

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[AA-6661-E, AA-6661-H, AA-6661-I, AA-6661-A2; LLAK944100-L14100000-HY0000-P]

Alaska Native Claims Selection

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of decision approving lands for conveyance.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that an appealable decision will be issued by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), approving conveyance of the surface estate in the lands described below to Eklutna, Inc., pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

DATES: Any party claiming a property interest in the lands affected by the decision may appeal the decision in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4. Please see the

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for the time limits for appealing the decision.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the decision may be obtained from: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 West Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, AK 99513-7504.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The BLM by phone at 907-271-5960 or by email at blm_ak_akso_public_room@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 BLM during normal business hours. In addition, the FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the BLM. The BLM will reply during normal business hours.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by 43 CFR 2650.7(d), notice is hereby given that an appealable decision will be issued by the BLM to Eklutna, Inc. The decision approves the surface estate in the lands described below for conveyance pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601, *et seq.*). The subsurface estate in these lands will be conveyed to Cook Inlet Region, Inc., when the surface estate is conveyed to Eklutna, Inc.

The lands are located in the vicinity of Eklutna, Alaska, and are described as:

Seward Meridian, Alaska

T. 15 N., R. 4 E.,
Secs. 1 to 36, inclusive.
Containing 22,314.79 acres.
T. 16 N., R. 4 E.,
Secs. 1 to 17, inclusive;

Secs. 22 to 27, inclusive;
Secs. 35 and 36.
Containing 12,541.84 acres.
T. 17 N., R. 4 E.,
Secs. 1 to 17, inclusive;
Secs. 19 to 36, inclusive.
Containing 22,369.19 acres.

Aggregating 57,225.82 acres.
Notice of the decision will also be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in the *Alaska Dispatch News*.

Any party claiming a property interest in the lands affected by the decision may appeal the decision in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4 within the following time limits:

1. Unknown parties, parties unable to be located after reasonable efforts have been expended to locate, parties who fail or refuse to sign their return receipt, and parties who receive a copy of the decision by regular mail which is not certified, return receipt requested, shall have until October 9, 2015 to file an appeal.

2. Parties receiving service of the decision by certified mail shall have 30 days from the date of receipt to file an appeal.

Parties who do not file an appeal in accordance with the requirements of 43 CFR part 4 shall be deemed to have waived their rights. Notices of appeal transmitted by electronic means, such as facsimile or email, will not be accepted as timely filed.

Christy Favorite,

ANCSA Coordinator, Adjudication Services Section.

[FR Doc. 2015-22666 Filed 9-8-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[LLNVE02000.L51100000.GN0000.LVEM F1503680; MO # 4500080339]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Rossi Mine Expansion Project, Elko County, NV

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Tuscarora Field Office, Elko, Nevada, intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and by this notice is announcing the beginning of

the scoping process to solicit public comments and identify issues. The BLM is also soliciting public comments regarding archaeological resources and Native American traditional and cultural values under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

DATES: Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until October 9, 2015. The date(s) and location(s) of any scoping meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media, newspapers and the BLM Web site at: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/elko_field_office.html. In order to be included in the Draft EIS, all comments must be received prior to the close of the scoping period or 15 days after the last public meeting, whichever is later. Additional opportunities for public participation will be available upon the publication of the Draft EIS.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments related to the Rossi Mine Expansion Project by any of the following methods:

- *Web site:* http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/elko_field_office.html.
- *Email:* blm_nv_eldo_rossimine_project_eis@blm.gov.
- *Fax:* 775-753-0255.
- *Mail:* BLM Tuscarora Field Office, Attn. Janice Stadelman, 3900 Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801.

Documents pertinent to this proposal may be examined at the Tuscarora Field Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information and/or to have your name added to our mailing list, contact Janice Stadelman, Project Lead, telephone: 775-753-0346; address: 3900 Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801; Email: blm_nv_eldo_rossimine_project_eis@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Halliburton Energy Services, Inc. (Halliburton) submitted a plan of operations amendment, titled Rossi Mine Expansion Project, to the BLM to approve as proposed the expansion of the existing Rossi Mine. The Rossi Mine Expansion Project is an amendment to the existing Plan of Operations. The proposed action consists of the expansion of the project boundary area; expansion of the existing open pits and development of new open pits; expansion of existing waste rock disposal facilities and construction of new waste rock disposal facilities; expansion of the tailing ponds; expansion and development of haul roads, exploration roads, and access roads, including a public access road; additional exploration; and ancillary facilities. The Rossi Mine is a barite mine that has been in operation since 1947. Currently, the Rossi Mine disturbs

approximately 912 acres, of which 201 acres are on private and 711 acres are on public land. The proposed disturbance acreage would be an additional 1,211 acres (7 private; 1,204 public) for a total disturbance of 2,123 acres (208 private; 1,915 public). The proposed action would expand the mine life for 8 years. The proposed project is located approximately 50 miles northeast of Battle Mountain, Nevada, in Elko County. Employment at the Rossi Mine fluctuates based on the demand for barite. Halliburton employs 24 to 60 people at the jig plant. The mining contractor employs an additional 60 to 300 people.

The purpose of the public scoping process is to determine relevant issues that will influence the scope of the environmental analysis, including alternatives, and guide the process for developing the EIS. At present, the BLM has identified the following preliminary issues: Archaeological resources, grazing, Native American traditional and cultural values, potential pit lakes and the benefits of backfilling open pits, and wildlife, including mule deer migration corridors and sage-grouse habitat.

The BLM will utilize and coordinate the NEPA scoping process to help fulfill the public involvement process under the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) as provided in 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3). The information about historic and cultural resources within the area potentially affected by the proposed action will assist the BLM in identifying and evaluating impacts to such resources.

The BLM will consult with Indian tribes on a government-to-government basis in accordance with Executive Order 13175 and other policies. Tribal concerns, including impacts on Indian trust assets and potential impacts to cultural resources, will be given due consideration. Federal, State, and local agencies, along with tribes and other stakeholders that may be interested in or affected by the proposed project that the BLM is evaluating, are invited to participate in the scoping process and, if eligible, may request or be requested by the BLM to participate in the development of the environmental analysis as a cooperating agency.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we

cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7.

Deborah N. McFarlane,

Acting Field Manager, Tuscarora Field Office.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLCA930000 L54200000.PN0000
15XL5017AR LVDIB15B5840; CACA 55576]

Disclaimer of Interest in Lands; California

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of recordable disclaimer of interest.

SUMMARY: Albert Sparks, Kenneth C. Knowles, Joan Kathleen Knowles, and the David L. Sullivan Living Trust (Knowles) have applied for the United States to issue a recordable disclaimer of interest in lands which were patented by the State of California with a reservation to the United States for future use.

DATES: Comments on issues may be submitted in writing until October 9, 2015.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments or objections to: Associate Deputy State Director, Division of Natural Resources, 2800 Cottage Way, Ste. W–1928, Sacramento, California 95825.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Deanne Kidd, BLM California State Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825; dykidd@blm.gov; (916) 978–4337.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The applicants and the United States agree that the United States holds no remaining interest in the following property although it remains an encumbrance in title reports, and has served as a deterrent to potential buyers. Knowles filed an application requesting the United States to issue a recordable disclaimer of the United States' interest pursuant to Section 315 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1745) for the following described lands:

San Bernardino Meridian, California

T. 5 S., R. 1 W.,
Sec. 36, E½SW¼.

The area described contains 80.00 acres, more or less, in Riverside County. The lands described above were conveyed out of Federal ownership to the State of California (State) on January

18, 1907, pursuant to the Act of March 3, 1853 (10 Stat. 244), conveying school lands to the State upon approval of the General Land Office survey for each township. The State subsequently conveyed the lands out of State ownership on March 12, 1931, with the following language:

“subject to rights of way granted to the United States by an act of the Legislature, approved May 18, 1921 (Chapter 173, Statutes of California, 1921), for the uses prescribed in the act of Congress, approved June 17, 1902, relating to irrigation and reclamation.” The June 17, 1902 Act (Act) grants the United States the authority to study, locate, and construct irrigation works on public lands upon withdrawal of the lands. The California statute referred to in the state patent (Chapter 173, Statutes of California, 1921) grants the United States rights-of-way of construction in contemplation of the Act, and directs that all State patents will be issued subject to the right of way.

The United States asserts that its right to construct rights-of-way on the lands described above was not executed prior to conveyance, and that its authority to execute such a right was extinguished upon issuance of the State patent. The United States therefore has no remaining interest in the lands so described above and proposes to issue a recordable disclaimer of interest to remove the cloud on title.

Authority: 43 CFR 1864.

Danielle Chi,

*California Associate Deputy State Director,
Division of Natural Resources.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLMTB07900 15XL1109AF L10100000
PH0000 LXSIANMS0000 MO# 4500083951]

Notice of Public Meeting; Western Montana Resource Advisory Council

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) Western Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will meet as indicated below.

DATES: The Western Montana Resource Advisory Council meeting will be held