

immediate environmental impacts. However, this alternative does not satisfy the purpose and need of the proposed project (to supply natural gas in a safe and reliable manner) and may adversely impact the local economy if natural gas service was curtailed or limited. This alternative was rejected because it would prevent Pacific Gas and Electric Company from meeting its customer demands, its legal mandate and the California Public Utilities Commission's mandate to provide safe, adequate and reliable natural gas service. Alternative 2 would utilize an existing utility right-of-way to install and operate the proposed natural gas pipeline. This alternative alignment is longer than the proposed alignment and therefore more expensive to install. In addition, this alignment would require additional seismic fault protection and may encounter future land use conflicts. Although this alternative would likely result in fewer initial impacts to the California red-legged frog, the potential for significant long-term impacts is greater than with the proposed alternative. Alternative 3 would utilize an existing road franchise along Dougherty Road for pipeline installation. This currently unpaved road would be closed to traffic during pipeline installation and portions of the road would need to be reconstructed and improved following installation. Thus, while Alternative 3 would entail fewer initial impacts to the California red-legged frog, the potential long-term impacts resulting from increased traffic and contaminants from road runoff would likely be greater than with the proposed alternative. Alternative 4, the proposed alternative, was selected because: (1) It best satisfies the needs and purpose of the proposed project; (2) it is likely to result in a relatively low level of incidental take; and (3) impacts are minimized and mitigated by the conservation of suitable California red-legged frog habitat and other measures specified in the Habitat Conservation Plan.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(a) of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 regulations (40 CFR 1506.6). The Service will evaluate the application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of National Environmental Policy Act regulations and section 10(a) of the Act. If it is determined that the requirements are met, a permit will be issued for the incidental take of the listed species. The final permit decision will be made

following a review of all comments received in response to this notice.

Dated: July 25, 1996.

David L. McMullen,

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

[FR Doc. 96-19405 Filed 7-30-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

Availability of Environmental Assessment and Receipt of Application and Intent to Issue Incidental Take Permit for Development of Industrial Complex in Cedar City, Iron County, Utah

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Connel Gower Construction, Inc. (Applicant) has applied to the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Applicant has been assigned permit number PRT-817340. The requested permit, which is for a period of 20 years, would authorize incidental take of the threatened Utah Prairie Dog (*Cynomys parvidens*). The proposed take would occur as a result of development of a 63-acre industrial complex located on private property within Cedar City, Iron County, Utah.

The Service has prepared the Environmental Assessment for issuance of the incidental take permit. The Applicant has prepared a habitat conservation plan as part of the incidental take permit application. A determination of whether jeopardy to the species will occur, or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), will not be made before 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

DATES: Written comments on the permit application must be received on or before August 30, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the permit application may obtain a copy by writing to the Assistant Field Supervisor, Utah Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 145 East 1300 South Street, Suite 404, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115. Documents will be available for public inspection by written request, or by appointment only, during business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at the above address.

Written data or comments concerning the permit application should be submitted to the Assistant Field

Supervisor, Utah Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Salt Lake City, Utah (See **ADDRESSES** above). Please refer to permit number PRT-817340 in all correspondence regarding these documents.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert D. Williams, Assistant Field Supervisor or Marilet A. Zablan, Wildlife Biologist, at the above U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office in Salt Lake City, Utah (see **ADDRESSES** above) (telephone: (801) 524-5001, facsimile: (801) 524-5021).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of any threatened or endangered species, such as the threatened Utah Prairie Dog. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take threatened or endangered wildlife species when such taking is incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for threatened and endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.22.

Applicant

Connel Gower Construction, Inc. plans to develop an approximately 63-acre industrial park, located in portions of sections 3, 4, 9 and 10 in Township 36 South, Range 11 West, Salt Lake Base and Meridian, within Cedar City, Iron County, Utah. Development is planned to include development of streets, parking areas and drainage facilities as well as installation of natural gas, sewer, water, electrical power, and telephone service in preparation for construction of commercial and industrial buildings and facilities. The construction will impact 63 acres of Utah Prairie Dog habitat, and the Applicant foresees an incidental take of an estimated 116 Utah Prairie Dogs through trapping and relocation and the potential incidental take of no more than two Utah Prairie Dogs per five acres of developed land as a result of direct mortality during construction. The Applicant proposes to compensate for this habitat loss by payment of \$900 per acre for each acre developed, to be used for public land management actions for Utah Prairie Dog conservation and to implement recover actions for conservation of the Utah Prairie Dog, through a Utah Prairie Dog Conservation Fund.

A no-action alternative to the proposed action was considered, consisting of foregoing the development of the 63-acre area of Utah Prairie Dog habitat. The no-action alternative was rejected for reasons including loss of use of the private property, resulting in significant economic loss to the Applicant.

Authority: The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et. seq.*) and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et. seq.*).

Dated July 24, 1996.

Wilbur N. Ladd, Jr.,

Acting Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.

[FR Doc. 96-19407 Filed 7-30-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

Bureau of Land Management

[AK-910-0777-51]

Alaska Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Alaska Resource Advisory Council will conduct an open meeting Thursday, September 12, 1996, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, September 13, 1996, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. in Anchorage, Alaska. The meeting will be held in the Denali Room on the 4th floor of the Anchorage Federal Building. Public comments will be taken from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, September 12. Written comments may be submitted at the meeting. The council will discuss findings of a June 27-28 field tour of the Fortymile Wild and Scenic River and possible recommendations.

ADDRESSES: Inquiries about the meeting should be sent to External Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, 222 W. 7th Ave., #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Teresa McPherson at (907) 271-5555.

Dated: July 17, 1996.

Tom Allen,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 96-19406 Filed 7-30-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P

[AZ-933-05-5410-00-A139; AZA 29711]

Arizona, Conveyance of Federally-Owned Mineral Interests

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1719), George T. and Kris E. Pingitore have applied to purchase the mineral estate on the following lands (also described as parcel 59, Pleasant Country Ranches Unit 5):

Gila and Salt River Meridian, Arizona,

T. 8 N., R. 1 W.,

Sec. 23, Portion of SE¼.

The area described contains approx. 43.9 acres.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon publication of this notice in the Federal Register, the mineral interests described above will be segregated from the mining and the mineral leasing laws. The segregative effect of the application shall terminate upon issuance of a patent, upon final rejection of the application, or 2 years from the publication date, whichever occurs first.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Evelyn Stob, Land Law Examiner, Arizona State Office, P.O. Box 16563, Phoenix, AZ 85011-6563, (602) 650-0518.

Dated: July 15, 1996.

Mary Jo Yoas,

Chief, Lands and Minerals Adjudication.

[FR Doc. 96-19397 Filed 7-30-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-32-P

[NV-930-1430-01; N-60242]

Notice of Realty Action; Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Direct sale of public lands in Eureka County, Nevada.

SUMMARY: The following described land in Eureka County, Nevada, has been examined and identified as suitable for disposal by direct sale under Section 203 and Section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of October 21, 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1713 and 1719) at no less than fair market value:

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 19 N., R. 53 E.,

Section 11, NE¼NE¼, E½E½NW¼NE¼, E½E½SW¼NE¼, W½SE¼SW¼NE¼, NE¼SE¼, E½E½NW¼SE¼, W½SE¼SE¼, W½E½SE¼SE¼.

Comprising 145 acres, more or less.

The land is being offered as a direct sale to Eureka County. The land will not be offered for sale until at least 60 days after the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Craggett, Realty Specialist, Bureau of Land Management, Battle Mountain District Office, 50 Bastian Road, P.O. Box 1420, Battle Mountain, Nevada, 89820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The land has been identified as suitable for disposal by the Shoshone-Eureka Resource Management Plan. The land is not needed for any resource program

and is not suitable for management by the Bureau or another Federal department or agency. The Eureka Board of County Commissioners requested the sale to provide for community expansion resulting from increased mining activity in the area.

Acceptance of the sale offer will constitute application for conveyance of the available mineral interests. The sale proponent will be required to submit a \$50.00 nonrefundable filing fee for conveyance of the available mineral interests with the purchase price for the land. Failure to submit the nonrefundable fee for the mineral estate within the time frame specified by the authorized officer will result in cancellation of the sale.

Upon publication of this Notice of Realty Action in the Federal Register, the lands will be segregated from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, but not the mineral leasing laws or disposals pursuant to Sections 203 and 209 of FLPMA. The segregation shall terminate upon issuance of a patent or other document of conveyance, upon publication in the Federal Register of a termination of segregation, or 270 days from date of this publication, whichever occurs first.

Patent, when issued, will contain the following reservations to the United States:

1. A right-of-way thereon for ditches and canals constructed by the authority of the United States, Act of August 30, 1890, (43 U.S.C. 945);
2. Right-of-way N-50249, for a water pipeline serving the Bureau of Land Management Eureka Administrative Site;

And will be subject to:

1. Right-of-way grant NEV-04979, issued to the Nevada Department of Highways, its successors or assigns, under the Act of November 9, 1921, for highway purposes;
2. Right-of-way grant NEV-067106, issued to Nevada Bell, its successors or assigns, under the Act of March 4, 1911, for a buried telephone line;
3. Right-of-way grant N-5638, held by Mt. Wheeler Power Company, its successors or assigns, under authority of the Act of October 21, 1976, for a power transmission line;
4. Right-of-way grant N-50847, issued to Mt. Wheeler Power Company, its successors or assigns, for a power distribution line; and
5. All other valid existing rights.

Upon patent issuance to Eureka County, the prospective purchaser, rights to the portions of the following rights-of-way on the subject land will merge with the title. Should the purchaser be other than Eureka County, the patent would be subject to the following listed rights-of-way.