appeals, and 43 CFR 3601.80. Any party adversely affected by this decision may appeal within the 30-day timeframe by filing an appeal with the BLM Las Vegas Field Manager, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130, or fax: 702-515-5023. A copy of the notice of appeal, and statement of reasons and all pertinent documents must be served on each adverse party named in the decision from which the appeal is taken and on the Office of the Regional Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior, Pacific Southwest Region, 2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1712, Sacramento, CA 95826, no later than 15 days after filing documents with the Las Vegas Field Manager.

To file a petition for stay of the ROD pursuant to 43 CFR 4.21 while an appeal is pending before the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA), the petition for stay must accompany the Notice of Appeal (see 43 CFR 4.21; 43 CFR 3601.80). A petition for stay must show sufficient justification based on the standards listed in 43 CFR 4.21(b). If a petition for stay is submitted with the notice of appeal, a copy of the notice of appeal and petition for stay must be

served on the IBLA at the same time it is filed with the Las Vegas Field Manager. Persons interested in filing an appeal are encouraged to consult the cited Federal regulations for additional appeal requirements.

Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6 and 1506.10.

Robert B. Ross, Jr.,
Las Vegas Field Manager.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

[LLWY920000/51010000.ER0000/
LVRWK09K0990/241A; WYW-174598; IDI-
35849]

Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Gateway West 230/345/500-kV Transmission Line Project in Idaho and Wyoming and Proposed Land Use Plan Amendments

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior; Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service (Forest Service) have prepared the Gateway West Transmission Line Project Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and proposed Land Use Plan Amendments, and by this notice are announcing its availability.

DATES: BLM planning regulations state that any person who meets the conditions as described in the regulations (43 CFR 1610.5-2) may protest the BLM's proposed land use plan Amendment. A person who meets the conditions and files a protest must file the protest within 30 days of the date that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes its notice of availability of this Final EIS in the **Federal Register**. The BLM and Forest Service are also requesting comments on the Final EIS. In order to be considered, written comments on the Final EIS must be received within 60 days after the EPA publishes its notice of availability in the **Federal Register**. The Forest Service appeal process will be initiated with the

publication of the Record of Decision (ROD). Any additional public meetings or other public involvement activities for the Gateway West Transmission Line Project will be announced to the public by the BLM at least 15 days in advance through news releases, Web site announcements, or mailings.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Final EIS have been sent to Federal, State, and local governments, and public libraries in the Project area, and to interested parties that previously requested a copy. The Final EIS and supporting documents will be available electronically on the following Web site: http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west/. Copies of the Final EIS are available for public inspection during normal business hours at BLM and Forest Service office locations listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

Written comments on the Final EIS may be submitted by the following methods:

- **Web site:** http://www.wy.blm.gov/nepa/cfodocs/gateway_west/.
- **Email:**
Gateway_West_WYMail@blm.gov.
- **Mail:** Bureau of Land Management, Gateway West Project, P.O. Box 20879, Cheyenne, WY 82003.
- **Courier or Hand Deliver:** Bureau of Land Management, Gateway West Project, 5353 Yellowstone Road, Cheyenne, WY 82009.

All protests must be in writing and mailed to one of the following addresses:

Regular Mail: BLM Director (210),
Attention: Brenda Williams, P.O. Box
71383, Washington, DC 20024-1383.
Overnight Mail: BLM Director (210),
Attention: Brenda Williams, 20 M
Street SE., Room 2134LM,
Washington, DC 20003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Walt George, Project Manager, Bureau of Land Management, Wyoming State Office, P.O. Box 20879, Cheyenne, WY 82003, or by telephone at 307-775-6116. Any persons wishing to be added to a mailing list of interested parties may write or call the Project Manager at this address or phone number. 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: In May 2007, the Proponents (Idaho Power and

Rocky Mountain Power) submitted a ROW application to the BLM requesting authorization to construct, operate, maintain, and decommission electric transmission lines on public lands. The application was revised in October 2007, August 2008, May 2009, January 2010, and February 2012 to reflect changes to the proposed Project. The purpose and need for the EIS is for the BLM and Forest Service to respond to the Proponents' ROW application for the Gateway West Transmission Project. Each agency will decide whether to grant, grant with modification, or deny the application.

The Gateway West Transmission Project with a capacity of 1,500 MW is planned from Glenrock, Wyoming to the Hemingway Substation, approximately 20 miles southwest of Boise, Idaho. The Project is approximately 1,000 miles long and composed of nine 500 kV segments and one 230 kV segment. The BLM is the lead Federal agency. Approximately 475 miles cross Federal lands, 75 miles cross State-owned lands, and 450 miles cross private lands.

The Proponents' objective for the Project is to improve the reliability and efficiency of both utilities' systems and address congestion problems with the western electrical grid. The Project is needed to meet projected load growth in the Proponents' Service Areas. The Project would also tap the developing renewable energy market, especially wind energy, in Idaho and Wyoming and would aid in delivering that energy throughout the region.

Project Scoping: On May 16, 2008, the BLM published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 28425) its Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR 1501.7). The BLM is the lead Federal agency for the NEPA analysis process and preparation of the EIS. Cooperating agencies include the Forest Service, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; the States of Idaho and Wyoming; Idaho Army National Guard; Cassia, Power, and Twin Falls Counties, Idaho; Lincoln, Sweetwater, and Carbon Counties, Wyoming; the Medicine Bow and Saratoga-Encampment-Rawlins Conservation Districts in Wyoming; and the city of Kuna in Idaho.

To allow the public an opportunity to review the proposal and Project information, the BLM held public meetings in June 2008 in: Twin Falls, Murphy, Pocatello, Boise, and Montpelier, Idaho; and Casper, Rawlins, Rock Springs, and Kemmerer, Wyoming. Issues and potential impacts to specific resources were identified during