

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management****[WY-060-1620-01, WYW141435]****Notice of Scoping on a Coal Lease Application (WYW141435) Received From Antelope Coal Company**

SUMMARY: On February 14, 1997, BLM received a coal lease application (WYW141435) from Antelope Coal Company (ACC), a subsidiary of Kennecott Energy and Coal Company. The application covers about 1,470 acres of Federal mineral estate and includes approximately 177.5 million tons of coal in Campbell and Converse Counties, Wyoming. The application area, called the Horse Creek Tract, is adjacent to ACC's existing Antelope Mine. The Horse Creek Tract application is a maintenance Lease-by-Application (LBA) under 43 CFR 3425.1. The Powder River Regional Coal Team (RCT), at their April 23, 1997, meeting in Casper, Wyoming, reviewed the application and recommended BLM process this lease application.

BLM requests comments from the public on which of the following options would best satisfy the requirements of NEPA for processing the Horse Creek LBA. Both options would analyze the impacts of issuing a coal lease for the area included in the application.

Option 1 is to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA). The Horse Creek tract is adjacent to the existing Antelope Mine. If leased to the applicant, the Horse Creek Tract would be mined to extend the life of the Antelope Mine. No other existing operation is able to mine the Horse Creek Tract either as a maintenance lease or as a new mine start. The Horse Creek Tract is partially surrounded by existing Antelope Mine, Federal and State leases, and the surrounded portion of the tract will probably be bypassed if not mined with the existing leases.

Option 2 is to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This is the second application filed by ACC. In addition, this is BLM's ninth maintenance coal lease application from the six surface coal mines located immediately east and southeast of Wright, Wyoming, since 1990 when the Powder River Federal Coal Region was decertified. All are in southeastern Campbell and northern Converse Counties, Wyoming.

After reviewing the scoping comments, the BLM will decide whether to prepare an EA or an EIS for the Horse Creek Coal Tract application.

DATES: A public scoping meeting is scheduled at 7 p.m., on November 13, 1997, at the Tower West Lodge, 109 North U.S. Highway 14-16, Gillette, Wyoming. If you have concerns or issues you believe the BLM should address in processing this lease application, you can express them either verbally at the scoping meeting, or by mail, or fax written comment to BLM at the address below by November 30, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Please address questions, comments, or concerns to the Casper District Office, Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Nancy Doelger, 1701 East E Street, Casper, Wyoming 82601, or fax them to 307-234-1525.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy Doelger or Mike Karbs at the above address, or telephone: 307-261-7600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 14, 1997, ACC filed coal lease application WYW141435 for the following lands in Campbell and Converse Counties, Wyoming:

T. 41 N., R. 71 W., 6th P.M., Wyoming

Section 22: Lots 2 and 3;
Section 23: Lots 10 thru 16;
Section 25: Lot 11;
Section 26: Lots 1 thru 8, 12, and 13;
Section 27: Lots 5, 6, 11 thru 14, and 16;
Section 34: Lots 1, 7, 8 thru 10, and 16;
Section 35: Lots 8 thru 10;

Containing 1,470.570 acres more or less with an estimated 177.5 million tons of coal.

The Antelope Mine is adjacent to the lease application area. The Antelope Mine has an approved mining and reclamation plan, and an approved air quality permit from the Air Quality Division of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality to mine up to 30 million tons of coal per year. According to the application filed for the Horse Creek Tract, the maintenance tract would be mined to extend the life of the existing mine.

The ACC previously acquired maintenance coal lease WYW128322, containing approximately 617 acres adjacent to the Antelope Mine, using the LBA process, effective February 1, 1997.

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) will be a cooperating agency in the preparation of the environmental analysis. The OSM is the Federal agency responsible for recommending approval, approval with conditions, or disapproval of the mining plan to the Secretary of the Interior. If this maintenance tract is leased to the applicant, the new lease must be incorporated into the existing mining plans for the adjacent mine. The Secretary must approve those mining

plans before the coal in the tract can be mined.

Although the lease application area is within the boundaries of the Thunder Basin National Grasslands, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) will not be a cooperating agency in the preparation of the environmental document because none of the surface estate is currently owned by the Federal Government.

The major issues related to this lease application that have been identified to date, include the potential increases in impacts to air quality, groundwater, and wildlife that may occur if this lease is issued. If you have specific concerns about these issues, have other concerns or issues BLM should consider in processing this application, or if you have comments on whether BLM should prepare an EA or an EIS to evaluate the impacts of issuing a lease for this tract, please address them in writing to the above individuals or state them verbally at the November 13, 1997, public scoping meeting at the location shown above. The BLM will accept written comments at the address shown above through November 30, 1997.

Alan R. Pierson,

State Director.

[FR Doc. 97-28869 Filed 10-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management****[CO-030-7122-00-7509; COC-61031]****Notice of Realty Action; Non-Competitive Sale of Lands**

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice; designation of public lands located in San Juan County, Colorado as suitable for disposal.

SUMMARY: Approximately 2.54 acres of public land located in San Juan County, Colorado have determined to be suitable for disposal by sale utilizing non-competitive procedures, at not less than the fair market value. Fair Market value is to be determined by an appraisal completed by a Federal or independent appraiser using the principals contained in the "Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions". Authority for the sale is section 203 of Public Law 94-579, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Additional information about this sale is available for review at the Bureau of Land Management, Montrose District Office, 2465 South Townsend, Montrose, Colorado 81401, attention: Tom

Hurshman. Comments shall be submitted by December 15, 1997 to the Montrose District Manager. Any adverse comments will be reviewed by the District Manager, who may sustain, vacate, or modify this realty action. In the absence of any adverse comments, this realty action will become the final determination of the Department of the Interior.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following described land has been determined to be suitable for disposal by sale utilizing non-competitive procedures.

New Mexico Principal Meridian, Colorado

T. 42 N., R. 6 W.,
Tract 37

Containing approximately 2.54 acres more or less.

This land is being offered as a direct, non-competitive sale to Mr. Kevin D. Padrick, a private individual. BLM has determined a direct sale is necessary as Mr. Padrick owns the adjoining private property known as the Great Western Lode, MS 1603. A large three story boarding house that was constructed in the 1920's, known as the Martin Boarding House, is situated on the Great Western Lode. A portion of the structure has encroached upon adjoining public lands that have been surveyed to create the above described Tract 37. The direct sale will resolve this inadvertent unauthorized occupancy of said land. 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**.

In the event of a sale, the mineral interest shall be conveyed simultaneously with the surface interest. The mineral interest being offered for conveyance has no known mineral value. Upon acceptance of a direct sale offer, the purchaser shall be required to make application for conveyance of those mineral interests.

Upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the land will be segregated from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the general mining laws. This segregation will terminate upon issuance of a patent or 270 days from the date of this publication.

The patent, when issued, would contain a reservation of a right-of-way thereon for ditches and canals constructed by the authority of the United States, Act of August 30, 1890, 26 Stat. 391, 43 U.S.C. 945. Any patent would also be subject to an existing overhead power line right-of-way

authorization, COC-18281, currently held by San Miguel Power Association.

Signed: October 22, 1997.

Mark W. Stiles,
District Manager.

[FR Doc. 97-28864 Filed 10-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JB-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-957-1430-00]

Idaho: Filing of Plats of Survey; Idaho

The plats of the following described land were officially filed in the Idaho State Office, Bureau of Land Management, Boise, Idaho, effective 9:00 a.m., October 23, 1997.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of a portion of the south boundary, subdivisional lines, adjusted 1903-1904 meanders of the right and left banks of the Snake River, and the meanders of an island in the Snake River, designated as lots 2 and 6 in 1903-1904, the subdivision of section 35, the meanders of the left bank of the Snake River, and the survey of a partition line in section 35, T. 3 S., R. 1 E., Boise Meridian, Idaho, Group 955, was accepted October 23, 1997.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of a portion of the subdivisional lines, and the subdivision of certain sections, T. 4 S., R. 1 E., Boise Meridian, Idaho, Group 955, was accepted October 23, 1997. These surveys were executed to meet certain administrative needs of the Bureau of Land Management. All inquiries concerning the surveys of the above described land must be sent to the Chief, Cadastral Survey, Idaho State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1387 South Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho, 83709-1657.

Dated: October 23, 1997.

Duane E. Olsen,
Chief Cadastral Surveyor for Idaho.

[FR Doc. 97-28859 Filed 10-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-957-1430-00]

Idaho: Filing of Plats of Survey; Idaho

The plat of the following described land was officially filed in the Idaho State Office, Bureau of Land

Management, Boise, Idaho, effective 9:00 a.m. October 23, 1997.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of portions of the north boundary, subdivisional lines and boundaries of certain mineral surveys, and the retracement of the northerly side line of Main Street through the townsite of Murray, Idaho, and the survey of certain new lots in section 5, T. 49 N., R. 5 E., Boise Meridian, Idaho, Group 951, was accepted October 23, 1997.

This survey was executed to meet certain administrative needs of the Bureau of Land Management. All inquiries concerning the survey of the above described land must be sent to the Chief, Cadastral Survey, Idaho State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1387 South Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho, 83709-1657.

Dated: October 23, 1997.

Duane E. Olsen,
Chief Cadastral Surveyor for Idaho.
[FR Doc. 97-28860 Filed 10-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-66-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-957-1420-00]

IDAHO: Filing of Plats of Survey; Idaho

The plat of the following described land was officially filed in the Idaho State Office, Bureau of Land Management, Boise, Idaho, effective 9 a.m. October 23, 1997.

The plat representing the dependent resurvey of portions of the Second Standard Parallel South (south boundary), portions of the east, west, and north boundaries of the subdivisional lines, and of Mineral Survey No. 2538, T. 12 S., R. 45 E., Boise Meridian, Idaho, Group 913, was accepted October 23, 1997. This survey was executed to meet certain administrative needs of the USDA Forest Service.

All inquiries concerning the survey of the above described land must be sent to the Chief, Cadastral Survey, Idaho State Office, Bureau of Land Management, 1387 South Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho, 83709-1657.

Dated: October 23, 1997.

Duane E. Olsen,
Chief Cadastral Surveyor for Idaho.
[FR Doc. 97-28861 Filed 10-30-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-GG-M